

IN POSSESSION

At a business convention in Brighton, Frank and Sylvia Daly, accompanied by their friends Jack and Betty Mervyn, leave a festive party just a little tipsy and full of good cheer. Although the Mervyns invite them for more celebration, the Dalys decide to go up to their hotel room and get some rest. But when they get to their room, they find their belongings are missing and an old, sick woman is in their bed, being comforted by a young woman. Angry that their room was given away to other tenants, the Dalys get the hotel clerk to come up to their room, but, when they arrive upstairs again, the two women are gone and the Dalys' possessions are just as they had left them. The hotel clerk implies that Frank and Sylvia have had too much to drink, but, after he leaves, they notice that the old woman's cane is still in the corner of the room...

Two years pass. Frank receives a raise and a new position with his firm that will send him and Sylvia to the company's office in Botswana, Africa for a few years. Excited about the new job and the likelihood that it will lead to a vice-presidency in the company for him, Frank rushes to the restaurant where he will meet Sylvia for lunch. Passing through the park on his way, Frank sees the same two women that they had "seen" in their Brighton hotel room two years earlier. Over lunch, Sylvia notices that Frank is very distressed about something, but he refuses to discuss it...

Frank goes to visit a paranormal researcher to find out more about the vision he and Sylvia had shared of the two women. The researcher tells him that apparitions of the past are often seen, as well as visions of the future, and that two people who are very close, like husband and wife, can often share these visions through ESP.

Looking forward to their trip to Botswana, Frank and Sylvia are directing the movers who are taking their belongings into storage and shipping the essentials to Africa. One of the moving men picks up a bird cage, but neither of the Dalys recognize it. Sylvia suspects Jack Mervyn, their upstairs neighbor and friend, put it in their apartment as a joke, but Frank later finds Jack knows nothing about it. Disturbed by this mystery, Frank nonetheless accepts an invitation to dinner that night with the Mervyns.

After the dinner, the Dalys return with the Mervyns to their now-empty apartment. Already a bit drunk, they open a bottle of champagne to toast their move. As Frank faces the mirror over the fireplace, he suddenly sees the reflection of a room full of furniture -- including the bird cage the movers had found! Frank covers his shock, but he sends the Mervyns home, ending the party.

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As the Dalys prepare for bed, Sylvia decides to check the hall closet one last time to be sure she's packed everything. Although Frank says he emptied it, she finds it full of unfamiliar items, including a trunk. Curious, she opens it and is horrified to find the dead body of an old woman! When Frank investigates, the closet is once again empty. They discuss what Frank has learned about ESP and psychic projections, and decide that the hauntings they have had, both tonight and two years ago in Brighton, are probably hallucinations that they have shared because of their closeness.

Frank and Sylvia try to sleep, but Sylvia awakens for a glass of water. In the bathroom, she sees the woman again, drowned in the bathtub. Frightened, she drops and breaks her glass. Suddenly the entire apartment is transformed to a daytime scene where a man, Mr. Prentice, speaks to the unseen Mr. and Mrs. Hunter who have arrived unannounced in response to letters from Jessica Prentice, his wife and Mrs. Hunter's sister, asking for help. In walks Jessica, whom Sylvia recognizes as the drowned woman! The vision disappears when Sylvia tries to touch her.

The Dalys try to escape their haunted apartment, but the Mervyns are not to be found upstairs. Running outside, they spot the local constable, who comes in to investigate. He finds nothing and suggests they've had too much to drink. As soon as he leaves, the vision reappears. Sylvia is trapped in the living room with the vindictive Mr. Prentice, who threatens to "punish" her, thinking she is Jessica and has been seeking to escape from his tyranny again. Frank tries to find Sylvia, discovering her locked in the closet just as the vision disappears. They return to their bedroom, the only place the vision has not yet appeared, to wait for morning.

At quarter till five, they hear the voices of Mr. and Mrs. Prentice arguing. Sylvia wants to help Jessica, but Frank stops her, warning her to keep from entering the nightmare again. But it's too late, and the Dalys once again face Mr. Prentice, who claims that his "insane" wife has "vanished." Sylvia spots the trunk that had held Jessica's body, but it is now empty. They try to return to the safety of their bedroom, but Mr. Prentice is now there, dragging Jessica's unconscious form to the bathroom, where they watch in horror as he drowns her. The Dalys again attempt to escape, but are unable to get away as Mr. Prentice drags the trunk with Jessica's body out the door. Frank and Sylvia nightmarishly witness the scenes of Jessica's murder, at last seeing Mr. Prentice "mourning" at the side of his wife's open coffin. Sylvia finally succumbs to the terror she feels and faints...

