

How Creepy Dolls Like M3GAN Became a Horror Phenomenon

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“Most of the early scary doll movies primarily involved ventriloquist dummies,” says [James Kendrick](#), an associate professor of film and digital media at Baylor University who’s an expert on horror. “The whole concept of a ventriloquist dummy is that it seems to have a life of its own. They move, they talk seemingly of their own accord. Although we know it’s all a performance by the ventriloquist, they’re ready-made to break free of that and become their own entity and have their own malevolent agenda.”

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