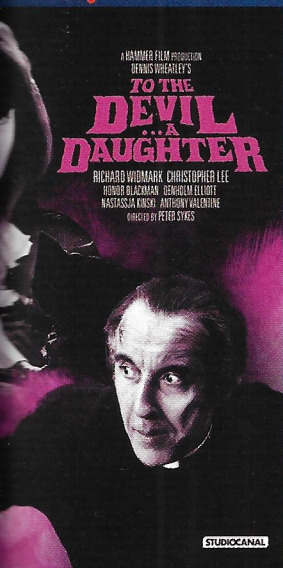


# TERROR NEWS



WORLD OF DVD & BLU-RAY...



Dark Arts: Inside To the Devil  
Eighteen minute documentary  
in it Kevin Lyons talks about  
return to Hammer studios  
inspired to develop an anthology  
vision. This idea sparked the  
To the Devil a Daughter  
John J Johnston, along  
discuss how the film  
from its beginnings as a co-  
Germany, to John Peacock's  
of the script and the trouble  
when others were brought  
script. So from it's problematic  
studios greed to maximise upon  
other possession films like The  
ear that it wasn't an easy film  
and other stories taken from  
others forms an interesting  
to why the final film was so  
personal opinion of the film I  
why people have enjoyed this  
st forty years. So if you have  
a bit of Hammer or you are a  
fan of this film then you should  
this one out.

TO THE DEVIL... A DAUGHTER is out now on

UK Blu-ray courtesy of StudioCanal.

REVIEWED BY JON DICKINSON

## THE PREMONITION

**THE FILM:** Robert Allen Schnitzer's psychological thriller *The Premonition* is a tale about child abduction with an added supernatural twist. In the film, Sharon Farrell and Edward Bell play Sheri and Miles Bennett who are living a peaceful life with their foster daughter Janie (Danielle Brisebois). After suddenly receiving a premonition that Janie's unstable biological mother is coming to take her foster daughter away, Sheri begins to fear the worst. So when her premonition comes true Sheri has no option but to trust her instincts to save her daughter before it's too late.

Far removed from the slasher and monster movies that dominated the late 70's, *The Premonition* takes a step back to tell a restrained tale about the horror of losing a child which will no doubt strike fear into the heart of every parent that watches it. Meanwhile, for everyone else, director Schnitzer does a great job to unnerve his audience. The film is borderline hypnotic with its stunning cinematography and there are some incredibly unnerving moments thanks to Richard Lynch's unsettling performance in the film.

Speaking of which, as one of the antagonists of the film, Lynch plays Jude the other half and boyfriend of Janie's biological mother Andrea (Ellen Barber). In the role, he is terrifying and completely unpredictable. In fact, almost every member of the cast does a fantastic job to bring their character to life. Barber's efforts to balance her character's insanity and desperation to take back her child are flawless and she shines in every one of her scenes. These efforts are replicated by Sharon Farrell and Edward Bell whose own performances are just as strong if not more so.

Moving on, despite my appreciation for the film I can't help but grumble about how slow the first act of the film is. I understand that

this was done to set up an understanding of ESP and parapsychology but it was done so obviously that it was borderline laughable (at least for me anyway). Thankfully under Schnitzer's direction the film remains a fairly low-key affair and the end result is completely unpredictable, to say the least. So if you've got the time to embrace this wonderfully haunting character driven thriller than I strongly urge you to do so.

**Rating:** 🧠🧠🧠🧠

**SPECIAL FEATURES:** This Arrow Blu-Ray presentation comes with over three hours of features. In Pictures from a Premonition this stunning making-of documentary features interviews with director Robert Allen Schnitzer, composer Henry Mollicone and cinematographer Victor Milt. Audiences can look forward to looking behind the scenes to gain a better understanding of how *The Premonition* came to be right from pre-production through to its release.

If that's not enough the Blu-ray also comes with a stand-alone interview with Schnitzer even if most of the content replicates the same information provided in the making of documentary. Also available on the disc is a detailed interview with actor Richard Lynch who plays Jude in the film. Here Lynch talks openly about his career and about how he got involved with the project and how he came to form his terrifying character.

The disc also comes with three short films: *Terminal Point*, *Vernal Equinox* and finally, *A Rumbling in the Land*. These showcase Schnitzer's early work as a student filmmaker. Rounding up the last of the extras available on this disc, there is a selection of TV Spots, the Theatrical Trailer and an Audio Commentary track by Director Robert Allen Schnitzer.



With so many delights on offer offering a peek behind the curtain, this is a stellar presentation from Arrow and is certainly worth your cash as a lot of work has gone into its development.

**Rating:** 🧠🧠🧠🧠

THE PREMONITION

UK Blu-ray courtesy of StudioCanal.

REVIEWED BY JON DICKINSON

## STRAIGHT TILL MORNING

**THE FILM:** Peter Collinson's *Straight Till Morning* is a Hammer Bizarre and under Tushingham plays a woman who falls in love with enigmatic Peter. But she is blissfully unaware of his tendencies until it's too late. The result is one of the best films to have stood the test of time.

*Straight On Till Morning* is a change of direction for Collinson's bombarding audience. In the night, Collinson's film is an overwhelming success. Its day would have been special about *Straight On Till Morning* is how Collinson's film is some of that raw power and deeply disturbing.

The cast are just what the roles. As the lead, Peter Collinson is fantastic as Brendon. He is endearing and her character is easy to feel a connection. Meanwhile, as her lover, Richard Lynch's performance is and undoubtedly the best of his career grows ever increasingly better.

As a whole, *Straight On Till Morning* is strangely hypnotic. It has the same punch as it had in its initial release but it's still as savage films I've seen. The reason that I urge you to watch it as soon as possible.

**Rating:** 🧠🧠🧠🧠

## SPECIAL FEATURES

This presentation from Arrow is complete with the film as well as an audio commentary. *Dream Lover: Inside the Mind of a Director* Providing audiences with a behind the scenes of the making of the film. To hear about how *Straight On Till Morning* was distributed. *Women In Terror* genre experts talk about the film. *UK Hammer and Horror* test of time as one of the best ever released under the Hammer banner.

So any fan wanting to watch the film will not be disappointed.