

TMZ TV: Too Many Zombies

By
Jamie King

665 S. Cochran Ave., Apt. 203
Los Angeles, CA 90036
917-359-7513
kingjamiell@yahoo.com
www.kingjamie.net

9/16/2010

STATIC. Actors enter in **blackout.**

ANNOUNCER

Sickening, isn't it? It was not long ago that popular entertainment was mostly limited to boring, scripted dramas like the one you just watched. Cliched dialogue and hammy acting distracted the viewer from real life issues. Today, we're proud to bring you only those shows featuring real people, dealing with real topics like love, weight loss, fashion design and the total collapse of our society.

Lights up. GAME SHOW MUSIC.

AL stands stage right. KENDRA, ANDY and MATT (a horrific zombie) are upstage left behind podiums. AL references an unseen game-board (**stage right light**).

AL

I'm sorry Matt, the correct response would have been, "What is the Glasgow Coma Scale." Play passes to Kendra.

KENDRA

I'll take "Expositional Dates" for \$300 Al.

AL

During this period in the early 21st century, a man-made virus swept the globe in a matter of years, transforming all those it infected into mindless undead with a taste for human flesh.

KENDRA

What was the Zombie Apocalypse Al?

DING.

AL

That is correct Kendra, the Zombie Apocalypse.

KENDRA

"Expositional Dates" for \$400 Al.

AL

This year is known for having the lowest human population in recorded history, as well as the highest zombie population.

KENDRA

What is the current year, 2012?

DING.

AL

Correct again Kendra.

KENDRA

"Exposition..." for \$500 Al.

AL

Known as the "Golden Age of Reality Television," in these years unscripted, heavily edited reality shows dominated our national airwaves.

KENDRA

What is...2001-2010...Al?

BUZZER.

AL

I'm sorry Kendra that's incorrect. Andy? Matt?

(ANDY shakes his head. MATT
drools and stares.)

We were looking for 2001-Present. That's right...

(turns to audience)

Despite the recent tragedy a few networks are still bringing high-quality reality entertainment straight to your living rooms. Networks like this one, TMZ TV. It's your board Matt.

MATT

BRAAAIIIIIIINS!

AL

And it's "Brains" for \$200.

TMZ THEME.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Welcome to "TMZ TV: Too Many Zombies!" When there's no more room in hell, the dead will have their own TV shows!

(**Lights up.** ANDY is center
stage. KENDRA and AL sit
upstage right)

And now, back to the show that lets America choose it's next Zombie Star! It's "American Zombie!"

APPLAUSE.

ANDY

(cocky)

Welcome back America. Tonight, on American Zombie: your results are in...America. America...last night's voting reached a post-apocalyptic record, totaling no less than 47 votes.

(pause)

America.

(pause)

And just like the abrupt demise of our species, last night was full of surprises.

ANDY sits with KENDRA and AL. MATT enters.

TITANIC THEME.

At the part where the vocal would start, the **SOUND CUTS** and MATT screams:

MATT

BRAAAAAAIIIIIIINS!

AL

You know what I liked about that performance dawg? You got up there and you did...you. You're not here to pretend like you're some kinda young little waify performer, like you're all innocent or...you're all...alive, or whatever. You dig brains. All right, let's talk about brains.

KENDRA

(speechless for a moment,
gestures helplessly)

I love you. I love everything about...you. And I know, I know, a lot of people are gonna say, you know, oh you're a zombie, you came from dirt, you know, literally...you're never gonna amount to anything, but you know what? My father was a zombie. It's true, he was. And I'm proud of that. And you should be too. You should.

ANDY

(British Accent)

Well thank you, that explains so much. Listen, we get a lot of zombies through here, and not all of them are performance ready. Some of them don't have the right presence, they don't have the lungs for it, or any lungs, or...you know...a jaw...or whatever. Now when I saw your performance, I knew there was only one thing that I could really tell you: quite simply...bravo.

(all begin to applaud)

Brains indeed my friend. Brains indeed.

Blackout. STATIC.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Coming up next, on "Survivor: San Antonio."

Lights up on AL in a cowboy hat. He looks around, then scratches his head and shrugs.

AL

(thick Texas accent)

H'ain't nobody left!

Blackout. STATIC.

LOVE THEME.