At last, the alarm clock rings -- it's 7:30 a.m. and the apartment is empty. Has it all been a realistic nightmare that

they somehow shared, they wonder? Frank and Sylvia decide that it was, indeed, only a bad dream. When Sylvia finds broken glass on the bathroom floor, proof that at least part of the previous night's horrors did happen, she chooses to ignore it.

At breakfast, Sylvia asks the Mervyns if "anything violent" had ever happened in the building as far as they knew. Downstairs, Frank is disturbed to find that the constable did indeed visit them the night before. Undaunted, the Dalys meet the real estate agent, who introduced them to the next tenants for their apartment -- Mr. and Mrs. Prentice!

CAST

Sylvia Daly.....Carol Lynley
Frank Daly.....Christopher Cazenove
Jack Mervyn.....David Healey
Betty Mervyn.....Judy Loe
Mr. Prentice.....Bernard Kay
Mrs. Prentice.....Vivienne Burgess
Paranormal Research.....Brendan Price
Scientist
Policeman.....Peter Bland
Director.....Hugh Sullivan
Woman Downstairs.....Marianne Stone
Maitre D'.....Anthony Morton
Estate Agent.....John D. Collins
Hotel Manager.....Carl Rigg
Removal Man.....David Auker
Daughter.....Sarah Porter
Hotel Receptionist.....Donna Scarf

CREDITS

Executive Producer.....Brian Lawrence
Produced by.....Roy Skeggs
Directed by.....Val Guest
Written by.....Michael J. Bird

THE LATE NANCY IRVING

A young female patient at a private care home, being attended by Nurse Lee, suffers a fatal seizure while being wheeled about in a wheelchair she is strapped into tightly...

Professional golfer Nancy Irving arrives in London hoping to be greeted by her fiance, Bob Appleyard, but meets a press agent instead. She finally finds Bob in another part of the airport and they leave the publicist behind as they take off in Bob's new sports car. They don't notice they are being followed by a man in a blue sedan.

At Bob's apartment, they discuss their fears and hopes about marriage. Nancy promises to quit golfing as soon as Bob's promotion at work allows him to curtail his traveling. But first, Nancy has a tournament in France and Bob must go to Singapore on business.

Before her golf practice the next day, Nancy takes an insulin injection -- she is diabetic. Later she collapses on the golf course and is admitted to a local hospital with a diagnosis of insulin shock and general exhaustion. The doctor notices that Nancy has an extremely rare type of blood; she tells him that she is registered with the International Blood Bank because of it.

After leaving the hospital, Nancy drives Bob to the airport for his trip to Singapore. She promises him she will withdraw from the upcoming tournament and get plenty of rest while he's gone. On her way back to the city, Nancy is again followed by the blue sedan, which suddenly passes her at high speed. She stops up the road when she sees that the sedan has crashed into a tree, and gets out of the car to see if she can help the driver. Suddenly, her car careens over a cliff and erupts into flames!

Nancy awakens in a hospital bed, where Dr. Marquis advises her that she must have passed out at the wheel, as she had done a few days earlier on the golf course. Given a sedative -- by Nurse Lee -- but still upset that she can't remember her car accident, Nancy falls into a fitful sleep.

After being unconscious for an unknown length of time, Nancy comes to and notices for the first time that her windows are all barred. Nurse Lee quickly explains them away, gives Nancy her insulin and offers to phone all of Nancy's friends for her. The golfer also befriends a young paraplegic man, Tony Graham, whom she tells that she's worried about feeling "dopey" or drugged all the time. When Nancy tries to make a phone call from the extension in the hallway, the nurse sends her back to bed. That night, Nancy finds to her horror that she has been locked in her room. Nurse Lee explains that the door was stuck, not locked, and consoles Nancy that her amnesia

about the crash will soon clear up.

