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Subject: Inuyashiki - A Dog's Breakfast

Posted by [Dave Baranyi](#) on Fri, 13 Oct 2017 02:46:18 GMT

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"Inuyashiki" is an adaptation of a recent seinen sci-fi manga series. A man in his late fifties whose life is generally shit receives a medical diagnosis that he has only three months to live. This depresses him even more and he goes out at night for a walk to a hilltop where he is smashed to smithereens by a UFO. The UFO isn't damaged, but the beings running it notice that they've killed the old man and another young man who was standing near him. So the UFO-folks rebuild and reanimate the two with various combat spare parts that they have sitting around, and then vanish into space.

The old guy slowly starts to notice that things are not the same with himself as combat systems start to open and close in his body. So he goes out at night again to a park where he stumbles upon some punks who are about to beat a derelict. The old guy tries to stop the kids so they beat the old guy instead, but the combat systems in the old guy go into action and scare off the kids while recording all that happened and broadcasting the kid's IDs and names all over the Web and TV. So the old guy suddenly feels that he has a reason for life again – a new life as a Hero.

When I first read the premise for the show I speculated that this might have some potential to be entertaining with perhaps some subtle social commentary. But instead the entire first episode was done in a very heavy-handed and bleak manner. I kept on getting the feeling that it was inspired as much by the "Death Wish" sequels as it was by the basic "Robocop" premise. I'm not a fan of the "life's a bitch, then you die" philosophy for writing a story, or for real life, so I just couldn't buy into the direction that the series is going. (And, as always, I dug around for more info on the manga and found that my speculations on the direction are unfortunately correct.)

So I'm calling it quits on this series and my final rating is C.

Dave Baranyi

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