ANNOUNCER

We now return to "For the Love of Zombies."

Lights up. Sound cuts. KENDRA sits stage left. ANDY, AL and MATT sit stage right, respectively. They cannot see her.

AL

Honestly? I think sexual compatibility is very important. I'd say I look for a girl with wink and a waddle if you know what I mean...the lips and the hips...the eyes and the thighs...the pretties and the...

KENDRA

Oookay Bachelor Number Two, that's just about enough of that. Bachelor Number Three, what do you look for in a woman?

MATT

BRRRRRAAAAAIIIIINS!

KENDRA

Thank you Bachelor Number Three. Would you be a sweetheart and explain to Bachelor Number Two that a woman is more than just a piece of meat?

MATT looks at AL. AL looks at MATT, then away.

AL

Yo, this guy don't look so good.

Blackout. STATIC.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

And stay tuned for...the Zombie Shore!

Lights up. MATT and Kendra sit center stage facing out and looking up (as if tanning). This dialog is very fast.

MATT

Brains.

KENDRA

Shut up.

MATT

Brains.

KENDRA

No way.

Brains. MATT

He did not! KENDRA

Brains. MATT

Why he so stupid? KENDRA

Brains. MATT

Get out. KENDRA

Brains. MATT

I do not believe you. KENDRA

Brains. MATT

Damn, Gina. KENDRA

Brains. MATT

Stop! KENDRA

Brains. MATT

Holla back. KENDRA

ANDY rushes the stage.

ANDY

AAAAAAHHHHHHHHH!!!!!!!!!!

ANDY punches MATT in the face. MATT drops like a rock. ANDY lifts up his shirt, revealing a hollowed-out ribcage, which he points to with pride.

Blackout. STATIC

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Tomorrow, on an all-new "Big Zombie."

TENSE MUSIC. Lights up. All actors wander around the stage.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

One house, 56 cameras and four zombie bite victims, kept together in a contained environment for three months. Our contestants must compete against each other for immunity...immunity from the terrible virus that has infected each of them and is slowly transforming them into mindless monsters. Today's winner will have to outlast the others as they struggle to overcome their otherworldly hunger to eat...this tiny piece of brain.

Sound cuts. A small piece of brain flies from offstage, landing among the four contestants. All freeze and stare at it. They begin eyeing each other suspiciously.

ANDY

You know Kendra, if you did eat that brain...that delicious, sweet, succulent brain...and I got the immunity...I would never vote you to the zombies.

KENDRA

Oh totally Andy...totally...and I would, like, never vote you to the zombies...even if you were attacking me in a ravenous fit of zombie rage I would never do that.

ANDY

Oh I know. I completely trust you. I can smell how trustworthy your thoughts are...

KENDRA

Delicious thoughts...

ANDY

I really feel like you're the one that I connect with here...

KENDRA

Totally...me too.

ANDY

And I feel like we've been through so much...

KENDRA

I totally wanna eat your brain...

ANDY

And I think that...

MATT

Hey guys...guys! You know what would be great right now?

ANDY & KENDRA

What?

MATT

Some brains.

KENDRA

Totally.

ANDY

Oh I feel you.

All freeze. **Spotlight on AL.**

AL

I feel like all these guys ever talk about is brains! I mean there is so much more to slowly turning into a zombie than just a powerful desire for delicious, sweet...sweet brains. I, for one, am enjoying no longer being able to run. You know, at first I thought I would miss it, but lately I realize it just tireded me out! Oh, and the other day, some guy shot me in the heart...and I was fine! I'm telling you, these guys are really missing out getting hung up on the smoky, smooth, crisp, refreshing taste of brains!

TENSE MUSIC.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

The contestants must now vote on whose transformation has progressed the farthest and should be kicked out of the house and into the zombie-filled wilderness surrounding our studio.

Sound cuts.

ANDY

Kendra.

KENDRA

Andy.

AL

Kendra.

MATT

Brains.

All actors look at MATT. After a pause MATT attacks AL and attempts to eat his brain.

Blackout. STATIC.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

This Tuesday, on "Iron Zombie America."

Lights up on MATT, a zombie, and ANDY, a chef, standing side-by-side facing the audience. AL stands on a block between them.

