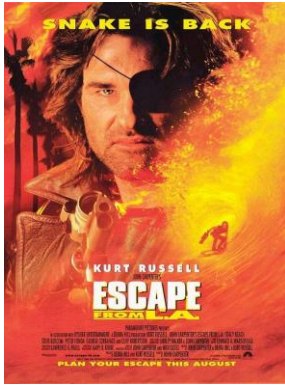


Short Review: “Escape from L.A.” (1996) by Dr. John L. Flynn



Escape from L.A. (1996), Paramount, Color, 101 min. Director: John Carpenter. Writers: John Carpenter, Nick Castle, etc. Producers: Debra Hill and Kurt Russell. Cast: Kurt Russell, A. J. Langer, Steve Buscemi, and George Corraface, and Cliff Robertson.

As before, Snake Plissken (Russell) is blackmailed into entering a top security prison to affect a rescue. This time, it's prison island of a post-apocalyptic L.A., and it's the President's daughter (Langer) from the clutches of Cuervo Jones. The president's goon (Keach) infects Snake with a disease that will kick in without an antidote in less than twelve hours. Can Snake surf the river with Pipeline (Peter Fonda), outwit "Map to the Stars" Eddie (Buscemi), escape the Surgeon General of Beverly Hills (Bruce Campbell), ally himself with a transgendered car thief (Pam Grier), get the girl, stay healthy and piss off the President (Robertson)? Yes, and he'll get a few laughs too. It is more outrageous than the original. Why not?

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