

## **PRE-OPEN**

Hello Anatomy of a Movie fans,

I wanted to share with you a state of the union if you will.

For those that have been watching or listening for a while know that we cover a lot of movies - over 200 at this point. We try to review each with insightful opinions as well as fact that makes it engaging for you.

However, we always strive for better and so all the hosts and producers spoke internally about ways to make the show even better. Best way to achieve that was to look at your comments and see what you thought. Which we appreciate.

So now we begin a revamped Anatomy of a Movie series. The core of the show remains, discussing movies at length with insightful opinions and facts. But what we've realized is that while not everyone, yourself included, may not like all the movies we cover there is excitement each of us have for the filmmaking process. Truthfully, whenever I'd buy DVDs of movies I hadn't seen, I'd watch the behind the scenes commentary first. Because no matter the movie, it takes tremendous effort to make that movie. That's what we want to highlight - the full spec of the process from story to development to editing and ending with the box office and reception. Again, things we've talked about, but now times 10.

Also we'll try to bring in more visuals and clips to broaden the discussion. Don't worry audio fans, we'll post these as links in the descriptions so you too can look at them. In the descriptions will also be an attachment to our rundown/notes. That way if there's something about the movie we don't get to you can still learn about it by reading those.

Most importantly though, this whole show and process is organic and will continue to evolve over time. Please continue commenting on YouTube and also please comment on iTunes. Even if you've commented in past, please update it so we we're not reading old comments that no longer may apply. Thank you fans for your support. Without you, we wouldn't be doing this.

## **PRIDE+PREJUDICE+ZOMBIES (2016) RT: 1h: 38m**

- Comedy horror film
- Based on the 2009 novel by Seth Grahame-Smith
- Budget of 28 million

## **INTROS**

- Phil Svitek (COO of AfterBuzz TV Networks & Popcorn Talk and Feature Film Editor)
- Demetri Panos (MoviePass VP of Exhibitor Relations and formerly of Technicolor & Lionsgate)
- Marisa Serafini (Senior Content Producer of AfterBuzz TV & Popcorn Talk and Visual Design Expert)
- Sean Overman (Author/Producer)

## **QUICK OVERALL THOUGHTS - PIC001**

- **PHIL:**

- I was worried it would be too much like Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter which I didn't enjoy as much (that is a fully inventive story, this one takes a classic and twists it)
- I enjoyed how well it managed to stick to the plot of the book
- Visually I liked the haziness
- Extremely funny
- Wasn't as action packed as I imagined it to be
- **DEMETRI:**
  - Pleasantly surprised to how much I enjoyed this movie.
  - Didn't read the book
  - What I liked most was the fact the movie played it straight. It happened to be a Period Piece Victorian Era where Zombies Exist! Never does the movie wink at the audience or play it for farce. Comedy comes out of things we've never seen done in say Downton Abbey or Howard's End but it's played as if it is the norm....an Alternate Universe so to speak
  - My one complaint is I wish the movie were more LUSH like a Downton Abbey or a Merchant Ivory Film.
- **SEAN:**
  - Pride and Prejudice and Zombies is much more than the gratuitous film of violence and sex that it appears to be in the movie's trailer that everyone has seen
  - Surprisingly fun film that borrows from two worlds rather well: The Victorian Era of Jane Austen's novel and Seth Grahame-Smith's monster novelist stylings
  - The intro can really pull you in
  - At times, drags, especially when they're not talking about or dealing with the undead.
    - Near the 90 minute mark is where the film feels like it's been run a bit ragged, but the action heavily picks up and we get more surprises before the film's "happy ending".

## STORY

- What did you think of the opening sequence to the credit sequence as a means to introduce us to the world? **PIC002**
  - **DEMETRI:** I wasn't a fan because I found the credits to be a distraction and felt I was missing things in the exposition. Visually it was clever and striking.
  - **SEAN:**
    - Intro of Darcy, the way in the which modern devices are used to detect and dispose of zombies and the original motion picture score by Fernando Velasquez
    - Impressed with the exposition of the film
    - "It is a truth universally known..." is the first line of the PPZ film. These are also the exact first words of Pride and Prejudice, Jane Austen's novel
    - Darcy showing up with a black leather jacket reminded me much of Blade **PIC002a**
- Zombie rules and differences of this to other movies: **PIC003, PIC003a**
  - Zombies that eat brains will degenerate into animalistic tendencies further and will require or desire more brains.
  - Carson flies are used to detect undercover undead.

