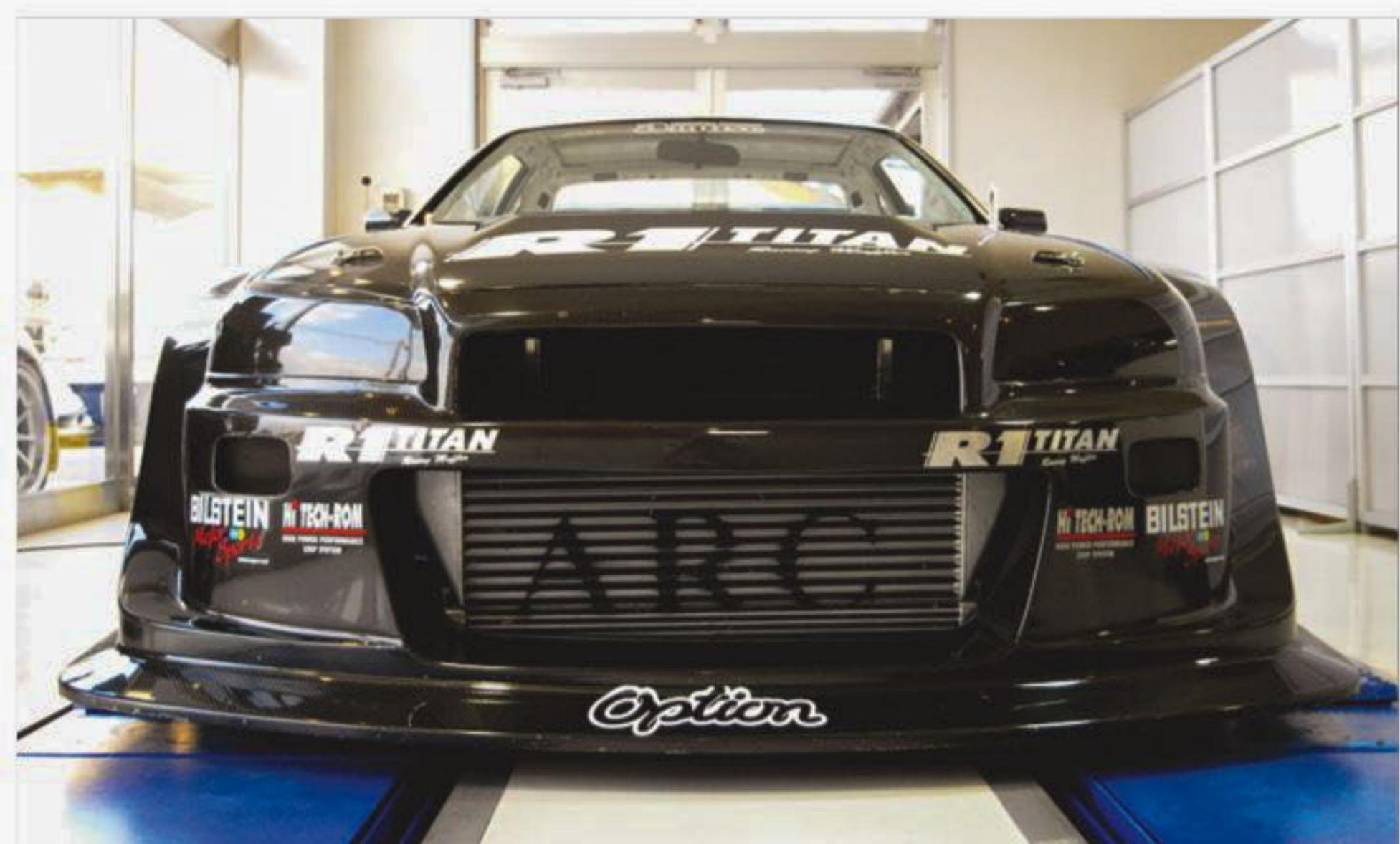


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Tuned Evil

Every once in a while, a tuning company creates something so utterly mad and evil, gearheads remember them for a while. While it's quite difficult to dress up as a car, Halloween costume ideas are supposed to be unique, and how much more unique can you get besides strapping on a huge spoiler and a big, evil bodykit? In the (spooky) spirit of Halloween, we decided to compile some of the evil-est looking cars the tuning world has given us.

Amuse Carbon-R

Power House Amuse doesn't get a lot of attention, mostly because of its name. When they came up with an utterly evil looking, all-carbon, super lightweight RWD Skyline GTR in 2005, then, everyone was surprised. Running the magic sub-57 second lap times around Tsukuba Circuit, the carbon clad monster actually had a sort of gentle heart, and scarcely enough, stock brakes and suspension. It's still mad, putting out 500+ horsepower at the rear wheels.



