WARNING: DO NOT READ THIS MANGA. (Dead Tube Review)

intro
The one thing that I absolutely love about manga more than anything else, that is a little more difficult to achieve in anime format, is the possibility of boundaries. And by that, I mean the possibilities for manga to extend to concepts in ways that you just can't do in anime. This can be an array of different reasons, but usually one of the biggest setbacks for a lot of anime is that it airs on public TV. Which naturally means that you can't just broadcast a completely fucked-up-beyond-all-belief type of show in case there is a suspecting child who accidentally stumbles upon something that will most likely scar them for all eternity. And let me tell you man… it's happened before to me, so I know exactly how it feels. I remember when I was little I was watching TV late at night because I was such an oh-so-naughty-boi, and I stumbled upon the rebroadcasting of the original Ninja Scroll movie. And it also just so happens to be… one of the sex scenes in that movie. I'm not going to describe the scene in case it angers the YouTube gods, but if you've seen the show… just imagine an 8 year old watching that for the first time. Yeah it was… it wasn't that pleasant. Great movie though, would recommend now.

But even the naughty and violent scenes in Ninja Scroll seem timid to some of the things that you will possibly find in the ruthless world of manga, because it basically has close to zero boundaries. I say "close to zero" because the only medium that actually has zero boundaries is a little thing called "hentai". Manga is close, but not *quite* there yet. But in my years of reading and experimenting with all sorts of different manga, I think this one particular series I'll be talking about today is the most fucked up manga that I have ever read… period. Yes, even through aaaalll of the horror manga that I have shown on this channel and have read, this one easily takes the cake as the most ruthless, messed up and horrific manga out there. And what's even more perfect is that… it's a manga that parodies the concept of YouTube! Today, I'll be doing my personal dive on the most messed up yet weirdly great horror manga, simply titled… DeadTube.

Now, this manga is pretty infamous at this point; those of you have dabbled a little bit into the manga world, especially the horror manga world will have most likely heard of this… interesting entry into the genre. The premise is pretty simple; in this world there is a website called Dead Tube, which acts basically in the same way as YouTube. Except, the way that people make money on Dead Tube is to make the most messed-up snuff films that they can muster up! The more graphic the video is, the more views it'll get, and the more money the uploader receives. How lovely! The story follows Machiya Tomohiro, an aspiring cameraman at the schools Film Research Club, who is one day confronted by Mashima Mai, a beautiful high school girl who asks Tomohiro to help her with filming something. What Tomohiro thought was just a harmless filming session turns into a brutal sex and murder scene for Dead Tube, from which Tomohiro is dragged into and is unable to escape from. As Tomohiro and Mai get more and more involved with Dead Tube, the more rivals they have to out-film as it quickly spirals down into a murderous, graphic, sexual and all-round fucked up video filming contest for the most amount of views and money!

Now is it just me… or does that not sound like the perfect satirical manga for the whole concept of YouTube? Us YouTubers are SO fucking obsessed with getting the views, getting the money, making content that the audience will enjoy, even if it means cutting off our integrity and morality. We get so fucking caught up in this online world, where if you don't watch out, you'll slowly start to break down and cry on the floor from the drawbacks. Obviously, Dead Tube takes that a step further… or should I say about 9 million steps further, by making it about some shit you would find on Reddit 50/50. Don't look that up btw, I'm warning you.

But there has also been a lot of people who are… not all that impressed about Dead Tube. It has a 7.6/10 on MAL which in itself is not exactly "horrible", but the people who don't like this series in particular REALLY seem to have a strong distaste in it. *read review 1*, oh this person is just reading it for the hot chick nvm *read review 2* ok this person didn't even write a fucking proper review *read review 3* GODDAMNIT- Come to think of it, why did I even think to read MyAnimeList anime reviews as a proof of concept? That's like asking how good a particular restaurant's food tastes to Hello Kitty.