- The French are supposedly to blame for this plague reaching England.
  - There is a 100 foot wall circling London. Then, there is The In-Between
  - Chinese martial arts is for the wise; Japanese is for the wealthy
- Bennet sisters as a whole - did they do a good job individualizing them? **PIC004, PIC005**
  - FYI: Elizabeth (Lily James), Jane (Bella Heathcote), Kitty (Suki Waterhouse), Lydia (Ellie Bamber) and Mary (Millie Brady)
  - **SEAN:** The iconic death squad shot of the five sisters was a little cheesy
- Bennett mother / father relationship
  - Mom wants them to get wealthy suitors
  - Dad wants them to survive
  - Who did you side with?
- Jane vs Elizabeth dichotomy **PIC006**
  - They both still love each other but have different viewpoints
  - Elizabeth always taking care of Jane
  - Elizabeth - "To succeed in polite society a young woman must be many things. Kind, well read, and accomplished. But to survive in the world as WE know it, you'll need other qualities."
  - **SEAN:** "Her figure is surprisingly light. And her arms are muscular, but not so much as to be unfeminine"
  - Lizzy's high collar on her battle coat is likely to prevent bites on the neck
- Bingley + Jane
  - First interaction
  - Her going over to the house solo **PIC007, PIC008**
    - Did you feel tension because of the technique of not knowing if she was a zombie?
  - The ball
    - Did you feel tension here of whether Bingley became a zombie?
  - The split & eventual reunion + marriage
- First Impressions of Darcy
  - Reference opening sequence
  - His manners with Jane & supposedly saving her
  - Learning of the false backstory from Wickham
- Wickham and Elizabeth
  - Why was Elizabeth's attractions to Wickham
    - Both disliked Darcy
    - Both sought to learn more of the zombies
  - St. Lazarus **PIC009**
    - Let's talk about this as a twist to zombie convention - how often has it happened that we can save zombies???
    - Why was Elizabeth conflicted at this point?
- Parson Collins **PIC010**
  - How would we best describe him?
  - **PHIL:** I really enjoyed him because although he could have just been a plot device to push events forward (getting Elizabeth and Darcy in one room and reuniting with Wickham), they made him extremely dim-witted and funny which made it work
  - Settles for Charlotte (a friend)
  - "Galantry isn't dead"

- Meeting Lady Catherine **PIC011**
  - This was a great scene to lay out all philosophies
  - Hid the deeper layers of this all (Wickham the devil and Darcy's love and true knowledge of Wickham)
- Darcy's Actual Love for Jane
  - Was it evident in the scene when she was slaying zombies? Why is that the sexy thing that turned him?
  - Hindsight moments: catching of the flies
  - Mr. and Mrs. Smith fighting moment (they made Cinderella very sexy)
  - The pressures of Lady Catherine to not have them marry
- Battle for England **PIC012**
  - Darcy and Elizabeth finally working together
  - Wickham as the undead (having used Lydia as bait)
  - Post credit scene
    - At the end credits, there is an eerie children's song: "Ring around the zombies... bludgeon bludgeon, they all fall down."
- Was there a major theme to the story?

### EASTER EGGS/SYMBOLS/COMPARISONS

- St Lazarus refers to Jesus restores life after 4 days after death (**MARISA???**) **PIC013**
- Story follows Pride and Prejudice extremely well
  - It's got all the beats
    - Bingley moving in
    - Mother / father disagreement
    - Darcy being rude
    - Wickham's past
    - Darcy's reveal of truth + love
    - Jane becoming ill
- Pride and Prejudice's appeal **PIC014**
  - Written in 1813
  - 3 volume set
  - Jane Austen wrote it (died at 41) **PIC015**
    - Known for her realism, biting irony and social commentary
    - Began at first by writing epistolary novels (written as a series of documents)
    - Major theme was the dependance of women's marriage to secure social status
  - Sold over 20 million copies
  - Colonel Darcy is nearly as awkward as his counterpart in the novel
  - Lt. Wickham is also in the regiment in the novel, Pride and Prejudice
  - SO many adaptations of this movie - most notably the Keira Knightley on from Joe Wright 2005 **PIC016**
- Pride and Prejudice and Zombies the novel **PIC017**
  - Written by Seth Grahame-Smith **PIC018**
    - Also wrote *Abraham Lincoln, Vampire Hunter*
    - Co-creator of MTV's *Hard Times of RJ Berger*
    - His mother was a literary editor and stepfather was a rare books dealer
    - Graduated from Emerson College

