

Morris Men synopsis

'In the battle between good versus evil it only takes a few good citizens to rise up. But then sometimes... the only solution is to book a dance with the Morris Men.'

'A seaside town is gripped in the vice of drug fuelled corruption. England is on its knees. When jaded ex soldier, Tommy Martin, returns to his home town, he soon bumps into his childhood sweetheart, Sally. Consumed with jealousy over her new relationships, he begins following her, led to a mysterious Morris dancing club. Before he knows it, Tommy is sucked into a perilous under-realm, where the only dancing is with the devil himself.'

The beating heart of Morris Men

Morris Men tells a complex emotional story of two past lovers thrown back together when broken ex soldier, Tommy Martyn (Jamie Chambers), returns to the small seaside town they grew up in. With an untold past involving a painful breakup and Tommy running from his emotional issues, clearly unresolved feelings soon bubble to the surface. Forced together by a twist of fate Tommy and Sally (Eloise Lovell-Anderson) revisit powerful and raw emotions as they fight to keep their feelings under control amidst a strange new world that pulls them together like never before.

Amidst a raging battle of revenge and retribution, feelings soften as Sally realises she can maybe now trust Tommy to stand by her side as he desperately attempts to prove he is back to stay.

Akin to Romeo and Juliet, and the best unrequited love stories, emotions are laid bare as we feel the grip of their past anguish and wishes for reconciliation, yet constantly fighting against the explosive power of a broken union and the scalding embers that remain.

Morris Men treatment

Ex soldier, Tommy Martin, (Jamie Chambers) returns to his home town. A loner, scarred and embittered by the past he ran from, tormented with PTSD from the military life he found. Feelings quickly resurface as he sees Sally, (Eloise Lovell-Anderson) his one true love. She doesn't want anything to do with the broken ex-squaddie who chose alcohol instead of her. She's moved on. Tommy hasn't.

Tommy sees her life has changed for the better and follows her around, soon becoming an annoyance to be put in place by Sally's colleague Huss (Shah Hussain). Back to the pub to drown his sorrows Tommy discovers Sally and her new group of colleagues performing as 'border Morris dancers', a world away from the shy girl he once knew and loved.

The performance turns ugly as a group of local thugs intimidate the band and dancers. And then... an instant of pure clinical violence. Ushered into action by the band leader, Bagman Blythe, (Jon Campling) the thugs are dispatched by the mysterious black clad dancers, who leave the hall to rapturous applause from shocked bystanders.

Realising that the Sally he knew is gone, and consumed with the new empowered version of his onetime love, Tommy follows the group, needing just a moment alone to reassure Sally he's working on becoming a better self. He follows the group to a rough out of town pub, where he witnesses the full truth of the mysterious entertainers. Descending on the pub, like a flock of crows, they dispatch the thugs inside, rescuing a young girl who is clearly drugged and not there by choice.

The liberation somehow goes wrong and Sally is stabbed after Huss is critically injured. Tommy rushes in and saves Sally from further damage.

Against Tommy's pleas to deliver her to hospital Sally guides Tommy to an abandoned office block, where he discovers the truth about the guild. In a face off with Bagman Blythe, Tommy learns the truth, after gaining respect for saving the fallen Guildsman.

Bagman fixes Sally, as Tommy watches under instruction to assist, he discovers the Tendring Guild of the Morris Men are a chapter of 'entertainers' as ancient as the British realm itself. A secret under realm of shadowy assassins, always on call to protect the people.

Tommy urges to join, emboldened by his rescue of Sally, lack of purpose and military credentials. Bagman accepts, as the only alternative, due to Tommy's newfound knowledge, is a swift assassination.

We learn that the town is under the tyrannical grip of local crime lord, Landlord Frank (Ross O'Hennessy), a man as unscrupulous as he is vile. Tommy begins training with the guild, both as a Morris dancer and skilled warrior in Eskrima and open hand combat. As the first assignment as a sworn in member of the guild, Tommy accompanies Sally to a drug snatch on the pier, where an epic fight ensues and they rescue a bag of drugs, destined to reap more misery on the town.

Faced with overwhelming love for Sally and a burning desire to belong, Tommy embraces this new life. But at every turn she knocks him back, herself too fearful to touch nerves and past passions still so raw.

The escalating Guild operations to rid the town of crime force Landlord Frank into deeper action, sending out a hit to kill Bagman and cut the head off the snake. The actions of retribution continue, culminating in Tommy and Sally both being kidnapped, and then an epic showdown at Frank's seafront tower.

Behind the veneer of a British action movie, Morris Men weaves the story of two lovers, both lost in the world and broken by their past interactions. A love too powerful to revisit, yet too strong to ignore.

'Kick-Ass meets 'Romeo & Juliet'

COUNTY OF PRODUCTION: UK

ESTIMATED LENGTH: 118 minutes

REPRESENTATAION: Moviehouse Entertainment