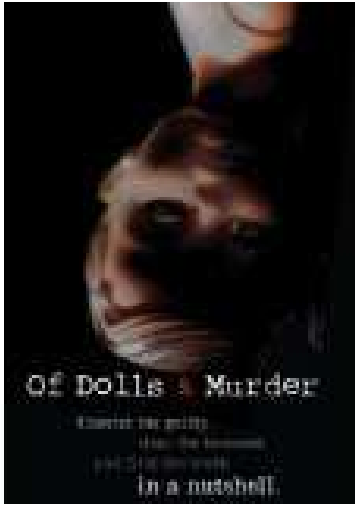


# Of Dolls & Murder



(<http://www.dvdsnapshot.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/04/dolls.jpg>) (<http://www.dvdsnapshot.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/04/dolls.jpg>) **Official Synopsis:**

**Of Dolls & Murder** explores a haunting collection of dollhouse crime scenes and our universal fascination with murder. The documentary film explores the dioramas, the woman who created them, and their relationship to modern day forensics. From the iconic CSI television show to the Body Farm and criminally minded college students and a crime fighting granny, legendary filmmaker and true crime aficionado, John Waters narrates the tiny world of big time murder.

## **Our Take:**

**Of Dolls & Murder** tells the story of Frances Glessner Lee, “the patron saint of forensic medicine.” She created these miniature crime scenes, which are known as the Nutshell Studies of Unexplained Death. These 20 miniatures created by Lee are composites of real crimes. Director John Waters narrates Susan Marks documentary. He tells the story behind the miniatures.

Marks interviewed law enforcement officials, a woman who works at the Body Farm in Tennessee, **CSI** Executive Producer Naren Shankar, and Dr. Katherine Ramsland, author of “The **CSI** Effect” for her documentary.

## **Special Features:**

- John Waters on the Nutshells
- John Waters on Frances Glessner Lee
- The Patron Saint of Forensic Medicine
- The Missing Nutshells
- Filmmakers’ Commentary

## **Conclusion:**

Before I watched **Of Dolls & Murder**, I was thinking of season seven of **CSI**, which features the Miniature Killer who was leaving miniatures (a.k.a. nutshells) of crime scenes. Shankar talks about season seven in this

70-minute documentary about a woman who put in so much work to hone the skills of detectives around the country. Any **CSI** fan will enjoy **Of Dolls & Murder**.

### **Overall Picture:**

Movie: **B**

Extras: **B**

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