

ANALYST REPORT

author(s): [REDACTED]
title: [REDACTED]
format: novel* based on: n/a
sub to: [REDACTED] sub for: general
sub by: [REDACTED]
pub: [REDACTED] lit agent: n/a
info: Submitted to [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
priority: high

acc.mat:
treatment of novel by [REDACTED]
feature [REDACTED]

genre: Dramatic Thriller / budget: 1 - 5 Mil. audience: Adults
period: Present setting: Suburban locale: Generic City

log line: A psychotic homeless man entangles himself in a thirty-something middle class couple's life and is eventually adopted as the wife's brother after he kills her husband.

brief: A forgettable run-of-the-mill dramatic thriller, involving unbelievable and underdeveloped characters, which culminates in a farcical and wholly unsupported ending.

coverage attached analyst's recc/mat: pass
 comments below

writer: pass

synopsis: A middle class young couple, Luc and Anna, are unable to have children due to Anna's infertility.

One day, Luc unassumingly invites a homeless man, Declan, to their home for tea. Declan is obviously not entirely sane, however the afternoon ends uneventfully. Several days later, Declan returns. He is seriously wounded, and in order to save him from being sent to a mental hospital, Luc and Anna decide to keep him at their home and nurse him back to health themselves. Declan regains his health and Luc shows him a photo study of some staged bondage photos he took and a book he is writing called "Revenge of the Crab People." After causing a scene when meeting some of Luc and Anna's friends, Declan runs away. Shortly thereafter, back on the street, Declan binds a drunken bum and takes pictures of him that mimic Luc's. A short while later, Anna finds Declan on the street and brings him back to their home once again.

Luc leaves for an out-of-town seminar, and Anna, mistakenly believing she has become fertile, makes love with Declan. The morning after, Declan attempts to tie her up and take photographs of her, but Luc arrives home just in time to call the police and have Declan taken away. In short order, Declan is back on the street, beating people, binding them up and taking photos of them. Months later, mistakenly believing that Anna became pregnant after their one night affair, Declan unexpectedly returns to the house to see if she has given birth to his child. There is no baby, a fight ensues and Luc is killed.

Some time later, Anna hosts a dinner party and introduces Declan as her brother who has come to live with her.

comments: This story is very similar to "The Hand That Rocks The Cradle" and "Pacific Heights," but lacks the skillful character development and sensitive maneuvering between plot points that makes such a story acceptable. The characters in this story continually act in unbelievable ways (take Anna sleeping with Declan, for example) that are absolutely unsupported by the story, subtextually or overtly. The result is a completely superficial, meaningless progression of unlikely events that are uninteresting and dismissive.