To her great surprise, Nancy is told that she has developed anemia and must begin receiving blood transfusions, aided by a complex-looking machine. Afterwards she suffers a nightmare in which she remembers that she was kidnapped and forced into the blue sedan, not involved in a car crash as she had been told.

Having fallen asleep with the television on, Nancy awakens to a broadcast announcing that "golfing will be greatly affected by the tragic death of Nancy Irving." She is shocked that the world thinks she is dead. Meanwhile, at the funeral home where her body supposedly rests, Bob is advised that Nancy "suffered massive injuries to the head and face" by the attending physician at Nancy's "death" -- Dr. Marquis!

That afternoon, Nancy tearfully watches as her own funeral procession passes her hospital window. She tries to escape, but is blocked by a male nurse. Grabbing a metal pitcher, she knocks him out and gets away, only to find she is not in a hospital but in the luxurious home of millionaire Mr. Aragon, a treacherous businessman. She finds an old man in an oxygen tent -- Aragon -- who tells her to stay in her room because "that's what I'm paying them for." As he rings his bell, Nurse Lee and Tony -- who is quite capable of walking -- come to help him. Nancy hides from them and then slips out the door, stealing Aragon's own Rolls Royce for her getaway. She wanders into the very graveyard where her own "funeral" is in process, but Tony grabs her from behind and drugs her before she can call for help. When Nancy awakens, she is in her hospital room prison again. Dr. Marquis explains that Aragon, who shares Nancy's rare blood type, has a deadly anemia that requires frequent blood transfusions. He pays Marquis \$1,000,000 each month he is kept alive by this process.

Days, weeks pass. Already weak from the blood she has been forced to give, Nancy pleads with the nurse not to take more blood, but Aragon is having an attack and needs it desperately. With her last ounce of strength, Nancy manages to inject her insulin shot directly into Aragon's blood supply, killing him instantly. Frightened, the medical staff, including Dr. Marquis and Nurse Lee, flee the premises. Nancy phones the police, who come to rescue her. "Nancy Irving?" the constable asks the extremely weakened woman. "The late Nancy Irving," she replies...

CAST

Nancy Irving.....Christina Raines
Aragon.....Marius Goring
Bob Appleyard.....Simon Williams
Dr. Marquis.....Tony Anholt
Nurse Lee.....Zienia Merton
Tony Graham.....Mick Ford
Young Doctor.....Tom Chadbon
Hoffman.....Lewis Fiander
Peter Norton.....Michael Elwyn
Nurse Baines.....Ben Robertson
Undertaker.....Derek Benfield
Vicar.....Christopher Banks
Caddy.....Tony Millan
Policeman.....David Rose
Anne.....Monique De Sain
Nurse.....Joy Lemoine

CREDITS

Executive Producer.....Brian Lawrence
Produced by.....Roy Skeggs
Directed by.....Peter Sasdy
Written by.....David Fisher

LAST VIDEO AND TESTAMENT

In a graveyard late at night, a chauffeur and a servant uncomfortably watch as an unidentified man (we see only his expensively-shod feet) dances on the grave marked "Victor Frankham"...

Present at a conference taking place thanks to video monitors showing the reactions of participants who are located around the world are Victor Frankham, the 60ish president and founder of Frankham International Electronics (FIE); his beautiful 30ish wife Selena, a former public relations officer who was once his employee; and Derek Tucker, a ruggedly-handsome senior aide in the company. Victor suffers from angina, but he hides it from his officers in order to keep control of his techno-conglomerate company. Selena seems to take good care of the claustrophobic Victor, whose passion for gadgets includes closed circuit cameras in every room of their house.

After a few near heart attacks brought on by claustrophobic scares, it seems that Selena and Derek are lovers and have been setting Victor up for these unexpected scares in hopes he will have a fatal coronary seizure.

Confined to the hospital after one of these near-misses, Victor decides to check himself out early and go home to relax. Seated in the house's video control room, Victor watches Selena and Derek talk about their plans to kill him -- and then they go to the bedroom.

Victor resolves to seek the heart surgery he needs to regain his strength and then take revenge on the scheming lovers. He makes a videotaped will from his hospital bed in New York City in which he stipulates that his body will be kept frozen until Selena reaches his age, at which time he will be revived by doctors and his vast fortune released from a trust fund for the two of them to use together. Selena and Derek are then told that Victor died immediately following the operation. They are also shown a videotaped codicil to the will stating that Selena can collect the money immediately if she orders that Victor be taken out of frozen animation and his body cremated. She starts to do so, but, having been "haunted" by Victor's voice, she now sees Victor on the television screen.