- Wrote scripts for *Abraham Lincoln Vampire Hunter* and *Dark Shadows*
  - Working on a sequel to *Beetlejuice* and adapting Ray Bradbury's *Something Wicked This Way Comes*
- Quirk Books editor Jason Rekulak developed the idea for *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* after comparing a list of “popular fanboy characters like ninjas, pirates, zombies, and monkeys” with a list of public domain book titles such as *War and Peace*, *Crime and Punishment*, and *Wuthering Heights*
  - “[Rekulak] called me one day, out of the blue, very excitedly, and he said, all I have is this title, and I can't stop thinking about this title. And he said: *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies*. For whatever reason, it just struck me as the most brilliant thing I'd ever heard” - Seth
  - "You kill somebody off in Chapter 7, it has repercussions in Chapter 56" - Seth
  - Well suited for a zombie novel - “You have this fiercely independent heroine, you have this dashing heroic gentleman, you have a militia camped out for seemingly no reason whatsoever nearby, and people are always walking here and there and taking carriage rides here and there . . . It was just ripe for gore and senseless violence. From my perspective anyway” - Seth
- Bloggers and internet and NPR took notice so initial print went from 12k to 60k
- Spoke of fighting skills openly
- Simple novel of only 319 pages (short pages and easy sentences)
- Major difference from novel to film is ending
  - Wickham is not a zombie and does in fact marry Lydia (orchestrated by Darcy)
  - Wickham becomes a quadriplegic
  - Mr. Collins hangs himself after Charlotte turns out to be a zombie
  - It ends with Lady Catherine challenging Elizabeth but Elizabeth wins
  - **PHIL:** movie ending seems better
- Novel received A- from Entertainment Weekly and an A from AV Club ("what begins as a gimmick ends with renewed appreciation of the indomitable appeal of Austen's language, characters, and situations...")
- Ended up #3 on NY Times Best Seller's list and has sold over 2 million copies

## DEVELOPMENT

- First announced as a movie in December 2009 by Variety
- Natalie Portman would star as Elizabeth and produce **PIC019**
- Lionsgate was attached to finance and distribute
- Later that Dec, David O. Russell was attached to direct, but later left due to conflict in schedule **PIC020**
  - Do you see him as a good fit for this?
  - Later it came out there were disputes over budget
- In Oct, 2010 it was announced Portman had to quit as the lead but would stay on as a producer
- Lionsgate offered it to Mike Newell (4 Weddings and a Funeral) and Matt Reeves (Dawn of the Planet of the Apes) but both declined
- In Feb 2011 Craig Gillespie (Finest Hours) took over but left in Oct 2011 **PIC021**
  - He liked the mashing of the genres

- Marti Noxon (Fright Night and Buffy) was hired to rewrite Russell's script
- Panorama Media joined in early 2013 to produce and finance film
- In May 2013 Burr Steers (17 Again, Charlie St. Cloud) **PIC022**
  - He did a rewrite to put in all the *Pride and Prejudice* beats

#### WRITING (Burr Steers)

- The novel's author, Grahame-Smith, who wasn't able to write the film's screenplay due to scheduling conflicts
- "It's always hard giving up control, but at the same time, then you get to come and experience the movie as a fan. This is really a first for me — just getting to passively experience an adaptation of my work." - Seth **THR**

#### DIRECTING (Burr Steers)

- 50 years old
- His father was a Republican congressman which would seem to help him in writing of this script
- He was expelled from both Hotchkiss and Culver Military Academy but eventually got his GED and went to NYU
- Was the screen writer for *How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days*
- Directed episodes of *Weeds*, *L Word*, *Big Love*, *New Normal*
- Played Roger in *Pulp Fiction*
- The film is "proof that no matter what you do to Austen's story, the template she created can withstand anything,"
- **DEMETRI (NOTE - CROSSES INTO WRITING):**
  - <http://www.denofgeek.com/movies/burr-steers/38843/burr-steers-interview-pride-prejudice-zombies>
  - What's different between your version and the one that was already underway?
  - Um... **I have to walk carefully. I... I reinserted Jane Austen. The other script went off in a very different direction... um... and was broader, comedically. My idea was to build an alternate world where this zombie pandemic had happened and then to cast Pride And Prejudice in it.** And then, the mantra throughout the film was that the big wink was that there was no wink. You know, you play it straight. As opposed to a sketchy comedy thing.
  - And what had your exposure to Seth Grahame-Smith's book been like, when it first came out?
  - **None. I mean, I had been struck by the cover in the book stores.** Which I'm sure really helped the marketing of that book. Kind of perfect, with that regency woman and she looks great and half of her jaw's missing. It's great.
  - I'd like to talk a bit about your version of the zombie. It's interesting: they can talk, they can blend in really well. Where did those ideas come from?
  - Well, for one, I wanted them to be more formidable. I didn't want them to just be wandering around waiting to get their head chopped off. But, something that always **stuck in my mind was Richard Mathieson's I Am Legend. And the idea that the zombies see themselves as a competing race. And that they've evolved.** And now they've reached the point where you can't profile them. If they weren't bitten in the face, they could pass [for human].

