Subject: Grizzly Man
Posted by elektratig on Thu, 26 Jan 2006 10:21:37 GMT
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I saw Werner Herzog's "Grizzly Man" last weekend. The movie certainly doesn't need my recommendation -- it's received almost universal praise -- but since I don't think it's been mentioned here, I'll add my thumbs up anyway.The film is beautiful and compelling. The protagonist, Timothy Treadwell, was clearly as crazy as a loon, and yet endearing and delightful despite, or rather because of, his craziness. Looking to give his life meaning and stability, he embraced the bears as a drowning man clutches a life preserver. He anthropomorphized the bears in ways that bordered on delusional, leading him to take risks that leave the viewer awed by his courage and astounded by his foolhardiness, and resulting in astonishing footage that is both gorgeous and tinged with anticipated dread. Herzog's treatment of Treadwell is both sympathetic and ironic, as he watches Treadwell's obsessive pursuit slowly hurtle to its terrible conclusion much like a train wreck in slow motion.Highly recommended.

Grizzly Man

Subject: Re: Grizzly Man
Posted by Wayne Parham on Thu, 26 Jan 2006 15:11:45 GMT
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I heard about this guy from some friends a few days ago. I guess he took his girlfriend with him and they both were eaten. Amazing.

Subject: Re: Grizzly Man
Posted by elektratig on Thu, 26 Jan 2006 17:26:26 GMT
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Wayne,Sorry, perhaps I didn't provide enough background 'cause I assumed everyone was generally familiar with it. Yes, the protagonist spent 13 summers in the Alaska wilderness, months at a time on his own (or with one companion some years), with no weapons. He literally lived with the grizzlies, spending hours and days within feet of them. He named them and talked to them in a high sing-song voice, much as I talk to my cats. In the process, he made about 100 hours of video showing himself with the bears. Selections from these videos make up most of the film, together with Herzog's voiceover and post-mortem interviews of friends and acquaintances.At the end of the 13th year, the day before he was due to be picked up, he and his companion were killed and eaten, probably by an elderly bear he wasn't familiar with which had not yet gone into hibernation and roamed into the area because it looking for food and still trying to put on fat for the winter.Although audio of the actual attack was taped (the camera was on with the lens cap on),

we do not hear it. At one point we do see Herzog as he listens to the tape with headphones, and there is one brief medium-distance shot of the gory scene, apparently filmed by the authorities who came in response to the bush pilot's call for help. Small kids, no; teens who have seen "Saw", no problem.If you haven't seen it, do. It's one of the finest movies I've seen in a long time. It's haunting, it stays with you, and I'm going to watch it again this weekend.

Subject: Re: Grizzly Man
Posted by Wayne Parham on Thu, 26 Jan 2006 18:19:41 GMT
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Oooh, that's grizzly. OK, sorry. Bad pun. Bad, bad pun. I'll behave for the rest of the day, I promise. Seriously, that's one I'll have to check out. Thanks for the heads-up.

Subject: Re: Grizzly Man
Posted by Manualblock on Thu, 26 Jan 2006 21:07:54 GMT
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I'm a huge fan of Herzog; "Aguirre, The Wrath Of God" is one of my alltime favorites, like sitting through a fever dream.I saw Fitzcarraldo before I knew who he was and I was absorbed. The cinematography alone is amazing.

Subject: Re: Grizzly Man
Posted by Wayne Parham on Fri, 27 Jan 2006 00:54:19 GMT
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I'll definitely have to check those out. Thought about renting something tonight, but I think I'm gonna stay inside. Maybe this weekend.

Subject: Re: Grizzly Man
Posted by Manualblock on Fri, 27 Jan 2006 01:08:40 GMT
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Why should we have to rent? There's only about 2000 stations on the cable...too bad there's nothing on. And to think we used to say that same thing when there was only 13 stations.Maybe I

should get a satellite dish; then I can watch I Love Lucy anytime night or day somewhere in the US.

Subject: Re: Grizzly Man
Posted by elektratig on Fri, 27 Jan 2006 01:25:39 GMT
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With those 2000 stations, I still wind up watching Law & Order reruns.

Subject: Re: Grizzly Man
Posted by Wayne Parham on Fri, 27 Jan 2006 02:05:32 GMT
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Wow! Is it already out on TV?

Subject: Re: Grizzly Man
Posted by Wayne Parham on Fri, 27 Jan 2006 02:05:45 GMT
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Subject: Re: Grizzly Man
Posted by Manualblock on Fri, 27 Jan 2006 02:50:14 GMT
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Try The Andy Griffith Show. Love that theme song.