Victor reveals that he is indeed quite alive, having gotten a new pacemaker in the operation in New York, and is now in the home video control room. He traps Selena and Derek in the control room and tells them how he "haunted" Selena with audio and video tapes, and then waited to see if she would follow his "last" wishes or order that he be cremated so she could get at his money.

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While Selena begs for mercy, Victor exposes them to a sound wave at seven cycles a second -- which creates a deadly vibration. The two lovers die, and the police believe Victor's story that he was still recuperating in New York at the time. The poor deceased pair must have accidentally triggered sound equipment they didn't understand, the police decide, and accidental death is ruled.

Returning to the graveyard, it is Victor who dances on the grave of "Selena Frankham, beloved wife of Victor Frankham"...

CAST

Selena Frankham.....Deborah Raffin
Victor Frankham.....David Langton
Derek Tucker.....Oliver Tobias
Truscott.....Christopher Scoular
Bennet.....Clifford Rose
Hersh.....Shane Rimmer
Mrs. Villiers.....Barbara Keogh
Secretary.....Geraldine Gardner
Nurse.....Shevaun Bryers
Superintendant.....Hugh Dickson
Receptionist.....Michael Fleming
Marcello.....Robert Rietty
Commissionaire.....Norman Mitchell
Jack.....Kenneth Nelson
Minion.....Adam Richardson
Linda.....Wendy Seely
Helmut.....Maciej Karas
Hotel Guest.....Irene Prador

CREDITS

Executive Producer.....Brian Lawrence
Produced by.....Roy Skeggs
Directed by.....Peter Sasdy
Written by.....Roy Russell
From an original story by Robert Quigley

CZECH MATE

Vicky Duncan is a production assistant with a London television producer. She is surprised when her ex-husband John comes to see her, telling her that he was wrong to have ever left her and asking for a reconciliation. John overcomes her doubts during a whirlwind courtship, and Vicky decides to trust him. She finds that she has fallen in love with John all over again.

John asks Vicky to accompany him on a business trip to Prague and to leave all the details of the trip to him. When they arrive at their hotel in Prague, John tells Vicky to leave her passport and luggage with the desk clerk in order to speed up the registration procedure. He has to go to a business meeting, but tells her to go to their room and wait for him. Hours pass for Vicky, but still John does not return. His luggage is also missing and, when she goes to the front desk to check on things, she finds that both of their passports are gone and she is registered in the hotel as traveling alone.

Frightened and worried about John, Vicky goes to the British Embassy for help. She speaks to Brown, a disinterested attache who loans her some money and promises to help her get her passport back. Vicky tells him about the photo she had received of a Czech woman named Maria Jiracek, which a young man had given her. The young man said that Maria knew where John was, but, when Vicky went to visit the woman, she claimed to have no idea what Vicky was talking about. Brown, still bored by Vicky's problems, tells her to go back to her hotel.

Vicky is horrified to find the dead body of the young man in her hotel room. The police question her, but suddenly let her go after a mysterious phone call. Vicky learns that the man was Maria's fiance until a few weeks earlier, when she met and fell in love with another man.

Determined to find out what's going on, Vicky returns to Maria's apartment. There she spots a bullnecked-man who had been lurking in the hotel lobby, and General Neruda, a Czech spy whom she recognizes from newsreel photos. She runs in fear, with "bullneck" in pursuit, but she manages to escape him and contact Brown. Brown reveals to her that he is actually with British Intelligence, and that Maria is a Czech spy who has convinced John to help her "escape" to England on Vicky's passport. Brown says that the government wants Maria's plan to succeed so that they can feed her misleading information which her superiors, not knowing that Maria has been found out, will believe are bona fide state secrets. Vicky reluctantly agrees to go along with the plan and hide in a "safe house" until Maria leaves Czechoslovakia with John.

All goes well until "bullneck" finds Vicky at the safe house. He tries to kill her to guarantee her silence, but she escapes. Convinced that she has been used and her life is in danger, Vicky is determined to stop Maria from emigrating to England. Brown spots Vicky in the airport and tries to stop her, but she begins shouting that she is the real Vicky Duncan, not the disguised Maria who has just gone through customs. The guards grab Vicky and drag her away.

