Troma's E-Z Bake Special Effects Recipes for Boys and Girls

By Lloyd Kaufman Excerpted from "Make Your Own Damn Movie," St. Martin's Press.

- 1. Fake Blood Not so much a special effect, really, as a staple of any good Tromatic kitchen. The Key ingredients to any fake blood recipe are Karo syrup and red food coloring. Form there you can add any number of ingredients on what you need to use the blood for. For instance, if you're going to be spraying the blood through a tube for a fire extinguisher, Karo syrup will gum up the words pretty quickly. You'll need to thin the blood out with water so it's not too goopy and sprays well. If nobody's going to put the shit in his mouth, a finishing agent used in photo processing Photoflow is also a good thinning agent. You can also put a few drops of soap in there to make the crap wash out of clothes and walls a little easier.
- 2. Fake Vomit I consider myself something of an expert on vomit, seeing as how I often wake up in the gutter with a mouth full of the stuff around four o'clock in the morning. But recently I received this letter from Troma fan Andrew Mackay, with this recipe attached:

Ingredients for "Cell-u-Lloyd Vomit":

10 x Tins of Economy Value Carrot & Coriander Soup 1 x Black currant jam flavouring.

You simply open all the tins of the soup and pour it into a big bowl. The great thing about economy soup is that it actually tastes like vomit. SO the expression on your "artistes" faces will be natural. The black currant jam is to darken the texture on screen- just use a smattering of it. Once everything's finished you'll find it's edible, reasonably low-fat, very, very harmless, and looks great onscreen. Actually, you'll have noticed this for yourself when I invited you to watch my short film Poisoned: that film about three blokes being sick everywhere.

- 3. Fake Excretory Fluids and Solids I think we all know what piss looks like and fortunately for cinema, there's remarkable number of sodas and juices on the market that look just like it. If you can't afford soda or juice, there was probably a little bottle of yellow food coloring in the box where you got stuff to make blood. Add some to water and you're good to go. Shit is a little trickier to get the right consistency. For good solid turds, you can't do much better than a Baby Ruth candy bar. For more ambitious crap, mix chocolate pudding, corn, and brown gravy together. Because all these ingredients are edible, the shit is edible. But as Yaniv Sharon discovered while we were making Terror Firmer, edible does not mean the same as tasty.
- **4. Fake Semen** You might think you can save money and have a little fun besides by simply using your own semen but that's extremely unsafe. Besides, if you've been jerking off while reading this book as much as I have while writing it, you're probably just shooting air out of your dick by this point. A white hand lotion is usually an adequate semen substitute. You can add water to it until you achieve the appropriate cum consistency of the character.
- 5. The Meltdown Discussed in great detail in the last book but it is such an important effect, we'll recap the basics here. Mix one Dixie cup full of water with _ tablespoon of

green food coloring to achieve a dark green hue. Do not use red food coloring because you will never get an R rating with people exploding blood out of their mouths. Place 1-3 tablespoons of Bromo Seltzer in your mouth without

swallowing it. Place the green water mixture in your mouth, again without swallowing. Let it foam up inside your mouth. Wait until it's a huge erupting volcano in your mouth and let the fun begin.

- **6. Crushed Head** Again, discussed in the last book but worth repeating. Hollow out a cantaloupe. Fill with hamburger, cranberry sauce, and fake blood. Top with a wig and crush till you can't crush no more. For fuck's sake, don't use watermelons. Watermelons are much too thick to crush properly, while cantaloupes will fall apart nicely and ooze gore in every direction. We recently shot some additional scenes for a project (tentatively) titled Tales From the Crapper and a production assistant mistakenly picked up watermelons instead of cantaloupes. The effect was more than disappointing.
- 7. Torn Limb No doubt your production will call for a several arms and legs to be ripped from bodies. This is easy enough. Just cut the sleeve off a long-sleeved shirt and attach the sleeve to a fake arm. You can make the fake arm for about \$4.95 using foam and a rubber hand or you can go down to the VA Hospital and steal a prosthetic limb from some senile old war hero. Have your actor tuck his real arm behind his back, then put on the sleeveless garment. Run tubes from a garden sprayer or fire extinguisher full of blood up from under the garment to the stump on his shoulder. Attach the fake arm to the actor's shoulder, slopping on a bunch of Ultraslime (a gooey mass easily available through any special effects supply house) and fake blood. If Ultraslime is not around, use string or spaghetti and chunks of toilet paper to achieve that realistic viscera that makes the effect so powerful. When the arm is ripped off, Pump blood through the tubes like a motherfucker and have your actor scream until his voice breaks. It's exactly the same process if you want to rip off a leg. If you're really lazy, you can even use the fake arm for a leg and cover the hand up with a shoe.
- 8. Severed Penis Once employed exclusively by gay snuff porn films, the severed penis effect has grown in popularity in recent years. All you need to do is paint a banana flesh colored, run a rube of blood through one end, and you've got yourself an instant dick to hack off. You just need to show a few seconds of the close-up of the banana. For the rest of the gag, just have your actor scream like a banshee while you pump gallons of blood out of his fly. Cinema magic.
- **9.** Chicken in the Ass Naturally, your movie will have at least one scene where someone is killed by being stabbed up the ass by a chicken. Most films do these days. To achieve the effect, simply cut a rubber chicken in half. Attach the rear to the actor's ass and stick the head out the actor's fly. Run tubes through both ends so that blood comes squirting out the chicken's mouth and anus.

