

## The Top Ten Reasons I Hate **Zombies** (and the **Movies** about them) by Linda Brookover



10. **They're ugly.** Megan Fox in *Jennifer's Body* notwithstanding (was Jennifer really a zombie, after all), taken as a horde or as individuals with their swollen tongues, yellow eyes, skin that suggests much too long a stay in a tanning bed/grave, and sunken (or missing) cheekbones, these hideous creatures give the Frankenstein's monster and just about any ghoul that ever haunted the screen a shuffle for their money.



9. Speaking of that: **They can't dance.** Yes, yes, I've seen the "Thriller" video and that is the exception that proves the observation. Sure boyfriends may have come back from the cemetery to attend the prom, but they were still geeks with no sense of rhythm.

8. They're undead and uncouth. They have no sense of personal space and constantly seek to violate that of whomever they encounter without compunction, such as bashing their heads through car windows. As for table manners, well, if you have seen just one of these movies, enough said.





7. **They're not very romantic**—in the literal rather than the literary sense, but actually not in that sense either. Even in the misbegotten comedies that involve teen couples, they are simply never huggable. Can you imagine a zombie date, a zombie valentine, or, perish the thought, zombie sex? Even the most hard-core necrophile would have to be repulsed.

6. **Despite no sex, they breed faster than rabbits.** Sure you could argue that it is not actual breeding, but what else would you call it? It starts with just one zombie moving into the neighborhood, and before you know it the kids next door are inviting themselves to lunch...off your flesh.

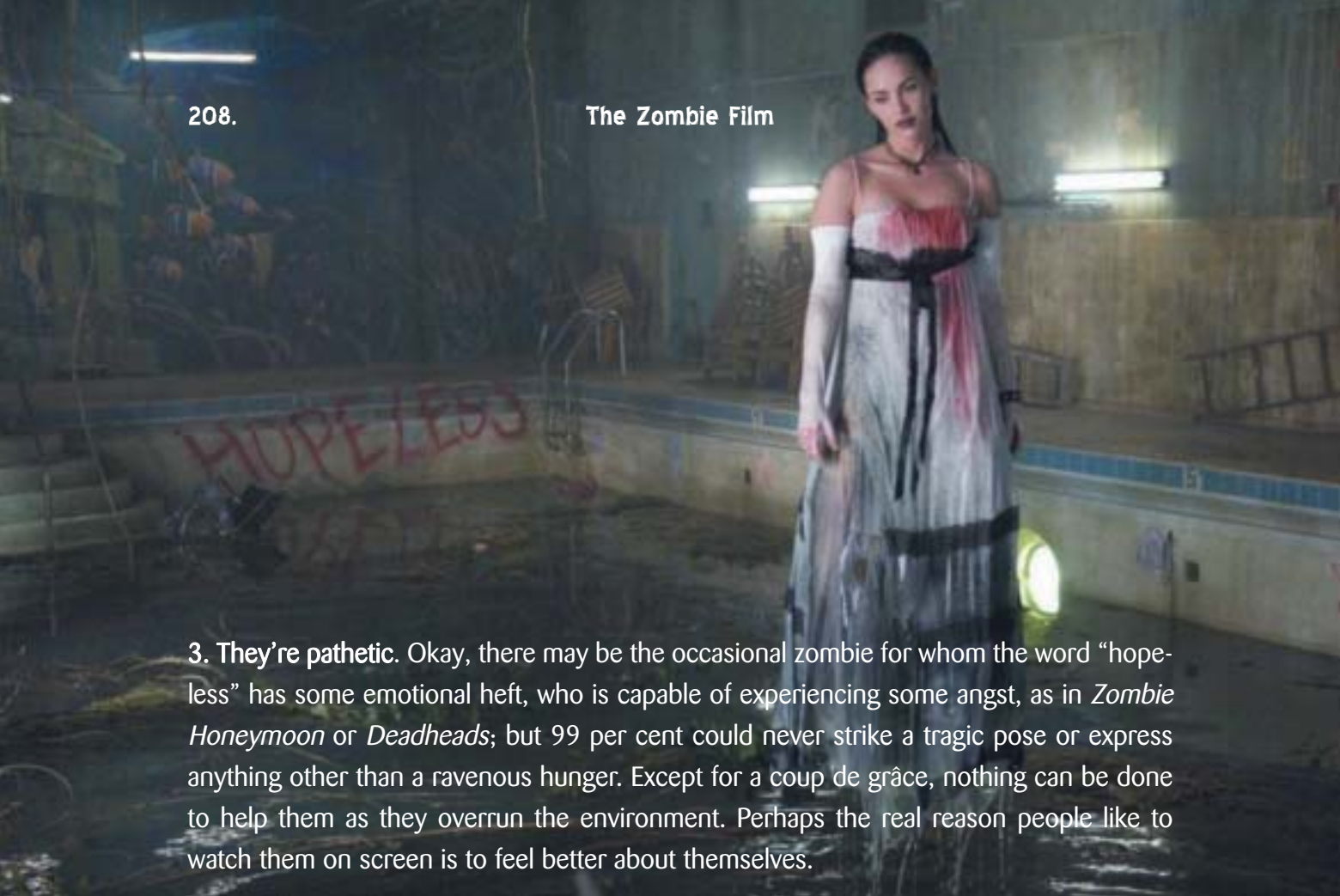


5. **They have no fashion sense.** They look like they slept in their clothes. Even if they never spent time in a coffin but went right from ordinary life to zombieified after being bitten, their previously unremarkable wardrobe is suddenly very shabby and somehow still looks like it was worn inside a freshly dug grave: it's dirty, shredded and bloodstained. If vampires represent the height of movie monster fashion, zombies without question are the nadir.

