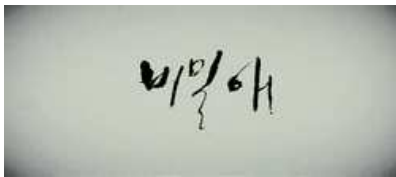




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Secret Love (Bimilae)

Written by: [Michael Den Boer](#) on May 9th, 2013



Theatrical Release Date: South Korea, 2010

Director: Hoon-i Ryu

Writers: Ji-yeon Kwon, Hoon-i Ryu

Cast: Ji-tae Yu, Jin-seo Yun, In-gi Jeong, Dae-han Ji, Seo Jin, Yu-seon Ko, Ho Lim, Ye-jin Lim, Woo-Jeong Oh, Ji-ru Sung, Eun-yong Yang

DVD released: April 23rd, 2013

Approximate running time: 111 minutes

Aspect Ratio: 2.35:1 Anamorphic Widescreen

Rating: NR

Sound: Dolby Digital Stereo Korean

Subtitles: English

DVD Release: Asian Media Rights

Region Coding: Region 1 NTSC

Retail Price: \$17.95



Synopsis: A young woman tries to come to terms with a recent tragedy that left her husband in a coma. Her life is further turned upside down, when her husband's twin brother shows up unannounced and stays for awhile. What starts off as harmless visit, quickly turns into a torrid affair, when desires that she had been ignoring remind her of what she once had and has been longing for.

Love triangles have long been a plot device throughout the history of cinema. And just like the majority of said plot devices, they are far too often formulaic in design. They are serve as nothing more than a means to keep a narrative moving forward. And just when I thought that I had seen it all. Along comes a film like *Secret Love* that twists the aforementioned plot device on its head.

What if the two men who loved the same woman where brothers? Better yet, what if they where identical twins? Both these things creep their way into the story at hand and they are just the tip of the ice berg. Without giving away to much of this film's main twist away, let's just say that these two brother's have a devious game that they have played since childhood.

Performance wise this film's two leads, Jin-seo Yun in the role of Yeon-Yi and Ji-tae Yu in the dual role of twin brothers Jin-Woo and Jin-Ho.

They are both exceptional in their respective roles, especially Ji-tae Yu, who creates two distinctly different characters. Interesting tidbit about these two actors they had previously worked together in the film [Oldboy](#).



Though there are some finer nuances that can be more appreciated on a second viewing of this film. This film's narrative is actually very easy to follow. Also though this film relies heavily on its main twist. It is not its revelation which ultimately drives the story at hand. It is the great lengths which the characters in this film try to hide the truth that make this film such a fun ride.

The DVD:

Asian Media Rights presents *Secret Love* in an anamorphic widescreen that preserves the film's intended 2.35:1 'scope' aspect ratio. Though the source is very clean, there are a handful of instances where the image looks too soft, this is most noticeable during darker scenes. Also there has been some edge enhancement applied to this transfer that varies in degree throughout. For the most part this is never intrusive. Colors and flesh tones look accurate, black levels fare well and details generally look crisp.

This release comes with one audio option, a Dolby Digital stereo mix in Korean and removable English subtitles have been included with this release. Quality wise there are no major issues with this audio mix as there are no issues with background noise or distortion. Dialog comes through clearly and everything sounds balanced. With that being said, range don't except to much as things tend to sound rather limited throughout.

This release comes with no extra content and a static menu that offers up two options, play movie or chapter selection. Overall *Secret Love* gets a good audio / video presentation that leaves plenty of room for improvement.



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