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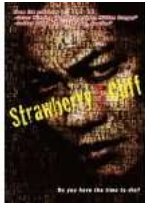
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## Strawberry Cliff (MVD Visual)

By [Upchuck Undergrind](#)  
 – January 10, 2013 Posted in: [Reviews](#)



One can't help – as a reviewer, anyway – making comparisons. And comparison seeking leads one to declare STRAWBERRY CLIFF a philosophical mash-up of “Final Destination” and westernized J-horror. But while that offers up a quick summation of some of the basic ideas explored in STRAWBERRY CLIFF, it also implies derivation. But STRAWBERRY CLIFF not only doesn't feel derived – it feels instead like one of its springboards is shared in common with the comparisons – but not influences, I think – mentioned above. Besides, it's more than a thrill ride. It's handled more smoothly and dramatically, with a more low key approach. Dimensional, intelligent characters move through a deftly told story. The multiple plot threads are intercut to create suspenseful storytelling. And the movie finds a remarkable philosophical undercurrent to the horror and, what's more, conveys it with minimal exposition and maximum trust in the viewer's own intelligence, and without the faintest trace of triteness. This is a sincere film, and a finely crafted one, original and surprising and with a constant grip on the viewer's attention. Furthermore, after building a complex story about the connections between a woman who knows the exact time of death of every person she meets and a trio of people with a surprising link, STRAWBERRY CLIFF pays off with a climax and resolution that are organic to what has gone before, satisfying and truthfully profound.

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