- And when we were making the movie, was the period when those three English guys... with Jihadi John... with the South London accents, were doing... so... who's your enemy?
- It allows you to make it into a conspiracy film doesn't it, to add a whole new layer to it?
- **It adds a whole new layer to it, and makes it that much scarier. I also had the zombie point of view.** So you could be in a party scene or a ball scene, and all of a sudden you're in a zombie POV. So there's a zombie amongst you. And you have that, as a way to give the audience a goose from time to time.
- Was there a zombie-fication of a certain Austen scene that you were most pleased with? My favourite was probably the ball scene where Elizabeth goes outside, comes back in, and suddenly the whole place is in chaos...
- Oh that's the first ball. The town ball. **When the girls go marching through. Yeah, yeah... It was challenging, because it had to a PG-13 movie. Contractually, from the very beginning.** Because it's such a difference, as far as what kind of market or demographic you'll be hitting.
- **So, a lot of the more gruesome stuff isn't in it.** But I love that, yeah. The idea that they've been drawn out there and this other zombie has kept Liz busy while the other zombies are feeding on the members of party inside.
  - **SEAN PICKED UP ON THIS** - PPZ doesn't any nudity or excessive gore. Many of the truly disgusting parts are implied: Cutting off a zombies head, stepping on a zombies head **DID IT HURT OR HELP FILM?**
- Um, a zombie-fication... Hmm... I think Miss Thudderstone's transformation is great. One of my favourite things was that, when she comes to tell Liz something, that she gets self-conscious about the way she looks and – sort of in the way that someone would touch-up their makeup – she puts her face back together.
- Making Elizabeth into a warrior like you do really intensifies her... Particularly in the scene towards the end when she confronts Darcy, but here it's a physical fight too... Was that a big, important scene for you?
- That was a big scene for me. Well, one of the books that I read going into this was a book on Game Theory [the study of mathematical models of conflict and cooperation between intelligent rational decision makers] that used Pride And Prejudice as an example. **Going through every scene and basically, sort of, showing how every scene was a sparring match.** That every line was a blow or a counter blow thrown.
- **She [Austen] was really so amazing in the way that she engineered those scenes. Especially, you know, that dance scene - that unfortunately I had to cut out - that's in the book and in other versions of the movie. Every line has a counter line, you know? It is a boxing match.** A verbal boxing match.
- Are there lots of scenes that you had to cut? Was there a much longer version of the film at one stage?
- **There was a longer version. It, um... it's a tough thing, dealing with ratings in America, because they're very arbitrary. And not always fair, because bigger films will undoubtedly wield more influence.** Um, the one thing it does... you rely on not graphically showing something. But having the audience's imagination fill things in. And I think that's kind of artful, if you can manage it.
- I mean, Polanski's movies were horrifying and you didn't see... but it's weird, the bloodlust that people have. When they want to graphically just look at something



