Cats on Film Pod

Transcript

Cats on Film Pod Episode 15
The Mummy (1999)



INTRO JINGLE

INTRO SHOW

RAY
Hi everybody! Welcome to *Cats on Film Pod*. I'm your host, Ray Allyn, here with my co-host, Skipper.

SKIPPER
meows

RAY
Thanks for joining us every Tuesday as we review cats in film. There will be spoilers.

SKIPPER
meows

RAY
Today, we're discussing *The Mummy* from 1999 – the one with Rachel Weisz and Brendan Fraser.

SKIPPER
meows

RAY
Let's recap!
A white shorthair lives on a British military base in Cairo in the early 20th century. The cat's British lady, Rachel Weisz, goes out into the desert and just leaves her unnamed cat alone for, what, like – at least a week?

SKIPPER
meows

RAY
I guess. Anyways, Rachel Weisz and her buddies bring back a magical mummy that's trying to kill the people that woke it up. The cat helps scare away the mummy when he's coming after Rachel Weisz because she's the white woman version of the woman he loved before dying. Then the foolish white people join some Egyptian locals to go back out to the middle of the desert and definitely completely kill the mummy.

SKIPPER
meows

RAY
I still don't get why the mummy has all those destructive powers. Like, why not just punish him with regular death, instead of making him immortal and a walking plague?

SKIPPER
meows

RAY
Yes, yes – cats, not mummies on film. It's just so stupid.

SKIPPER
meows

RAY
Yeah, there's no need for Brendan Fraser to be so rude to the cat. Although, I guess he's generally rude to everybody when he first meets them. Still, the cat was just sitting on his lady's suitcase while they were packing to go back out into the desert.

Skipper, why *do* cats like to sit on suitcases when people are packing?

SKIPPER
meows

RAY
Makes sense.

SKIPPER
meows

RAY

In this scene, it's the mummy who's startled by the cat's unexpected entrance – discordantly walking across piano keys for maximum spookiness. That mummy looks *terrified.* Like, over-the-top, cartoonishly terrified.

CLIP FROM *THE MUMMY*
CAT
Walks on piano
Meows
MUMMY
Growls

RAY
Usually, white cats are cast as pampered pets. Gingers usually play feisty characters.

SKIPPER
meows

RAY
Oh, like, purity warding off the evil undead villain? That seems about right.

CLIP FROM *THE MUMMY*
RICK
Question. Why doesn't he like cats?
DR. BEY
Cats are the guardians of the underworld. He will fear them until he is fully regenerated.
ARDETH
And then he will fear nothing.
AMERICAN 1
Yeah, and you know how he gets hisself fully regenerated?
AMERICAN 2
By killing everyone who opened that chest.
AMERICAN 1
And suckin' 'em dry, that's how!

RAY
Once Brendan Fraser has a use for the cat, he pays attention to 'em, thrusting the cat towards the mummy like a weapon. Being held under the forelegs like that doesn't look entirely comfortable, but it is a good aggressive pose. Oh! Like the fluffy city cat in *Enchanted* who scared-away the sword-wielding prince.

SKIPPER
meows

RAY

Well, Skipper, how do you rate feline representation in *The Mummy?*

SKIPPER
Meow, meow

RAY
I agree – two out of four paws. They seem to treat the live cat okay, but he gets so little screen time, and isn't shown any love for protecting the lead white lady.

END STING

RAY
Thank you for listening to *Cats on Film Pod.* Know someone who loves action adventure comedies? Please share this episode with them!

OUTRO JINGLE

END CREDITS

RAY
Cats on Film Pod is voiced and produced by Ray Allyn, with music by The DōsMan, and additional sounds from FreeSound.org.
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SKIPPER
meows