Visitors to an insane asylum hear of the sad case of Maria Jiracek, a woman who ten years earlier had had a complete personality breakdown, insisting she was an English woman named Vicky Duncan. As they walk away from "Maria's" cell, it is the real Vicky Duncan who sadly looks out...

CAST

Vicky Duncan.....Susan George
John Duncan.....Patrick Mower
BrownRichard Heffer
"Bullneck".....Peter Vaughan
Inspector.....Stephan Gryff
2nd Desk Clerk.....Sandor Eles
Maria Jiracek.....Catherine Neilson
Plain Clothes Policeman..George Mikell
Mr. Jiracek.....Hana-Maria Pravda
Ivan.....Jiri Stanislav
Security Guard 1.....Robert Russell
Head Waiter.....Steve Plytas
Doctor.....Pam St. Clements
Producer.....Jeremy Burnham
Immigration Officer.....Christopher Rozycki
Porter.....Mark Malicz
Girl on Bridge.....Tessa Wojtczak
Man on Bridge.....Daniel Wozniak
1st Desk Clerk.....Robert East
General Neruda.....Christopher Robbie
Stefan.....Roy Boyd

CREDITS

Executive Producer.....Brian Lawrence
Produced by.....Roy Skeggs
Directed by.....John Hough
Written by.....Jeremy Burnham

A DISTANT SCREAM

In a prison cell, an old prisoner named Harris is dying. The prison doctors shake their heads as the old man still proclaims his innocence...

Rosemary Richardson, a beautiful woman in her 30s married to a prominent diplomat, goes to a remote seaside hotel for a discrete vacation with her lover, Michael Harris. The hotel is run by Mrs. Kimble, a kind woman whose mentally handicapped son Robin is visiting her for the weekend. The staff includes Sarah, who doubles as desk clerk and maid, and Gary, a handsome boatman who is Sarah's lover.

Rosemary, who is worried her husband Clifford will somehow find out about her affair, begins seeing an old man following her. Michael says she is just imagining things because she is nervous about her husband, but Rosemary insists the old man is there. The old man, who starts to tell her about the future and tells her she will be murdered, is the same Harris who is dying in his prison bed. Rosemary soon realizes that he is a "ghost" from the future; he is the old man that Michael will become. Michael still scoffs at her, but declares that he will love her until the day he dies.

Unable to get people to believe her, Rosemary starts to suspect that the murderer the old man is warning her about is Michael himself. She tries to avoid Michael, going out for the afternoon with Gary on his boat. When Michael finds out, he becomes jealous and argues with Rosemary, a fight that Mrs. Kimble overhears.

At last, other people at the hotel begin to see the ghostly old man. Michael fears that he may indeed harm Rosemary and decides to protect her by keeping himself out on the rocky beach until she safely leaves the hotel. But Rosemary has a change of heart and, realizing how much she and Michael truly love each other, she crosses to the steep cliff that leads to the beach in order to find Michael.

Noting that any of the staff at the hotel seem capable of murder, Michael and the old man walk across the rocks until Michael slips on one and knocks himself out. The old man tells him to remain unconscious to guarantee that he will not be the one who murders Rosemary. From the beach, the old man looks up to the cliff and sees that Rosemary has met someone on the pathway -- it is Clifford, who has traveled incognito to the resort to confront her. She tells him that she plans to leave him for Michael. Enraged, Clifford pushes her off the cliff to her death!

The ghostly old man, having witnessed Clifford's crime, "haunts" him relentlessly, constantly calling him a murderer as he tries to fly his private plane back to his diplomatic assignment in Brussels. Unable to cope any more, Clifford suffers a fatal heart attack once he is inside his Brussels home.

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In prison, Harris has died with a satisfied, peaceful look on his face. The prison officials, sympathetic to Harris, sadly comment that if Rosemary Richardson's husband hadn't have died in Brussels the same day his wife died in England, he would probably have been the police's chief suspect and Harris would never have gone to prison...