- it's almost like pornography - just, like, clinically. That's not frightening to me. I grew up with movies like *The Exorcist* and *The Omen*. *The Exorcist*, especially, scared the shit out of me because I grew up right next to those steps as a kid.
- But these aren't scary movies [the porno-esque graphic ones]. There's nothing frightening in any of these. It's sort of like bad, cheesy humour. You know? Anyway...
- Did you have some action inspirations, at all? We've not seen this many fights and battles in your films before...
- **I've written them, though.** I've had to go through and write them. And choreograph them, how they'd work. And there's that basic idea of samurai – that the way somebody fights reveals who they are as a person. That was in my mind. And really saving substance, and style coming out of substance.
- I knew what they had to do. Really, it's like everything in movies. It's like hiring a dance choreographer. You hire a fight choreographer. And then you're making something visually interesting. And dynamic. But a lot of these movies, what they do, is they hire somebody who has nothing to do with the movie just to come in and shoot the fights. Like a second director to do the action scenes.
- And those always feel grafted on. I mean, really, it has to be part of the whole. They've got to be the same persons in those fights as they are in the movie.
- I have to ask whether one bit was scripted – when Mr Collins bursts into the hall and just completely pratfalls and goes flying.
- No. You know, he came up to me beforehand and said 'I've got something here.' And basically, what you do, is you get the page [filmed] in the first few takes. You get it the way it was written, and then you have an opportunity to play and see what you can come up with. See if we can get something magical, you know? Not only him doing something, but the way someone might react to him.

## CAST

- Who stood out to you the most?
- Mainly English actors **PIC023**
- Lily James (Elizabeth Bennet)
  - *Cinderella, Downton Abbey* **PIC024**
  - 26 years old
  - During the filming process, Lily James stated that she had a scene where she had to walk through an area with zombie heads all around. Of course, most of them were fake props and she was directed to stomp on one. They would have supposedly gotten squished, however she stomped and realized everyone behind cameras were all staring at her in shock. She looked down and realized she stepped on one of the few extras' head **PIC025 (note pic of that scene)**
  - Scarlett Johansson, Anne Hathaway, Emma Stone, Mia Wasikowska, Rooney Mara, Mila Kunis and Blake Lively were considered to replace her before Lily James was finally cast. Portman remains on board as a producer
  - "We must have killed 100 zombies"
  - "Here's someone with the chops to do Jane Austen dialogue with emotion and athletic enough to do it while kicking zombie butt. Lily is the complete package." - Burr **USA TODAY**
  - She trained and boxed extensively before taking a month of martial art classes with her fellow *PPZ* Bennet sisters. James was so into it that her boyfriend, actor



Matt Smith, was surprised to find her perfecting the art of war in her kitchen with utensils **PIC026**

- “I had a spatula and a wooden spoon, practicing the moves,” says James. “My boyfriend was like, ‘What the blank are you doing?’ Sorry, I don’t have a sword knocking about at home.”
- “I went straight for a high roundhouse kick and then a low one. All her internal frustration and sexual frustration came out in the fighting. The scene is already filled with unsaid anger, but here they end up nearly killing each other.”
- “At first I didn’t understand the concept of zombies and Jane Austen. Then I read it and loved it. I think it’s a really brave, exciting and fun version of the story.”

#### THR

- **DEMETRI:** James: I hadn’t heard of the book, which was stupid because it was a New York Times best seller. But once I read the script, I couldn’t wait to read the book, and then I read the book and I was just like, “I’m in.” I don’t know how it works so well, and it’s so fun and it actually seems to highlight and bring out some of the central themes of the book in a way that’s really exciting and cool.
- **DEMETRI:**
  - <http://www.cinemablend.com/new/Lily-James-Took-Her-Zombie-Killing-Little-Too-Far-Pride-Prejudice-Set-72539.html> - Lily James says, “nothing is easy to do in a corset.” ... The “inner conflict and sexual frustration and longing comes out in decapitating zombies.”
- Sam Riley (Darcy)
  - *Control, Maleficent* **PIC027**
  - “It’s [my mother’s] favourite book,” ... “Colin Firth is, for my mother, the only Darcy.” **PIC028**
  - “If I’m playing a character that other people have played, I wouldn’t necessarily watch their versions. But I figured that for this it was important to know what people perceived him as.”
  - “I wanted the voice to be somewhere between James Mason or Peter O’Toole, and the character somewhere between Sean Connery in Dr No and the guy from A Clockwork Orange. All of those – that was my thinking. I had this epiphany while reading it drunk.”
- Jack Huston (Wickham)
  - *American Hustle, Boardwalk Empire, Hail Caesar!* as a Cad in Cab **PIC029**
- Bella Heathcote (Jane)
  - *Dark Shadows* **PIC030**
  - Australian actress
  - Bella Heathcote and Lily James, who play the two eldest Bennet sisters, both tested for the title role in Cinderella (2015). The role went to James
  - **DEMETRI:** According to Heathcote, the actors went through months of training in martial arts, including kung fu, as well as additional weapons training and choreography
- Douglas Booth (Bingley)
  - *Noah, Jupiter Ascending* **PIC031**
- Matt Smith (Collins)
  - *Doctor Who, Terminator Genisys* as Skynet **PIC032**

