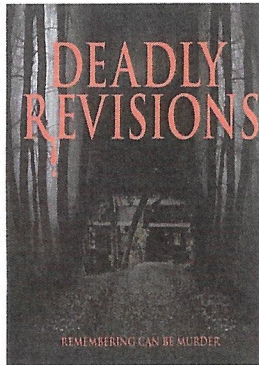


Religious fanatics and zealots will no doubt either be appalled or delighted with **ACT OF CONFESSION** while perverts looking for some spunk material will be let down. This is a bonus feature (appearing on a separate DVD with the 'soft' version of **CRY FOR CINDY**) that will definitely prompt a response from the viewer...good, bad or ugly. You decide. This was scanned in 2k from the only known 16mm print...and I'm certain that if Vinegar Syndrome never unearths a hardcore version then this is all we'll ever see.

DEADLY REVISIONS

A man wakes up from a 16 day coma. Suffering from partial amnesia, he tries to suss out the details prior to being bedridden. His best buddy sets him up in his parent's cabin to cope with it all. He undergoes a few therapy sessions...all to no avail. He writes horror stories which cause him to have nightmares (?) featuring his characters. To further complicate things he was going through a nasty separation with his wife which added to his stress level. It becomes apparent that his fragile psyche is coming unglued...and the horrible visions he sees call into question his very sanity.

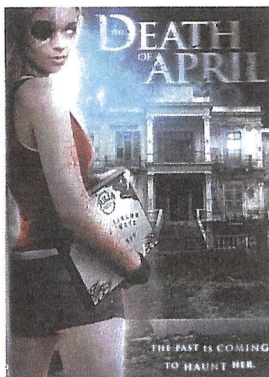


While the plot is nothing original at least the performances are all decent allowing for the viewer to take interest in the ordeal. Filled with flashbacks and lots of dark scenes, the movie comes apart during the predictable climax. Put it this way...if I can figure it out then the average viewer won't fare any better. I'm the first to admit ignorance when it comes to solving plot points, but this was easy. It's a shame that things become so bland since the build-up was intriguing.

DEADLY REVISIONS still has enough good to warrant a viewing. Considering the somnambulant shit that passes for (most) current independent horror cinema, its efforts like this that tend to stand out. Available on DVD from MVDvisual.

THE DEATH OF APRIL

Through a series of webcam footage, candid interviews and video blogs we are witness to the life and times of Megan Mullen. When Megan decides to leave her California home to head to the East Coast on her own it initially seems like a good idea (for her). Once she is settled in her new apartment the footage she sends becomes erratic. In fact on several occasions' objects appear to move on their own... and doors open and shut at will. Megan believes the place is haunted and is determined to find out why. She cleverly uses her computer to record footage of her sleeping that reveals strange behavior on her part. Her family (most notably her brother) suspects she is losing her marbles and refuse to believe in the supernatural. Even Megan's new boyfriend Tim, doesn't believe her even though she has concrete proof (footage).



After some serious sleuthing she discovers the previous resident in her dwelling (April) was murdered there. Megan believes that April is trying to reach out to her...perhaps to find out who killed her. At this point the plot thickens and even amateur sleuth's can figure out who the culprit is. Yet the final punchline (what happened to Megan?) doesn't necessarily spell things out...rather they (the authorities and her family) seem to pinpoint Megan as the victimizer and not the other way 'round.

On paper the idea of another first person perspective shot on digital camera opus may be an instant turn-off. I know I wasn't exactly thrilled to sit down to another one of these efforts. However the acting here is surprisingly good...especially with the character of Megan as portrayed by Stephanie Domini. She is very likable and engaging throughout...even when she seemingly starts to act 'out of it.' As her disbelieving brother,



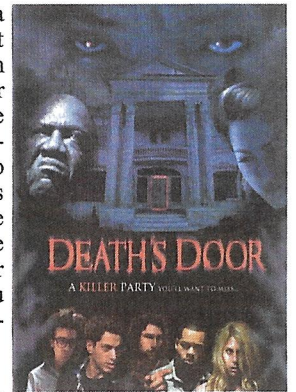
Adam Lowder also breathes life into the character. They possess some nice on-screen chemistry.

The entire project is said to be based on a true story and for the most part anyone could assume this to be another Investigation Discovery channel true crime program. Yet that could also be a potential turn-off for seasoned horror fans looking for gore, scares or teen thrills. The film doesn't have a lot of ghost stuff going on...the low budget affords very little in the way of the good stuff. However the top notch acting and believable situations more than make up for it.

This was an Indiegogo project and I'm certainly happy that it got made (even if it only met half of its intended funding). It was the first feature from Reuben Rodriguez (shot in 2012) who has a lot of credits (mostly shorts) under his belt in the ensuing years. The film is now available on DVD from MVDvisual and has plenty to offer for those willing to spend some quality time with the plight of Megan Mullen.

DEATH'S DOOR

Stop me if you've heard this one before...a group of young kids are invited to party at a mansion. They arrive and are soon locked in. They die one by one. A killer (or ghosts?) are targeting the group because they are all relatives from families involved in a murderous plot dating back to a 1931 incident where a magician was killed on stage. With nary an original bone in its body I can overlook the tiresome plot. Usually in cases like this I look for key ingredients to pass the time...you know...nudity, gore, drug use, black humor, etc. Not so with **DEATH'S DOOR**.



What we have here is 90 minutes of pure tedium. The cast play their parts with endless bouts of screaming, bad acting, or silly characterizations (like one dude not believing a severed leg is real by licking the stump!). To add insult to injury the cast isn't killed off early enough. In fact most survive only to have their 'deaths' revealed at the end by narration! What a gyp!

The lone 'name' in the cast is "Tiny" Lister, but his middling 'acting' consists of lurking around looking evil (with half a burnt face). He has no dialog and is reduced to appearing imbecilic. He's five steps removed from his role as "Zeus" in his WWF days. A sad state of affairs.

With absolutely nothing to offer **DEATH'S DOOR** is best left at the door...preferably in the trash. The DVD edition includes haunted film set featurette (we are led to believe the cast was 'scared shitless' during the filming in a 'real haunted house.') Maybe, maybe not. Either way this is forgettable nonsense available from MVDvisual for those willing to suffer.

FARMER'S DAUGHTERS

A farmer and his wife (played by director Zebedy Colt and Gloria Leonard) spend the day screwing while their 3 daughters look on. The idiot farm-hand (Bill Cort) is turned on by the girls but they have 'other' feelings for him. They proceed to rape (?) the poor dude, then piss on him (including right in his mouth as he's trying to speak!). Vowing revenge, it turns up in the unlikely arrival of three escaped convicts. They in turn repeatedly rape the daughters as well as mom. When the farmhand sees' the humiliation taking place he grabs a gun and takes his turn playing 'simon says' with both the convicts and family. However things take a turn for the worse (if that's possible) as the gun soon changes hands with bullet-ridden bodies piling up fast...