AL

(Asian accent)

Welcome to kitchen stadium, where tonight, in a brutal battle of culinary skill, our Iron Zombie will battle up-and-coming chef Bruno Portini to see who can create the best 5-course meal in under 60 minutes! Remember, as always both competitors must use the same secret ingredient. For tonight's challenge, that ingredient is...brains!

ANDY

Fuck!

MATT

(pumps his fists victoriously)

AARRRRROOOOOOAAAHHH!!!

Blackout. STATIC.

LOVE THEME.

Actors return the stage to "For the Love of Zombies" setup. **Lights up.**
Sound cuts. AL is gone.

ANDY

I'm a kind man, I'm a patient man, I'm independently wealthy. My favorite color is white. I believe in the power of love, respect and communication. Also: I believe that Bachelor Number Two has been eaten.

KENDRA

Boring! Bachelor Number Three, what can you bring to this relationship?

MATT

BRRRAAAIIIIIIINNS!

KENDRA

I love a man who's not afraid to show his intelligence.

ANDY

Can I please get some help in here?

Blackout. STATIC.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

And don't miss the next scandalous episode of "The Real Housewives of the Zombie Apocalypse!"

AL stands between KENDRA and MATT, who is wearing a ridiculous wig.

AL

(addressing MATT)

Now I don't want to start trouble here...but I've got to ask...how do you respond to Kendra's claim that you shop at Loehmann's, that your house is in foreclosure, and that she can see your heart through the side of your body?

KENDRA nods, lips pursed accusingly
MATT snaps his fingers.

MATT

(in a drawn-out, effeminate style. Think of a drag queen saying "Hey!")

Braaaaaiins!

Blackout. STATIC.

DANCE MUSIC.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Welcome back to "So You Think You're a Zombie," the only dance competition where the performances are judged by actual zombies! Do you have the moves to go head to head with the undead?

Lights up. APPLAUSE. KENDRA stands center stage. MATT is slumped in a nearby chair.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Kendra will now hear the judge's critique of her piece.

MATT

BWWAARDTHHTTARRRRRGG!!!!

KENDRA

(very seriously)

Yes.

MATT

GGGGRRRRRAAAAAAAAAA!!!!!!

KENDRA

Thank you.

MATT

RRRRROOOOUUUUUGGGGZZZZ!!!!

KENDRA

Well, I'm just tryin' to keep it real, you know, so...yeah, thank you.

MATT

Plort.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

All in all a fine performance by Kendra.

Kendra exits.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Now, we are proud to present Andy with his piece "Thoughtless," or "Brain Ballet Part 4."

ARTY MUSIC.

ANDY enters and goes into an elaborate brain-eating modern dance. After an uncomfortably long amount of time, MATT breaks free, rushes the stage and begins to feast on ANDY'S brains.

Blackout. STATIC.

LOVE THEME.

Actors return the stage to "For the Love..." setup. **Lights up. Sound cuts.** ANDY is gone.

KENDRA

Well I think I've just about made my decision. But for the record, Bachelor Number Three, what is your biggest weakness?

MATT

Emotional availability.

Blackout. STATIC.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

We now return to "Are You Smarter than a Zombie?"

Lights up. MATT and AL are seated. ANDY stands between them.

ANDY

(southern accent)

...And once again the question was "I am the most powerful organ in the human body, and yet you only use 10 percent of me...what am I?" Are you going to stick with your answer?

AL

Yes Jeff, I'm feeling very confident about this one. There's not a doubt in my mind, and I think the ladies will agree...I am going to go with "the penis." Specifically my penis.

ANDY

All right. Now let's hear from our zombie.

MATT

BRRAAAIIIIINS!!!

ANDY

Hmmm...this is interesting. It says here that the answer actually is your penis. It says "This guy's penis," and there's a picture of you.

He holds up the picture.

AL

That's right Jeff. There's also a picture of my balls in the Encyclopedia...under "Balls."

ANDY

I did not see that coming.

Blackout. STATIC.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

This spring, if there's anybody at all left alive, be sure to catch an all-new season of "Project Zombie!"

Lights up. KENDRA stands center stage.

KENDRA

(Eastern European accent)

Either you're in, or you're...

Pause.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

(whisper)

A zombie...

KENDRA

A zombie!