- Matt Smith dated co-star, Lily James, during the film's production (ironic due to the characters in movie) **PIC033**
- Collins is awkward, somewhat goofy, and entirely devoid of social tact, just as he should be
- “I don’t think anyone’s seen a Collins like this before. He was really brilliant and funny in the part.” - Burr **EW**
- “It wasn’t ever about making him comedic. I just thought, if you’re going to reimagine something like this, then you’ve got to give it a slightly new spin. I thought it might be interesting if he were secretly in love with Mr. Darcy. This man is on a quest to constantly get married, [but he’s] actually in love with a man. Still, he’s asking women to marry him all the time and gets rejected.” - Smith
- ON IMPROV:
  - “Not really, but Lily did with me in the proposal scene. She was really cool [and] sort of flipped it up and mixed it about. I thought it would be fun if he kept getting on his knees, so he’s about to propose and then no actually, and then he’s about to propose and no actually. That was quite a fun gag to play.”
  - I quite like the proposal scene. I like the line “Gallantry isn’t dead” because my dad says it a lot, and that’s why it’s in there, and I added the line “You sir, are very charming, and I am susceptible to flattery.” Just added lines, I thought they were quite fun.
- **DEMETRI:**
  - <http://screenrant.com/matt-smith-douglas-booth-pride-prejudice-zombies-interview/>
  - It’s interesting that there’s a lot of discussion going on nowadays about roles for women in film, and yet the women in this film were written 200 years ago — and in this version they’re almost superheroes in a way.
  - Smith: Yeah, I think it’s really interesting. And also, I think, **there’s a lot of talk at the moment, isn’t there, about equality in film.** A lot of my female friends who are actors are like, you know, it’s good when there are parts like this out there, where it is the women kicking ass and - ... **it’s really sexy**
- Charles Dance (Bennet)
  - *Michael Collins, Ali G Indahouse, Swimming Pool, Your Highness, Imitation Game, Game of Thrones* **PIC034**
  - Benedict, villain from Last Action Hero
- Lena Headey (Lady Catherine)
  - *The Brothers Grimm, 300, Red Baron, 300: Rise of an Empire, Game of Thrones* **PIC035**
- Suki Waterhouse (Kitty) **PIC036**
  - *Divergent: Insurgent*
  - A model
- Emma Greenwell (Caroline Bingley)
  - *Shameless* (Mandy)
- Dolly Wells (Featherstone)
- Tom Lorcan (Denny)
- Ellie Bamber (Lydia Bennet)
- Millie Brady (Mary Bennet)

- Sally Phillips (Mrs. Bennet)
  - Several of the young cast members were inexperienced with making a comedy and would often turn to co-star Sally Phillips, who's a veteran in the field, for advice on how to improve their comic timing and delivery
  - *Bridget Jones Diary, Decoy Bride, Mean Machine*
- Jess Radomska (Annabella Netherfield)

#### **PRODUCTION** (Cross Creek)

- Principal photography began on September 24, 2014
- Shot at West Wycombe House & Park Buckinghamshire **PIC037**
- On Halloween, actors were spotted shooting in Hatfield House in Herfordshire
- Production went until November 21

#### **CINEMATOGRAPHY** (Remi Adefarasin) **PIC038**

- Born 1948 in London
- Member of BSC
- *Little Fockers, Fred Claus, Match Point, Johnny English, About a Boy, Band of Brothers*
- Lighting is dark and minimal during serious or suspenseful moments
- A slight blue tint is occasionally present, creating an eerie feeling, in scenes such as when Jane stumbles across a zombie family in the woods
- Some poignant scenes, like when Jane discovers the truth about George Wickham and Mr. Darcy, are set against sweeping countrysides and bathed in a soft golden light
- **DEMETRI:**
  - [http://www.lgukpublicity.co.uk/uk/images/Prodnotes/PPZ\\_UK\\_Production\\_Notes\\_Approved.pdf](http://www.lgukpublicity.co.uk/uk/images/Prodnotes/PPZ_UK_Production_Notes_Approved.pdf)
  - "Burr and Remi had been looking at English cinema of the 1970s, and in a way they quite liked the constraints of films shot on location. You see it on screen – the camera might be constricted sometimes, but the windows are right and everything's real and the sunshine is beating down. I think they both quite liked that."