In all seriousness though, those negative reviews on Dead Tube aren't all wrong in what they're saying. Because not once have I said in this video that I think this manga is amazing, or great, or even good in any way. It's a fucked-up train-wreck of a horror manga, that to be completely honest with you… I just can't seem to put down anytime soon. The art style has this strangely charming quality to it, like it's not exactly the most aesthetic or stylized art style out there, but it has this creeping darkness behind its aesthetic that perfectly reflects the extremely dark undertones of the narrative of the story. And the story isn't exactly the most amazing or even consistent, but the numerous plot twists and twisted moments, especially during the later chapters and volumes, is just really entertaining for what I can only say is for all of the more wrong reasons. Mashiro Mai's character is also not that consistent, but having read the later volumes where they start to slowly uncover Mai's past and her connections to Tomohiro, you start to see how three dimensional of a character she actually is. I mean, it makes sense if you think about; they make her at first start out as this messed up motherfucker bent at the mind to clearly set the tone for the entire premise of the series, and then slowly ease you into the logic behind all of her screwed up thoughts and actions; it's not the most effective way to do it, but it is certainly creating an interesting development for the character itself.

But even while I say ALL of these praises… it's still not a manga I recommend you reading. I mean, there's a very strong and real reason why I titled this review in this way! The torture, murder, sex and other graphic scenes in this manga are just… oh boi! I obviously can't show any of them right now, but I remember one of the scenes involved a deranged teacher getting gangraped by her students while calling out her husbands name who by the way she killed with her bare hands, and then when she realized she wasn't getting raped by her dead husband, she proceeded to cut the heads off of all the students and bathe in their blood while masturbating to it [maintain shot]… trust me, I can't make that shit up if I tried. And that's just one of many MANY fucked up scenes that you'll find in this glorious manga! And rest assured, there is more to come because this shit is still serializing HOORAY! Traumas for everybody hahahahaha!

OK in all seriousness, here are some minor criticisms I have towards this manga. Number one, the story is not that consistent; it more follows an arc-system of storytelling rather than one continuously flowing story, which I don't personally think works very well in a horror setting like this one. I think a consistently flowing story would work much better as it maintains the gritty horror and dark vibes of the narrative as well as the developmental progress of characters seem a lot more natural and integrated rather than having to reintroduce it with every new arc. Number two, cut down on the gore and sex scenes a little bit please! Look, I've read some gory and brutal horror in my days, and god forbid I've had my fair share of overtly sexual manga and the raunchiest of raunchy hentai, but there are moments in this manga where it just feels like they're throwing in gore and sexual scenes… just for the hell of it. Fuck it, it's been overtly graphic for the past 8-9 volumes, why not throw in a little more, what's the harm in that? The harm is that umm… it kinda gets a bit repetitive mate! It's fine for the first couple of volumes, but once you've seen a few obscure deaths, disfigured bodies and fucked up sex scenes… you've kinda seen it all! Even if you're one of those fucked up individuals who loves constant streams of gore and porn in your manga, the amount that gets projected out at you in this manga is kinda like if you ate your favorite food for a month straight. It might be your favorite food, but it's your favorite probably because you have it once every often, not everyday!

So yeah… do I recommend you to read Dead Tube? Uh… no. Do I think Dead Tube is a good manga in any way. Uh… no. But just because it's not exactly great and is a series I don't really recommend to a lot of people, it's still entertaining as fuck. As long as you can stomach the majority of it, if you're not into your graphic manga, then I highly recommend you skip over this shit, trust me. But hey, I don't want you guys walking away from this video with nothing to read, so if you're not up for Dead Tube, then why not go and check out some of the other awesome manga and light novels that Bookwalker has to offer! Go to global.bookwalker.jp and use my coupon codes "theanimeman" or "theanimeman2" to get discounts at your purchase your welcome! If you've read Dead Tube, let me know what you thought about it, and what do you think about the limits in manga as opposed to in anime. Do you think that just because manga has a wider limit than anime does, it shouldn't exceed to certain places? I'm interested to know all of that, so make sure to let me know all that kinda stuff in the comments below!

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