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

That's right. 12 eager young scientists struggle to find a cure for the horrific zombie plague decimating our planet. They are each given 3 days and limited access to medical supplies with which to develop a vaccine.

MATT stands on a block center stage with ANDY and AL on either side. KENDRA remains blocking the action until ANDY gets her attention and moves her offstage. He returns to AL, who is examining MATT.

ANDY

And what are we working on today?

AL

Well, you see what I've done here is I've taken a little zombie blood and mixed it with the blood of a baby kitten, because I feel that kittens are very non-threatening, and then I've put it on these little medicated wipes that I'm kind of using like nicotine patches, you can see how I've got them all over him here...

ANDY

Mmhm...

AL

And then I've dabbed his brow with vitamin C to help boost the immune system.

ANDY

Okay, and how does our zombie friend feel about all this? Any input from the zombie?

Pause.

MATT

(sings)
Once upon a time I was fallin' in love, but now I'm only fallin' for brains...

Pause.

ANDY

Let's Caucus.

(takes AL aside)
Okay this is interesting. I see you've got him singing, which is good.

AL

Thank you.

ANDY

But I'm a little worried about the inclusion of that last word..."brains."

AL

Right.

ANDY

Because you know that's not how the song goes.

AL

I do.

ANDY

I believe the last word is "apart."

AL

Yes.

ANDY

Not brains.

AL

I see.

ANDY

Interesting. Well, just...make it work!

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

When time is up, the scientist and his zombie must go before the judges...

ANDY and KENDRA sit upstage right. MATT remains standing on the block center stage, AL at his side.

KENDRA

Now what I liked about this cure is that you really brought a lot of yourself to it...I mean you're an ex-smoker, so you've got the patches...and there's no doubt that your zombie is presentable, I mean you can take him out to the store or whatever. But I have to wonder...is he really...cured?

AL

Well I was just trying to work with what I had...

ANDY

You know I'd actually like to hear from the zombie...but first I just want to say that there is a way to use vitamin C that doesn't look cheap...okay? So, um, zombie?

MATT

(charming)

Yes?

ANDY
How do you feel?

MATT
I feel great!

KENDRA
Do you think that your scientist did his best to cure you?

MATT
I do...

ANDY
And do you think he was successful?

MATT
Yes I do.

KENDRA
And what do you think of the vitamin C?

MATT
I love it actually.

ANDY
Hm. And the nicotine patches?

MATT
I love them.

KENDRA
I see. Well...

All smile approvingly for a beat.

MATT
(under his breath)
And I love brains.

ANDY KENDRA & AL
Damn it!/Typical/Figures/Such a shame/D minus/etc.

Blackout. STATIC.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
We at TMZ TV would like to thank you for spending what may be your last moments on earth with us, and remind you that if you see a suspicious bite on a friend's neck or scalp, do not keep it too yourself. Tell a police officer or rogue vigilante to shoot them in the face as soon as possible. And as always, TMZ TV reminds you to help control the zombie pet population: have your pets slain and murdered.

Lights up. GAME SHOW MUSIC.

AL is stage right. ANDY is slumped over his podium, KENDRA and MATT on either side of him.

AL

...And let's take a look here Matt. It looks like for the answer you wrote "Brains," and let's see what you wagered...it looks like you wagered "Brains" as well. I'm sorry Matt, but that does leave Kendra the victor.

KENDRA moves to shake MATT'S hand and he pulls her behind one of the podiums. She screams throughout the closing monologue as blood squirts into the air.

LITTLE ANTHONY AND THE IMPERIALS.

AL

You know, we've had a lot of fun here tonight at TMZ TV. But there's nothing funny...about scripted television. By celebrating actors and writers of fictional programming, we scorn the gifts of reality TV. We lose the opportunity to see our friends and neighbors treated as entertainment rather than as human beings. Unless we take pleasure in watching real people at their worst, unless we exploit human suffering and humiliation every day, how can we expect to let go of our empathy? How can we sleep at night if we feel genuine compassion for those around us? How can we ever be truly numb to the corpse-filled nightmare that our world has become? Good night, God bless, and on your way home remember...

Sound cuts.

AL

...the zombies can smell your fear.

Blackout. CURTAIN CALL.

Lights up.

END OF SHOW