#### **EDITING** (Padraic McKinley)

- *Charlie St. Cloud, 17 Again, Dexter*
- Worked with Burr Steer
- Burr Steers directed a long-take sequence but it was edited after test screenings

#### **SOUND/MUSIC** (Fernando Velazquez) **PIC039**

- Worked on *The Orphanage, Hercules, Crimson Peak* and *Devil* (N. Night Shyamalan)
- Film Music Magazine said of him, "Velazquez's brassily orchestral ambitions pay more of a blood oath to Bernard Herrmann and James Newton Howard, with the kind of churning, melodically rich symphonic sound that makes DEVIL's mostly elevator-bound setting anything but claustrophobic"
- Soundtrack was released digitally Feb 5th and physically Feb 12
- There's 23 songs that total 58 minutes and 6 seconds of music

#### **PROMOTION**

- In Oct 2014, Entertainment Weekly published 1st photo from production

- On July 2015, main actors, Burr and Seth appeared at Comic Con and debuted the first trailer **PIC040**
- On Oct 22, Screen Gems released first poster in US
- On Nov 26, a full trailer was released
- Focused more on the zombie aspect rather than Jane Austen story
- Focused more on the sexiness of women in combat and made it seem more of an action movie

#### **BOX OFFICE **PIC041****

- Released Feb 5th, 2016
- Weekend gross was 5.3 million in US and total of 6.1 million
- Other movies released that day were *Hail, Caesar!* and *The Choice*
- Originally projected to get 10-12 million from 2,931 theatres
- Finished #6 at box office
- Competed against Superbowl

#### **RECEPTION **PIC042****

- 43% from 98 reviews on Rotten Tomatoes
- CinemaScore is B-
- Pop Culture Uncovered praised James, Riley and Smith's performances

#### **SEQUEL/LEGACY**

- Inspired Regency-era fashion and inner zombie slayer clothing is being released by Hot Topic
  - 7 piece: lace-up corset, ruffled lace babydoll, longline lace bra, lace trim cami, high-waisted ruffle panty, skirted panty with garter and lace-up sweetheart dress
  - Available starting Jan. 22 exclusively at Hot Topic in stores and online
- Are we zombied out? **PIC043**
- *Last American Vampire* is out as a book, which is a sequel to *Abraham Lincoln Vampire Hunter* and could possibly be made into a movie
- Post credit sequence suggests a sequel
  - "I suppose if people want it, I'm always happy to revisit the Bennet sisters." -Seth
  - CinemaBlend came out with a great article
    - George Wickham (Jack Huston) actually managed to survive his duel with Darcy, and has assembled an army of the dead as well as the Four Horsemen Of The Apocalypse for revenge
    - Burr revealed he'd love to do a sequel
      - Particularly because the movie would be able to drift away from the story established by Jane Austen
      - "I have a whole idea for it, but I don't know if it's, we'll see how this does. The thing about it is, you have these characters, and now you can take these characters and go off and do anything you want with them, and it's kind of great... I was thinking more in sort of vague story lines, but escape from post-apocalyptic London, Wickham sort of ascending to a dark throne. And also, the other thing that's really funny is you can bring in, and you have to limit yourself on this, but you can bring in any character that's part of public domain, any character from the Bronte's or you could have

Heathcliff... It's like Marvel, it's all... You can have Jules Verne!  
You have some people coming over in balloons!"

- Interestingly, the original *Pride and Prejudice* actually got its own recent sequel in recent years, as author P.D. James published the novel *Death Comes to Pemberley* in 2011 – continuing the story of Elizabeth Bennet and Mr. Darcy with a dash of murder mystery thrown in
- **SEAN:**
  - PPZ has a prequel (*Pride and Prejudice and Zombies: Dawn of the Dreadfuls*) and sequel (*Pride and Prejudice and Zombies: Dreadfully Ever After*). Each was written in 2010 and 2011 respectively.
  - The film could very likely have a sequel and prequel as well. It's a franchise that I wouldn't mind watching more of.
- Curious, what other genre bending movies do you like or would like to see?

## FINAL THOUGHTS

- **PHIL:**
  - Pure fun you can rewatch
- **SEAN:**
  - Overall, it's the first feel good action film I've seen this year
  - At times, the film can drag, especially when they're not talking about or dealing with the undead
  - I rate it at 65-70% due to the music, uniquely created alternate reality of zombie bit Victorian England, and Col. Darcy's cool ruthless demeanor