



FEATURES

None

Long Hair Of Death: Black... Erm... Monday?

By Palmerlime

Disc Details:

Video:	Matted Widescreen
Anamorphic:	No
Audio:	• English (Dolby Digital 2.0)
Subtitles:	None
Runtime:	95 minutes
Rating:	N/R
Release Date:	2005
Production Year:	1964
Director:	Antonio Margheriti
Released by :	Eclectic
Region:	1 NTSC

RATING



QUOTES

"For a fairly unknown Barbra Streisand movie, it ain't half bad."

"You've got your dank castle, you've got your coming back from the dead for revenge motif, you've got your bad English language dub but if you appreciate that sort of thing there is no need to complain. It's entertaining enough."

"The video presentation is

I'm a dork.

Just thought I'd get that out of the way in case there was any discussion about the matter. Clear the air and all that. Anyway, yes, I am indeed a dork, so if you plop a movie down in front of me that involves burning witches, inevitably I have to pause the film for a few seconds to get all the Monty Python quotes out of my system. "She turned me into a newt" and other such various dorktitudes. It can't be helped. Sorry. Once I finish smugly laughing at myself, I can then start to enjoy said feature without further interruptions.

That is, unless the movie stars Barbara Steele. Then I constantly need to pause it to allow myself some time to proclaim "She's so freakin'AWESOME" or something else equally



insightful. Needless to say, **Long Hair Of Death**, even with its 94-minute running time, took the better part of a day to complete just because of all the pausing I needed to do.

Right after the credits finish, a title card informs me, "This story takes place at the end of the 15th Century," and I was all the more thankful for it. Otherwise I sure would have been wondering why the Lords and such just didn't

call each other on their cell phones instead of sending messages all the time. But I digress. So, at the end of the 15th Century some poor gal gets accused being a witch. Since they didn't even attempt to perform the trusty ol' duck-weighing test (See? I *still* can't stop) she gets the crackle-crackle treatment, but not before she announces how good and cursed they, in fact, were. Gee. It's too bad her older daughter figures out the real reason for her mother's burning involves the Lord himself, because she gets pitched off a cliff for her troubles. Shame, that. Well, she's played by Babs, so I'm sure we'll see more of her later. The youngest daughter grows up as time presses on and as fate would have it, she ends up marrying the Lord's schnook son who has more than his share of problems with the gal's family.

Man. If this were a proper gothic Italian horror film, you would think someone would rise from the dead to start wreaking some sort of revenge or something. Well... okay. You got me. Barbara



just downright awful. Everything is so murky and lacking in definition it leads me to suspect was taken from VHS master, for crying out loud

Steele *does* come back from the dead to wreak some sort of revenge on those who done her and her family wrong. But I had you going for a second, didn't I?

Didn't I?

For a fairly unknown Barbara Steele movie, this ain't half bad. Of course, Barbara Steele is always riveting and I'm pleased to say she is still. For some reason you just can't ever take your eyes off the gal. She commands your attention. I don't mean in that pants tingling sort of way, either. Pretty lady, sure, but she always had this, dare I say it, bewitching quality about her. Director Antonio Margheriti sure took the right cues from the other directors that made use of her visage. Dark, dramatic lighting and Barbara Steele. Why change a good thing if it works?



As far as the movie is concerned, well, you've got your dank castle, you've got your coming back from the dead for revenge motif, you've got your bad English language dubbing; but if you appreciate that sort of thing then there is no need to complain. It's entertaining enough. The proper dots are connected when they need to be, and the whole gothic mood thing really seems to work here, so that's a big plus for it. Not

groundbreaking, but serviceable and worthy of your time if in the mood for such a tale. Hell, basically, the whole point of a movie like this is to watch the poor bastard squirm as he starts to get all paranoid and shit, and boy does this fella' squirm. You just know that dude is going to get his comeuppance eventually and I don't think I'm ruining anything here by saying he does. He *suuuuuure* does.

Don't fuck with Barbara Steele.

How's It Look, Smartguy?

Well, one of the advantages of releasing a fairly unknown title starring an actress that appeals to a select and small percentage of the DVD buying public is that the concept of owning the movie as an official release can sometimes outweigh the disappointment of an otherwise crappy presentation. The menu screen alone looks like something you might have seen on public access. Poor. Of course I'm not down on this from the menu screen alone. The video presentation is also just downright awful. Everything is so murky and lacking in definition it leads me to suspect it was taken from a VHS master, for crying out loud. Seriously. The source material has more dropouts than an inner city high school.



How's It Sound, Ya' Bum?

Not as bad as the video, but not by much, I'm afraid. Lots of hissing and muffled dialogue.

You Think I Just Wanted The Movie, Pal?

Sorry, sport. That's all you get. Hey. At least it has chapter stops.

Bring Us On Home, Brother.

Even though the video is among the worst I have ever experienced on "The DVD," the sheer entertainment value of the flick alone outweighs the relative crappiness of the presentation. If you need to own it, I'd say it's strictly for diehard fans only, but certainly worth a spin if not just to add another Barbara Steele movie under your belt.



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