

5 Spooky Anime Recommendations

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OPINION EDITOR

As Halloween night draws near, horror enthusiasts everywhere are powering up their TVs for a night of spooky movie-watching. If you're more of an anime fan or even just looking for something new this year, here's some good anime to check out.

• "CASTLEVANIA"

This 2017 series based on the 1986 game features high levels of gore and an atmosphere dripping with religious imagery. When Dracula's wife is burned at the stake after being accused of witchcraft, only Trevor Belmont can stop the army of demons the vampire has unleashed upon the world.

Set in the European town of Wallachia, this show demonstrates not only the horrors of the undead, but also the horrors the living will do to one another in times of crisis.

• "CORPSE PARTY"

The "Corpse Party" series als'o originated as a game in 1996, and has seen game releases for multiple platforms (including the Nintendo Switch this October), several manga series, and multiple movies. The anime, "Corpse Party: Tortured Souls," delivers a dark, grimy setting, twisted deaths, and a cast of terrified high school students.

When a group of classmates from Kisaragi Academy perform a friendship charm called "Sachiko Ever After," they are transported to the cursed Heavenly Host Elementary School, where they are separated and attacked by ghosts, particularly the ghost of Sachiko herself.

• "SCHOOL LIVE!"

The 2015 series starts with happy Yuki Takeya, a high school girl who lives at Megurigaoka Private School with other members of the School Living Club. They go to classes, play games, go shopping, and play with their dog, Taromaru. Except...they don't, not really. The bright, cheerful world of Megurigaoka is really just Yuki's delusion, and in reality, all of Japan has been overrun by zombies.

The School Living Club is one of the last surviving groups of students, and all the girls must balance surviving the zombie apocalypse, dealing with their own trauma, and keeping Yuki safe. This anime features well-written twists and turns that will keep you on your toes all the way to the end.

• "KABANERI OF THE IRON FORTRESS"

Another zombie series, Kabaneri succeeds in its worldbuilding and gorgeous imagery. The world of Kabaneri is set in an industrial-era Japan, where traditional fashions and societies rule. The different towns of the show are centered around train stations, and much of the series is spent traveling to different towns by train.

The zombies in this show are called Kabane, which can only be killed by piercing their heart. The main character, Ikoma, creates a steam-powered bolt gun capable of killing the Kabane, but during his first test is bitten by a Kabane and through sheer force of will changes into a Kabaneri, a half-human-half-Kabane. Together with another Kabaneri named Mumei, Ikoma travels to the capital city and searches for a way to stop the Kabane.

• "PERFECT BLUE"

Unlike all the other entries on this list, "Perfect Blue" is a 1997 film set in 1990s Japan. Mima Kirigoe, formerly a pop-idol, leaves her J-pop career in order to become a serious actress. After getting a leading role in a television show that involves her character being sexually assaulted, along with seeing her fans anger at her abandoning the pop scene, Mima falls into a downward spiral of mental instability and begins to doubt her self-identity, especially when a stalker begins impersonating her online. This film is scary not because of any monsters, but because the events of the film are entirely possible in real life.

Haunts Around Jonesboro

ALEX CLARK

LIFE EDITOR

Whether or not they believe in ghosts, everyone has heard a ghost story. These stories can be a friend recounting the time they heard someone walking through their home while they were the only one there, or it can be an urban legend from the town they reside in.

Jonesboro is not an exception from ghost stories. However, nothing stated beyond this point is being stated as a fact.

A well-known haunting in Jonesboro is Charlie (or Charley), the spirit that hangs around the Forum downtown. He occasionally appears in group photographs taken at the theater, and isn't said to be malicious.

Keller's Chapel Cemetery is much more interesting. According to a 2016 article by Lori Gross, there are around 1,200 graves in the cemetery and 75 of those are members of the Keller family. Those who visit the graveyard report the sound of babies crying, assumed to be linked to the fact that nine of the Keller graves are babies.

Other people report even creepier activity at Keller's Chapel Cemetery. Some say they saw black figured, what seemed to be the aftermath of some sort of ritual, or they heard sounds from inside the chapel. The chapel is no longer in use.

There are even rumored hauntings on the A-State campus. There are reports of people hearing the sounds of someone rehearsing music in an auditorium in Wilson Hall, while others report seeing figures in their dorm rooms.

Regardless of your belief in ghosts, ghost stories are fun to share around Halloween. Take some time to look up more of the hauntings in and around Jonesboro, or your own hometown.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GOOGLE MAPS STREET VIEW

Keller's Chapel Cemetery is located in Jonesboro, about a nine minute drive from campus. Even during the daytime, the location gives off an eerie vibe to those that visit it.

HOROSCOPES

ALEX CLARK

MYSTIC CORRESPONDENT

ARIES (March 22 - April 19) You are taking opportunities and taking steps toward your long-term goals. Make sure you manage your time responsibly.

LEO (July 23 - Aug. 22) Now is a time of new beginnings for you. Let new people into your life and they will be supportive and understanding.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) Pessimism will get you nowhere. Things are going to go better than you expect them to, but make sure you don't become careless.

TAURUS (April 20 - May 20) Guidance from others can be helpful right now. This guidance could be to help you get through a tough time, or to help you establish a foundation for yourself.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22) Struggling to make decisions may leave you at a stalemate. Not all decisions will be easy, and you may have to make the hard choice to move forward.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) Changes will not always just happen in your life. You need to initiate the changes that you need in order to have new experiences.

GEMINI (May 21 - June 20) People will not always be willing to cooperate with you, unfortunately. Don't let frustration build up about this, step away if you need to.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22) You need to make a change in your life. Something new in your life will help to rid you of unnecessary exhaustion and boredom.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) Give yourself time and space to heal from hard times you have gone through. Communicate with people about your needs during this time.

CANCER (June 21 - July 22) If people around you are offering their generosity, accept it. This can serve as a reminder that help is available to you when you need it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) Happy times are approaching. Celebrate the good things that happen, even if they are small.

PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 21) You are finding the balance within yourself. This may mean that you need to make major choices, maybe even difficult choices.

THIS WEEK'S POP PICK



PICTURE COURTESY OF IMDB

"Maleficent: Mistress of Evil"

This year has brought a sequel to Disney's "Maleficent," starring Angelina Jolie as the iconic villain. While the first movie provides background to how Maleficent came to be known as a villain, the second story contains heavy themes of redemption. "Maleficent: Mistress of Evil" follows Maleficent as she travels to attend Aurora's wedding to Prince Phillip. She meets Prince Phillip's mother, only the find out the queen has an evil plan to destroy the land's fairies. Movies such as "Maleficent" provide interesting world-building to beloved Disney classics. If you are curious about more of the story surrounding characters other than the princesses, "Maleficent: Mistress of Evil" is the movie for you.