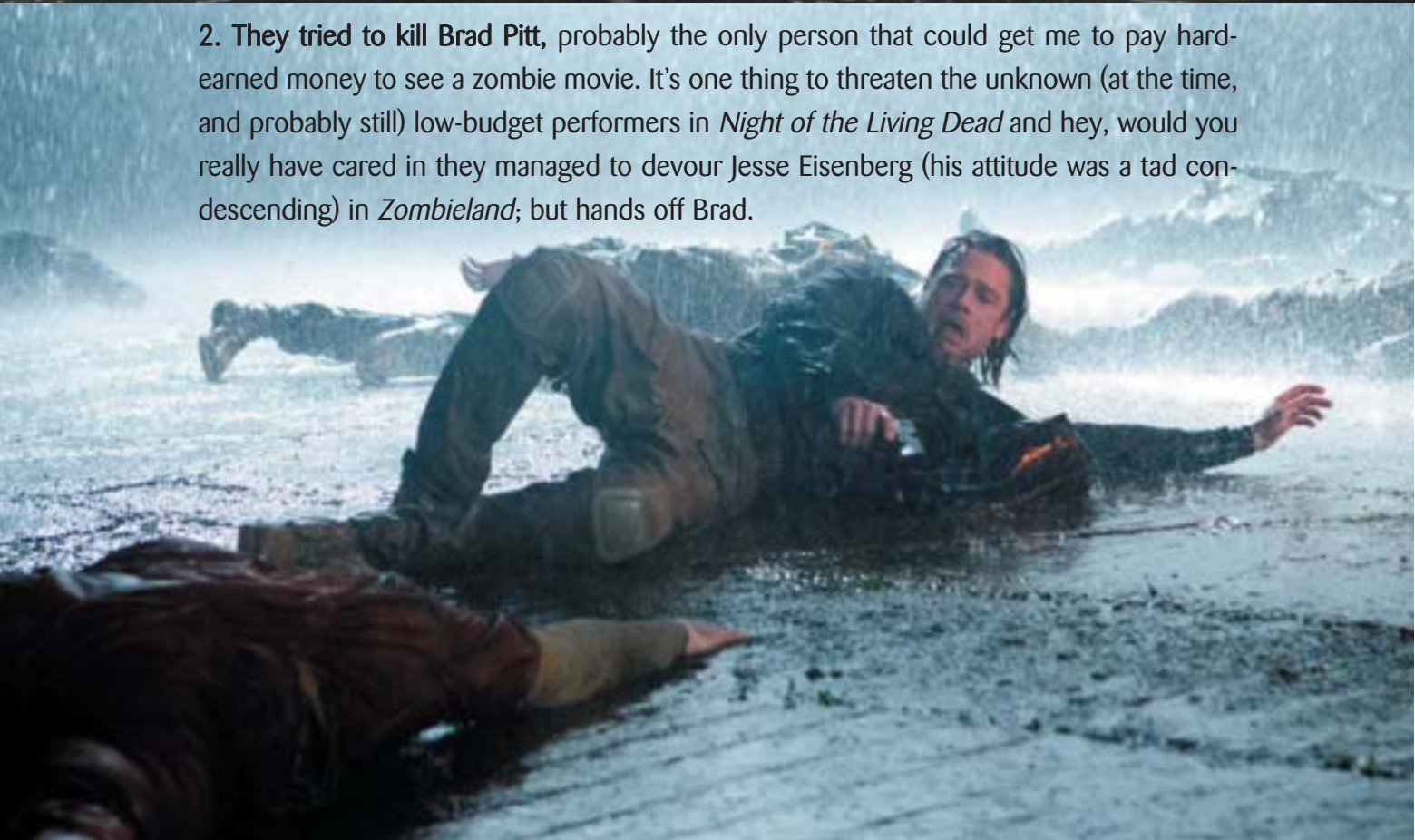
4. **They look like they smell bad.** One can only presume that from the reactions and occasional comments of those who encounter them, so thank heaven Smell-O-Vision no longer exists. I mean *Scent of*

*a Mystery* was one thing, can you really imagine *Scent of a Zombie*. Eew!





3. **They're pathetic.** Okay, there may be the occasional zombie for whom the word “hopeless” has some emotional heft, who is capable of experiencing some angst, as in *Zombie Honeymoon* or *Deadheads*; but 99 per cent could never strike a tragic pose or express anything other than a ravenous hunger. Except for a coup de grâce, nothing can be done to help them as they overrun the environment. Perhaps the real reason people like to watch them on screen is to feel better about themselves.



2. **They tried to kill Brad Pitt**, probably the only person that could get me to pay hard-earned money to see a zombie movie. It's one thing to threaten the unknown (at the time, and probably still) low-budget performers in *Night of the Living Dead* and hey, would you really have cared in they managed to devour Jesse Eisenberg (his attitude was a tad condescending) in *Zombieland*; but hands off Brad.



And the Number 1 reason to hate movie zombies:

You can show me all the Zombie Strippers you want, like the one above and I'm sorry but **They're boring.** Conversation is limited to the occasional grunt or perhaps a rattle in their throat like a reverse hiccup, often accompanied by the clacking sound of their deformed teeth biting together in anticipation of finding your neck. Tragically some of these post-persons were probably lively conversationalists when still were still breathing, but now...