

— At the movies — Hell is a teenage girl

Paul George
Reporter

“Jennifer’s Body” stars Amanda Seyfried as Needy, which is her nickname. She is a mousy girl with glasses and modest clothes. Her best friend is Jennifer (Megan Fox), who is the alpha girl in the school. Jennifer is the girl all of the guys want to be with and many, apparently, have been successful.

After a fire at a bar, Jennifer goes for a ride with the band that was playing that night. She arrives at Needy’s home covered in blood and vomiting black fluid. Soon the students of Devil’s Kettle High School are dying in violent ways.

The screenplay is by “Juno” scribe Diablo Cody. The script is clever, but is ultimately diminished by Karyn Kasuma’s direction. Kasuma has skill, but she lacks the style needed to raise the film above being a typical horror film. With another re-write and some inspired direction, “Jennifer’s Body” could have been a modern horror classic.



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The cast is very good in the film, although it seems to stumble over Cody’s dialogue at times. Megan Fox, the current fetish of many young men, is very good in the film. She is successful at playing the villain of the film.

Ultimately the film’s subtext is about female sexuality. A common theme in many horror films is that young women who engage in sexual activity will be punished. “Jennifer’s Body” appears to have the same theme. On closer inspection, however, it is actually about repressed female sexuality and the dangers of not being honest about those desires.

“Jennifer’s Body” is still a solid horror movie. It has many scares that should satisfy horror fans. To its credit, it tries hard to be more than a typical horror film.