



Damaged Goods

Autumn
Season
2013

Release: 2013

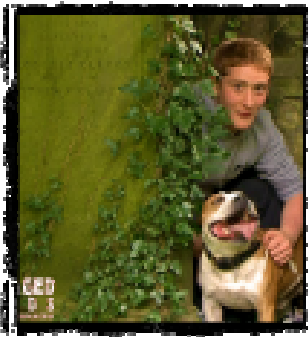
Cert (UK): 12A

Language: English

Runtime: 90 mins

Director: Mike Tweddle

Screenplay: Mike Tweddle



Zippo, aged 15 (Mark Cummings), and his younger sister Nelly (Alex Stead), live a tough lifestyle. Their home is broken, school is optional and their father Les (Tony Howard), is too wasted to notice what they get up to.

But a ray of light, in their otherwise dark existence, suddenly appears when they find a beaten up dog that has been dumped by a roadside. The dog, whom they name 'Carlos', is quickly adopted by both Zippo and Nelly as they nurse him back to full fitness. Despite him showing menacing tendencies

whenever someone threatens, the kids are unaware that 'Carlos' has come from the brutal world of dog fighting. Zippo, in particular, finds himself at odds with authority figures, including the local cops, who know him all too well.

However, when he decides to take on the town's underbelly, who have been hassling his dad, Zippo crosses an unseen line and they take a shine to Carlos seeing his potential as a fighter. He and Nelly find themselves in a fight to save the dog from being dragged back into an insidious world of brutal inhumanity.

Directed by first time director Mike Tweddle with a cast of new-comers, Tweddle was inspired by his own disgust at dog fighting. He says: *'I decided to direct and produce this film from one of my own screenplays as I truly believe it was a story that needed telling and I wanted to make sure it got made. Dog fighting is an abhorrent so called "sport" that has no place in a civilised society and we at Broken Scar Productions believe we have made a realistic family drama that portrays a dark subject with both compassion and empathy.'*



From the film website – 16,000 dogs die every year from organised fights.