Bensopra R35GTR

2012's halo car, Bensopra's zany, JGTC and DTM racing inspired bodykit for the R35 GTR was one of the first truly wild cosmetic upgrades offered for the R35. The fins, slats, spoilers, canards, all contribute to make a car you would not want to meet in an alley on a dark night.

Rhau-Welt Begriff "Stella"

In a similar vein to Liberty Walk, RWB is one of the most talked about tuners today. While other tuners of Porsches either play it too safe or go way too overboard, the typically Japanese RWB tuned Porsches work with the original curves and the angry looks only serve the mass murderer reputation of the classic Porsches which they work on.



HKS Time Attack Lancer Evo

The legendary time-attack contender from the most prolific Japanese tuning shop, this all carbon Evolution was powered by all out madness, running sub-54 second laps around Tsukuba, the Mecca of time attack racing. Widebody-kitted, unpainted in its initial form, and putting out unprecedented levels of power (at least it was very powerful, for 2004), HKS' demo car cemented its reputation in the tuning world.



Hennessey Venom GT

The name, the looks, the numbers, it all points to a car which is inherently evil in its existence. The Venom GT also briefly vied for a spot on the fastest production car record, but was thrown out of the record books on technicalities. Hennessey is fighting back with an all new Venom, though. Equally evil.



Rinspeed Cayenne Chopster

600 horsepower, 590 lb-ft of torque. Rinspeed tuned and designed by EDAG, the Cayenne Chopster eschews the concepts of traditional customized SUVs, and focuses on creating a sleek but muscular monster which has the performance to match the looks. Steroid abusers can only dream of the wide stance and the evil grin on this mad Porsche.



Liberty Walk 458

Liberty Walk has taken the world by storm. Taking uber-expensive exotica from Ferrari and Lamborghini, they're taking them under the knife and producing some of the wildest looking cars imaginable. Some would call it sacrilege, but when an already drop dead gorgeous Ferrari 458 looks this good with overfenders and splitters, why complain? We like the fusion of wet dream and nightmares composed of Liberty Walk creations.

SHAER REAZ

SHIFT ZONE

Halloween might not be celebrated with the same level of enthusiasm it garners in the West, but there are people who still try. To these people, we dedicate this issue of Shift. If you're searching for innovative costume ideas which break the endless cycle of people dressing up as The Joker, try going as a creepy car this time around. Cardboard boxes, paint, paint brush, and limitless imagination is all you need. Happy hunting.

--Shaer Reaz, Sub-editor, Shift.