CAST

Michael/Harris.....David Carradine
Rosemary Richardson.....Stephanie Beacham
Clifford.....Stephen Greif
Gary.....Stephen Chase
Mrs. Kimble.....Fanny Carby
Sarah.....Lesley Dunlop
Doctor.....Bernard Horsfall
Robin.....Ewan Stuart
Prison Officer.....Edward Peel

CREDITS

Executive Producer.....Brian Lawrence
Produced by.....Roy Skeggs
Directed by.....John Hough
Written by.....Martin Worth

DEAD CENTRE

Ann Preston awakens at 10 minutes after four in the morning. It's hot and she goes downstairs for a drink of water. To her shock, there is a gray wall blocking the kitchen window and door. She rushes upstairs to her husband Mike, and together they discover that the house is completely walled in. Mike tries to break through the oddly-warm wall with an ax, but he hardly scratches it. They try the telephone, but they can't reach anyone. The television works, but all it displays is a strange identification symbol, concentric circles with a lightning bolt.

Suddenly, they smell smoke; they rush upstairs to discover that their daughter Sarah has been playing with matches and set their bed on fire. As Mike chops through the roof to try, unsuccessfully, to escape the wall, Ann notices that Sarah is acting very strangely indeed, hostile to her mother but obsequious to her father.

The temperature continues to rise as they exhaust every possible explanation for the walls and try again and again to escape. Ann finds her arm going numb, her memories of her life before this day gone and, strangest of all, she notices the concentric circles symbol on everything in the house -- even as a tattoo on Mike's arm.

Mike tries using the car as a battering ram through the garage door and the wall outside -- to no avail. They run out of water from the tap and bottled beverages. Mike makes an explosive out of shotgun shells -- still the wall isn't pierced. The family notices a sweet smell in the house and they discover a thick liquid slowly flowing through the house, seemingly with a life of its own. In desperation, they try to dig under the house, only to find a metal plate with the concentric circles symbol. When almost all hope is gone, the house suddenly turns on its side...

...and a little girl in futuristic garb picks up the house and places it on a table. She picks up her dolls -- Ann, Mike and Sarah! The little girl complains to her mother that her brother has placed her dollhouse in a heating duct, causing the dolls' emotional and motor circuits to go off kilter. Furthermore, he left his candy bar inside the house and it has melted all over the living room of the toy house. Don't worry, the girl's mother says, we'll get the dolls' memory circuits erased in the morning...

CAST

Ann Preston.....Mary Crosby
Mike Preston.....Nicholas Clay
Sarah Preston.....Debbie Chasen
Mother.....Suzanne Church
Child.....Joanna Joseph

CREDITS

Executive Producer....Brian Lawrence
Produced by.....Roy Skeggs
Directed by.....Val Guest
Written by.....Graham Wassell

THE CORVINI INHERITANCE

Eva Bailey, who has just moved into a new flat, is being stalked by a black ski-masked peeping tom. Her neighbor, Frank Lane, is the very conscientious but somewhat reclusive head of security for a prominent London auction house. Frank interrupts his nightly session of observing and photographing his neighbors to install a chain lock on Eva's door, and then invites her over for a dinner of defrosted chicken ala king and broccoli--since his divorce years earlier, he cooks in quantity and freezes individual portions for later consumption.

Eva still senses she is being watched and, when the police are unresponsive to her complaints, she allows Frank to install a video camera in the hall to observe the activity outside her door. In the meantime, Frank is busy at work preparing for the storage and protection of the fabulous Corvini Inheritance, a collection of Renaissance jewelry acquired by the Corvinis, a family of paid assassins, in payment for the nefarious deeds. One piece particularly fascinates Frank. It is a large, oddly shaped pearl surrounded by other jewels and hung on a necklace. Legend has it that the central stone of the necklace changes color if its wearer is adulterous, and that Ludovigo Corvini strangled his wife with that very necklace when he saw it change colors while around her throat.

Frank is also becoming more obsessed with Eva and with learning the identity of the man in the ski mask who is following her. On a date, Frank takes Eva to the auction house to a publicity event for the Corvini jewels, and he playfully puts the Corvini Necklace around Eva's neck for a moment. Later, when he insists on walking Eva home from her night school class, Frank learns she has been avoiding him in order to date a fellow student. The next day, Frank believes that he sees a change in color in the Corvini Necklace. He then "sees" the strangulation of Corvini's wife reenacted on his video screen, with the man in the black ski mask murdering an Eva dressed in Renaissance garb.

