

Foreign Language Film Festival 2007-2008

Corpse Bride

About the movie

DIRECTOR	Tim Burton
YEAR / COUNTRY	2005 / USA
GENRE	Puppet animated folktale
ACTORS	Voices: Johnny Depp, Helen Bonham Carter



PLOT

Set in the Victorian era, Tim Burton's *Corpse Bride* is based on the life of a young man who is destined to marry a girl named Victoria. He goes into the woods to rehearse his wedding vows and something very strange happens to him there. He suddenly finds himself in a quite different world and is wed to a corpse named Emily instead of Victoria. Much to his horror, he tries everything to return to the land of the living and his beloved Victoria but finds out there are other surprises in store for him.

This story is inspired by Howard Schwartz's "The Finger" from the book "Lilith's Cave", a Jewish folktale of the supernatural.

LANGUAGE

Proper English is spoken in several aristocratic accents (Victoria's parents) together with other more common English accents (Victor's parents). The characters' speech displays the British class division during the Victorian Age.

VOCABULARY

Bride: a woman just married or about to be married	Corpse: a dead body of a human being
Corset: a close fitting boned supported woman's undergarment often hooked and laced from the back	Graveyard: cemetery
To lace: to confine or compress by tightening laces of a garment	Grim: sombre, gloomy
To reel in: to recover by careful winding	Baby's breath: a perennial herb often used in floral arrangements
Chaperone: an older person who attends and supervises a social gathering for young people	Pastor: a clergyman serving a local church or parish
A ninny: a fool	To lavish: to expend or bestow with profusion, squander
A dwarf: a person of unusually small stature whose bodily proportions are abnormal	Destitute: suffering extreme poverty
Spirits: an alcoholic solution of a volatile substance	To waste: to spend or use carelessly, squander
Serendipity: the faculty or phenomenon of finding valuable or agreeable things not sought for	Overblown: rhetoric, pretentious
Vow: to promise solemnly	To fetch: to retrieve, to get and bring something
Hopscotch: to move as if by hopping	Newlyweds: people recently married
Impropriety: an improper or indecorous act or remark	Fortuitous: fortunate, lucky or occurring by chance
A musket: a heavy large-calibre shoulder firearm	To conjure up a plan: to contrive
To summon by incantation: to practice magical arts	