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W Haojue Biker Tips

Stop, or crash: Brake maintenance



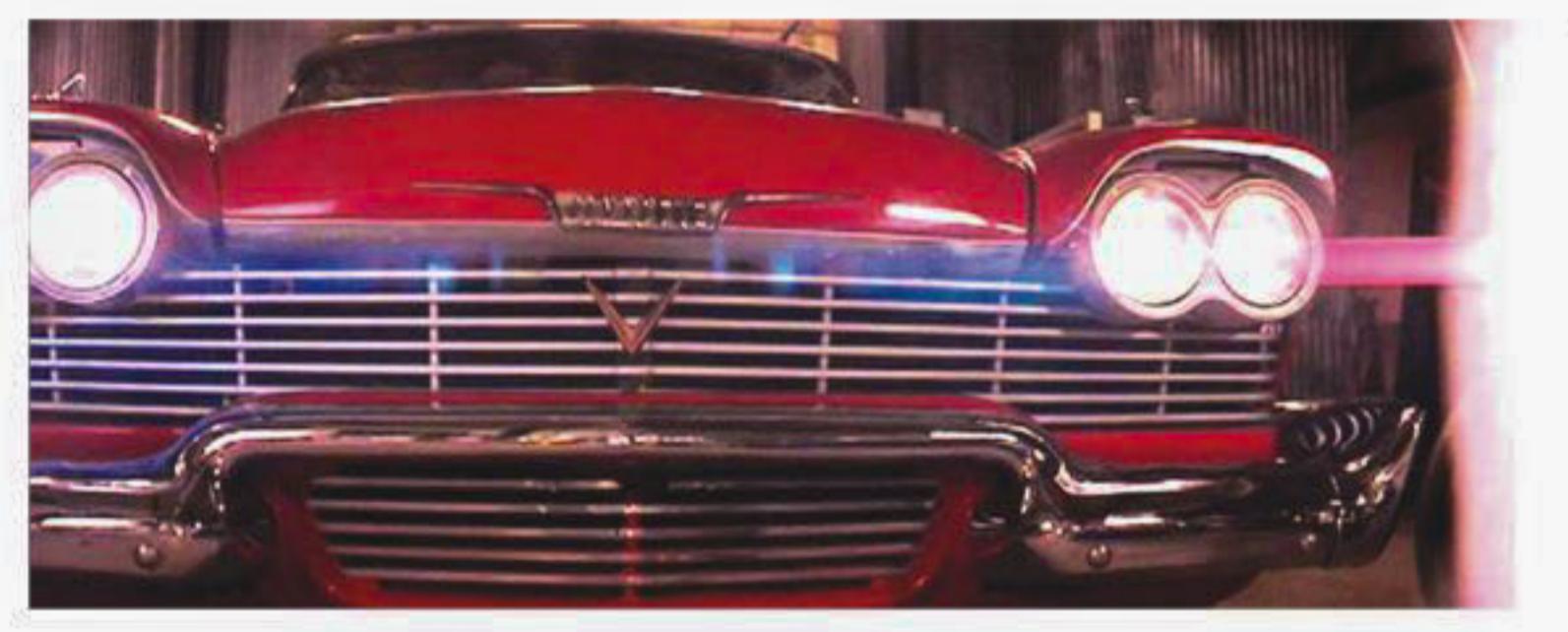
What's more important than having plenty of BHP and the right kind of sunglasses while riding your two-wheeler? Brakes, that's what. Modern motorbikes and scooters now mostly come with disc brakes, up front at least. These are more effective at stopping and easier to maintain. But they DO require regular maintenance which is very easy to do sitting right at home. Bikes have up to two brake fluid reservoirs each for front and rear. They are located on the handlebars and for the typical sub-200cc bikes in Bangladesh, they look like square buckets. Both need to be checked regularly. If the fluid is low (according to the markings on the side of the bucket), you should top up from a new, sealed bottle. Why new brake fluid? Cause brake fluid is hygroscopic. Meaning it absorbs moisture from the air over time. And when that happens your brake tries to compress that moisture along with the brake fluid. Water boils at high temperature and expands. Basically, your brakes will be as good as a politician's promise to fix roads before monsoon. It just won't work. We suggest changing brake fluid when brakes feel a little spongy or weak. Usually it's the simplest and most cost effective cure.

Next week: Brake pad maintenance.

NUTBOLU

Horror on wheels

We've covered evil tuner cars, and to keep the Halloween theme going, here's our list of the scariest appearances of four wheeled horrors in popular culture.



From A Buick 8

Another supernatural car from Stephen King, "From a Buick 8" never got the same amount of attention as "Christine" did, and was never made into a film. The book, however, is somewhat a cult classic, and much more than a rehash of an old script. Recommended reading for gearheads who want a few chills up the spine.