Rushing home to replay the videotape of that day's comings and goings outside Eva's apartment, Frank sees that she and her new beau has entered her apartment earlier in the day. When they parted much, much later, it was with a long kiss. Moments after Eva's boyfriend left, the tape shows that the man in the black ski mask grabbed Eva and dragged her into her apartment! Frightened, Frank stops the tape and rushes into Eva's flat, but it is too late -- she has been strangled. While Frank phones the police to report the murder, he continues to watch the videotape playback. The man in the black ski mask walks in front of the camera and, removing the mask, reveals himself to be -- Frank! As he now pulls the black ski mask out of his drawer and puts it on, Frank breaks down completely with the realization of what he has done...

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CAST

Frank Lane.....David McCallum
Eva Bailey.....Jan Francis
Hammond.....Terence Alexander
Knowles.....Stephen Yardley
Roulier.....Paul Bacon
Collier.....Timothy Morand
Elderly Lady.....Mollie Maureen
Viner.....Leonard Trolley
Brophy.....Robert Swales
Bob.....Benedict Blythe
Madame Roulier.....Marianne Borgo
Taxi Driver.....Johnny Wade
Williams.....Peter Attard
1st Female Model.....Kirstie Pooley
2nd Female Model.....Ruth Burnett
Jogger.....Peter Rumney
Buisness Man.....Martin Weedon
TV Director.....Ben Fietelson
Geoff (Male Model).....Christian Fletcher

CREDITS

Executive Producer.....Brian Lawrence
Produced by.....Roy Skeggs
Directed by.....Gabrielle Beaumont
Written by.....David Fisher

BLACK CARRION

Watching a tape of a rock and roll performance given twenty years ago by the Verne Brothers, an American music promoter realizes he can "make a million on them"...

On a narrow rural road, a truck crashes into a sedan driven by a middle-aged couple, the Birchers, pushing their car off the road. Lost, they decide to look for the village of Briars Frome, which is shown on an old atlas but not on the more up-to-date map. They arrive in the village, finding it deserted. While looking for a phone, someone steals their car and pushes it off a cliff...

The music promoter, Lou Delmart, tries to interest a cynical reporter in the music and performers of the sixties in order to have some background material on the songs he plans to re-release on record. Most of all, Lou wonders what happened to the Verne Brothers. The reporter, Paul Chater, recalls their involvement in some drug and sex scandals in 1963, but they still doubt that this is an adequate explanation for the disappearance of two pop stars. At lunch, they meet Cora Berlaine, a researcher and photographer with a fantastic knowledge of sixties music. Though smitten with Cora, Paul deduces from her no-nonsense style that their relationship will be strictly business. They quickly discover that the Verne Brothers disappeared in 1963, and find a map from that year that shows the village where the singers supposedly bought a palatial mansion: Briars Frome... Cora proposes they go there, then suffers a nightmarish hallucination that causes her to attack Paul violently, pleading, "Please don't hurt her!" When she recovers, she dissolves into tears, quietly asking Paul to leave.

On the way to Briars Frome, Paul remarks that their destination reminds him of "Brigadoon," the fictional village that appears only once every 100 years. Cora abruptly asks him to stop the car when she sees a scarecrow that strangely fascinates and disturbs her. Meanwhile, Mrs. Bircher's sister reports that the Birchers have been missing for a week. The police, who have arrested the truck drivers who ran their car off the road, note that several people have disappeared in the same area recently...

Cora and Paul arrive at Briars Frome just as Paul recalls that the extensive highways built across England in the early sixties were blamed for causing many small villages like this one to die out. They enter the Black Bird Pub and find it decaying and "evil," still in the state it was in twenty years ago. Paul realizes that it was Cora and not Lou who came up with the idea of investigating the Verne Brothers, and obviously for personal reasons. They leave the pub, only to find their car is gone. Paul looks all around for it, but then turns to find that Cora has disappeared, too.

