# VINNIE R BLOOD AND HONEY DIGITAL MARKETING **CASE STUDY**

## "...one of the most profitable movies in the last decade in terms of budget-to-box office ratio."

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How Winnie-the-Pooh: Blood and Honey Trolled Its Way to Box-Office Success

By Chris Lee, a Vulture senior reporter who covers Hollywood



"Sometimes the smallest things take up the most room in your heart." Pooh Photo: Jagged Edge Productions

Hell hath no fury like a Winnie scorned. In the live action, R-rache, childhood-nouslajaidescerating schlock-horror-thriller <u>Winnie-the-Pool: Bood and Hongs</u>, A.A. Minie's erstwhile tubbje Itile cubbje all stuffed with fuff is repurposed as a Jason Yoorhees-like maniac. One who ests out to average his abandonment in the Hundred Acre Wood – by a college-bound Chestanebus Police, and the Aphene The Adv

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How Winnie-the-Pooh: Blood and Honey Became an Instant Cult Classic Despite Terrible Reviews

Here's how Winnie the Pooh: Blood and Honey gained cult classic status despite poor reviews from critics.



Winnie-the-Pooh: Blood and Honey subverts a classic Disney character, turning the beloved bear into a malevolent slasher killer, which creates an irresistible draw.

- The movie's high camp and kitsch factor, including amateurish acting and ridiculous costumes, adds to its appeal among horror fans despite negative reviews.
- The film's so-bad-it's-good appeal, coupled with clever marketing that





COURTESY OF JAGGED EDGE PRODUCTIONS

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'Winnie the Pooh: Blood and Honey': Inside the Viral Micro-Budget Slasher Hoping to Slay the Box Office (EXCLUSIVE)

By K.J. Yossman



I wo years ago, utrector knys Frake-Waterinei was producing micro-budget horror movies such as "Dinosaur Hotel" and "Firenado" in between working for a British electricity supplier. Now, he is poised to become the helmer behind what may soon be one of the most



Log in

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Winnie the Pooh: Blood & Honey Is A Box Office Hit Despite Bad Reviews

Winnie the Pooh: Blood & Honey's shocking opening box office weekend is a whopping 10 times its small budget, in spite of the film's critical panning.



Despite suffering a critical lashing, <u>Winnie</u> the Pooh: Blood and Honey has already become a box office hit. Inspired by the children's characters of the same name, the film revolves around Pooh and Piglet, turned feral after being abandoned by Christopher Robin, as they embark on a murder spree on a group of college students visiting the Hundred Acre Wood. Becoming a viral sensation after fits announcement, *Winnie the Pooh: Blood and Honey* saw its one-night-only theatrical release expanded to a week, which looks to have been a



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Critically Panned 'Winnie-the-Pooh: Bloody and Honey' Proves to Be a Horror Hit

The reviews were not kind for the childhood-ruining slasher, which is believed to have been made for an extremely low budget of \$100,000 or less.



There's a rumbly in a surprising number of tumblie

As it turns out, ruthlessly mining childhoods while gamering negative reviews can prove to be a path to success, as evident in the box office performance of Winnie the Proble Blood and Homey. According to Deadline, the fill mining howsite that has to the original A.A. Milne shorts having entered the public domain J brought in about \$15 million in the U.S. during its first stress in thateas.

Looking at the global numbers, per Box Office Mojo, *Blood and Honey* has brought in \$1.1 million, bringing the worldwide total to \$2.7 million at the time of this writing. Of course, if this were *Avataror Ant-Man* we were talking about, these hauls would

# \$50,000 + \$20,000 + ZERO

PRODUCTION BUDGET

MEDIA BUDGET

AGENCIES USED

# \$5,200,000+

TOTAL BOX OFFICE



RAZZIE AWARD WINS, INCLUDING WORST PICTURE NEW FILMS

10 +

# The ULTIMATE Pooh-Posting Campaign

## SHIFT SENTIMENT

Create a fun, sassy, unserious Winnie-the-Pooh persona on socials to shift initial universal public rejection to predominant enthusiasm about seeing the film.

## STAY RELEVANT

Hijack trends, ride momentum from competition, and remain constantly active while celebrating our success as the underbear...l mean, dog.

## CULTIVATE FANBASE

Build upon newly converted fans by reaching additional audiences through hyper-targeted paid media and digital publicity tactics in order to cultivate a loyal following.

#### 03: Stay Relevant

## SHIFT SENTIMENT

While there was a ton of organic press pick up and strong social activity for the initial release of the poster and trailer, the majority of comments skewed extremely negative with very vocal haters. Building off our impressive earned reach, it was crucial that we started to shift the perception of the film by leaning into a more humorous, campy, self-deprecating tone of voice that allowed people inside the joke. We also responded to every single comment (yes, every comment) regardless of whether it was good or bad to allow our new persona to be felt. Once we were able to recruit our small but mighty Pooh Army, we launched into the second phase of our campaign.



#### 03: Stay Relevant

## CULTIVATE FANBASE

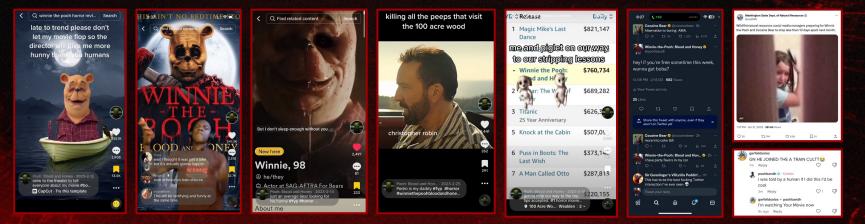
With sentiment leaning more positive heading into our paid media launch, we knew the floodgates were potentially about to open by targeting a new audience. Therefore, with our limited budget, we hyper targeted fans of similar campy horror films like Sharknado and targeted subreddits such as r/badmovies. Unlike traditional films that typically just amplify trailers and ticketing posts, we strategically started off boosting memes and engagement posts before transitioning into pushing ticket sales. However, due to the mass reach of paid media, we still received a lot of negative comment, but this time we had Pooh Army to back us up. Not only were we still responding to all comments, we had fervent fans defending the film on our behalf as well. This film campaign truly weaponized community management through sheer effort. We always kept a finger to the pulse to see what fans wanted. For example, a few people wanted an autograph from Pooh, so we set up an hour-long autograph session where we signed autographs live as Pooh and Piglet. This activation garnered over 100 autograph requests and 11K engagements.



### 03: Stay Relevant

## **STAY RELEVANT**

By keeping our finger constantly on the pulse, we made sure we stayed in the conversation. Not only did we respond to every comment and message, we also hijacked posts from other accounts, played into deep-cut trends, and kept everything fun and engaging. We commented on almost every single Cocaine Bear post, propelling our film into the same conversations and encouraging others to make comparisons between the films. We also drafted off TikTok trends, such as joining the A-Train and Ice Spice cults and the Rowboat trend to explode from zero to 100K followers and strategically utilized top CapCuts to promote the film in a lighthearted way. With only a measly \$20K media budget, we had to get scrappy and will our way into the conversation and work even harder to stay relevant.



# FAN APPRECIATION

