



Tagline

A shady story of a colourful life lived outside the lines.

Logline

A drifter can't commit to anything except a killer tattoo and discovers his destiny as the saviour of all humankind from the amalgamated devil of all religions.

Risk Aversion | Nutshell

The 9th Gate meets Ash VS Evil Dead meets Angel Heart

Genre | Format

supernatural horror comedy | feature

Rating | Budget | Audience

M | \$3m | GenY male & female – lovers of horror and tattoos

Tone | Themes | Subtext

Dark with humour | Cultural misappropriation | The nature of commitment

Currency | Entertainment Value

Like the tattoo in the story, this film has waited for the right time to get inked and get made. That time has come.

Ignorance and disrespect displayed by 'influencers' and the selfie-obsessed crowd. EG the globally maligned 'yoga poser' at the Auschwitz memorial site.

Kiss My Ink

The PAST

Heavily tattooed forearms and fingers load a shotgun. Some of the tattoos are very detailed – others have been partially and clumsily removed. The skin is scarred and melted. Books are scattered around the desk – Aramaic writing, deciphering codes, tattoo art, voodoo curses and stacks of DVDs such as *Cape Fear*, *The Phoenix*, *Once Were Warriors*, *Angel Heart*, *The Ninth Gate*, *Night Of The Hunter* (1955 version). A small blowtorch and a first aid kit sit on the desk amid scattered painkillers and a home-made tattoo gun.

Through the glass of a tropical fish tank, a man sits on a windowsill with his back to the European scenery. A nervous squid is the only witness. The man raises the gun and shoots himself in the face – blasting his body out the window. The sound of the gunshot startles the squid and it inks itself. On the ground outside, his smashed corpse attracts a small crowd of onlookers. All his visible skin is covered in tattoos and blood. Embedded in one of those tattoos on his forearm is a twisted, frightening depiction of a man blowing his own head off. And a scared squid.

The PRESENT

Griffin is a commit-phobe who disguises it as ‘free spirit’. After getting teased by his well-inked friends, a clean-skinned Griff goes for a full back tattoo of a photo he took on his travels through South America. The tattoo has a life of its own, inking macabre scenes of grisly deaths that manifest in real life. As the bodies pile up behind Griff, a professor and expert in ancient iconography reveals the true nature and intention of the tattoo.

It’s a mandala – a portal for the Amalgamated Demon of all religions combined, waiting for the right host to help it enter the world.

When the professor mysteriously dies, Griff sees the death depicted on his back. Also unfolding in ink is the brutal fate of his best mate Percy the surfboard designer and his girlfriend Raz. He tries to save them but he can’t. Even the tattoo artist who reluctantly agrees to try and overwrite the gruesome images with different depictions, ends up dead.

As the law closes in, Griff must stop the tattoo inking itself to completion and before it opens the door to a force that no single religion could imagine. Religions cannot unite for a common good so it’s up to one guy to make a meaningful commitment and save the world from the ultimate evil unfolding on his back.

On a deeper level, *Kiss My Ink* is a surreal exploration of the consequences of lifelong decisions made during the folly of youth.

It’s about how we treat traditions, symbols, cultural iconography and the nature of respect and commitment.

Is evil an external entity or something like a hormone or a drug we all have inside us, churning in different doses?

Is the tattoo gun mightier than the sword?