Devil Z

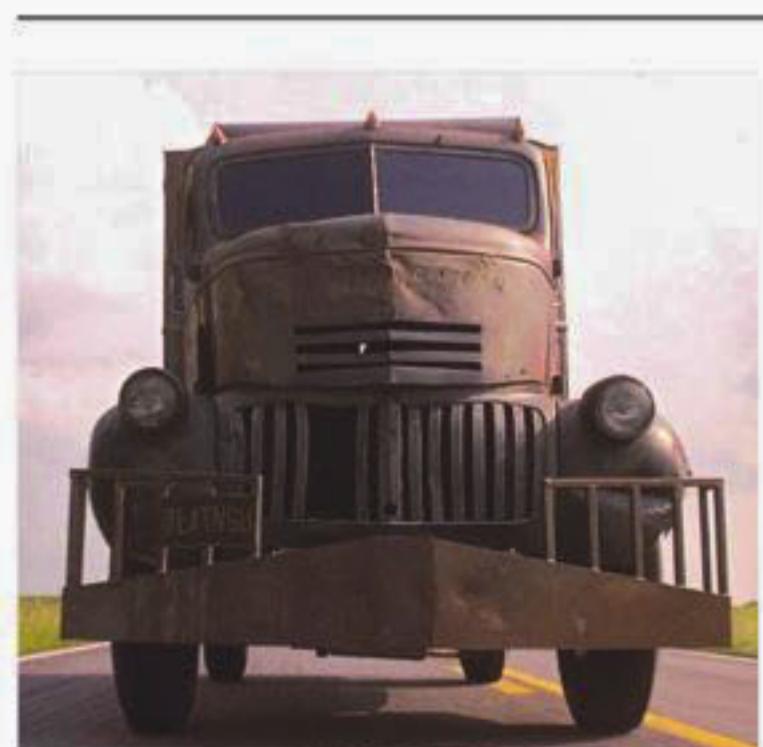
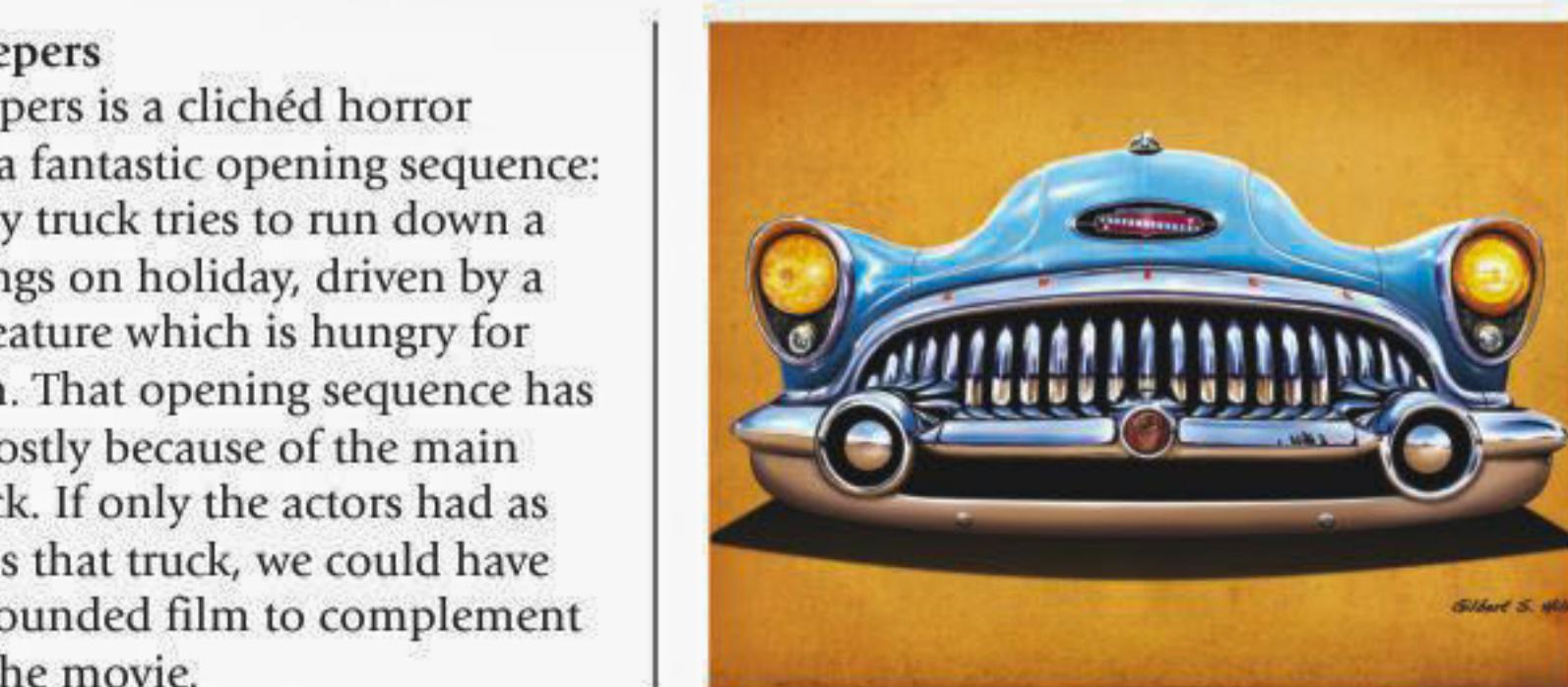
While Initial D takes the crown as the most popular automotive manga/anime from Japan, Wangan Midnight takes a well-deserved second spot. Centering on a teenager who is hell-bent on restoring and street racing an apparently cursed Datsun Fairlady Z he found in a junkyard, Wangan Midnight had brilliant storytelling and depicted intense highway battles between a cursed car trying to kill its driver and other cars trying to run the Z off the road.



Duel

Steven Spielberg toyed with the idea of a psychotic truck driver running people off the road long before "Jeepers Creepers". Duel will leave you on the edge of your seat, inwardly praying for the survival of the protagonists. It created an entire generation of drivers who are irrationally afraid of trucks and truck-drivers, much like Spielberg's masterpiece, Jaws, made people fear sharks and open water.

THE GREEN STIG



Jeepers Creepers
Jeepers Creepers is a clichéd horror movie with a fantastic opening sequence: an old Chevy truck tries to run down a pair of siblings on holiday, driven by a fearsome creature which is hungry for human flesh. That opening sequence has its merits mostly because of the main star: the truck. If only the actors had as much skill as that truck, we could have had a well-rounded film to complement the start of the movie.

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