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Lethal Force

(2001)

Divergent Thinking Productions

★★★★★

Cast all your prejudices against DIY filmmaking aside, because Alvin Ecarma's *Lethal Force* will entertain the hell out of you. A savagely funny parody of action films that's part John Woo, Quentin Tarantino and Sam Raimi, the 80-minute wonder also kicks seriously ass in the action department itself, with well-edited and well-staged fight sequences that go gloriously over the top.

Cash Flagg Jr. (a pseudonym if ever there was one) stars as Savitch, your basic supercop with a straight face, permanent scowl and a bad attitude. He's helping his partner rescue his son, who's been kidnapped by a crime syndicate led by

Eurotrash in a wheelchair and employs minions with white masks and a fez-wearing lesbian.

This story is really secondary, put there to allow Ecarma and friends to trot out and roast every action-flick cliché in the book. The remarkable thing is they do it better than anyone could have with 10 times the budget.