BLACK CARRION

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Meanwhile, the police question the two truck drivers. One confesses that, two years earlier, they had witnessed a group of about a dozen old men push a car off a cliff near Briars Court, the mansion at Briars Frome. In the village, Paul finds Cora tearfully looking towards Briars Court. She confesses that she had been found wandering by the side of the road as a child, suffering from complete amnesia about her past. For years, she has been plagued with nightmares with a black carrion bird and weird images she cannot understand. But she does remember the day the Verne Brothers came to Briars Frome and bought their house, Briars Court. Her mother, Ellen, who had become Ron Verne's lover, took young Cora inside the house -- but there Cora's recollection ends. Despite Paul's misgivings, Cora insists on entering Briars Court to find out what happened there. And the police, investigating the truck driver's story, find six cars crashed at the bottom of a cliff -- including the Birchers' and Paul's.

Inside Briars Court, Cora begins to remember being there with her mother and the Vernes. When Ron began to fall in love with Ellen, his brother Ray became extremely jealous of the relationship, calling her a "village hooker" and a "leech." Ray encountered Ellen on the road from the Black Bird to Briars Court and chased her, threatening to beat her. Ellen fled back to the house, where Ray caught up with her. Terrified, young Cora watched as Ray hit her mother repeatedly. Coming back to the present, Cora and Paul follow the sound of music to a dining room where a hopelessly insane, gray-haired Ray presides over a table where corpses are seated -- including the Birchers.

Cora confronts Ray, accusing him of murdering Ellen. But Ray reminds her that Ellen had run away from the house that evening. Later in that tragic night, two day-laborers wandering through town kidnapped Ellen as she tried to find her way to safety, assaulted her and murdered her. The angry townspeople blamed the Verne Brothers and formed a lynch mob, hanging Ron before the truth was known about Ellen's murder. Crazy with anger and bitterness, Ray swore that the villagers would pay for killing his brother. They became his "subjects" from that day on, carrying out his every order -- even murdering for him.

Paul and Cora run for their lives, reaching the courtyard just as the police arrive. Ray climbs to the roof of Briars Court to give one last "concert." As an "encore," he leaps to his death before the shocked onlookers...

CAST

Cora Berlaine.....Season Hubley
Paul Chater.....Leigh Lawson
Henry Bircher.....Norman Bird
Ray Verne.....Alan Love
Madge Bircher.....Diana King
Ron Verne.....Julian Littman
Lou Delmart.....William Hootkins
Drury.....Christopher Ellison
Estate Manager.....Oscar Quitak
Elsie.....Daphne Goddard
Mate.....Robert Morgan
Landlord.....Forbes Collins
Police Sergeant.....John Patrick
Ellen Berlaine.....Linda Hayden
Driver.....Peter Ploycarpou
First Constable.....Geoffrey Leesley
Frogman.....Alan Stuart
Little Girl.....Jessica Marshall-Gardner
Secretary.....Diana Malin

CREDITS

Executive Producer.....Brian Lawrence
Produced by.....Roy Skeggs
Directed by.....John Hough
Written by.....Don Houghton

TENNIS COURT

A wartime fighter plane crash-lands at its home field. The pilot manages to escape, but his co-pilot is not so fortunate as the plane erupts in flames...

Maggie Dowl, an intelligent and attractive woman of about 40, arrives with her new husband, Harry, a member of Parliament, at the musty Victorian mansion given to her by her mother. As they tour the house, they notice the approach of John Bray, the handsome, 60-ish local vicar. Suddenly a scream pierces the air: Innes, John's teenaged daughter, and Bobby, her friend, have been playing tennis on the estate's forgotten tennis court. As though possessed, Innes' playing had steadily become more aggressive until she finally hit a ball so hard that it injured Bobby's head. John advises Harry to demolish the indoor court, but Harry, a tennis enthusiast, rejects the suggestion.

When Harry drives Innes and Bobby to the doctor, John has a chance to reminisce with Maggie. John was friendly with Maggie's parents during World War II. Redmond Maryott, Maggie's father, was a tennis ace who enjoyed playing the game with John and Eileen, Maggie's mother, who was also a fine player. Maggie remarks that her mother, who now lives in Dublin, hasn't played tennis for years, and she promises to restore the house to its old elegance.

A few weeks later, Maggie and Harry are playing tennis on the now-cleaner court when Harry suddenly starts gulping for air. This unexpected attack frightens him, but he recovers quickly. Late that night, Maggie sees a light coming from the tennis court. She investigates this and hears a tennis game in progress, but sees nothing when the door flings open, seemingly of its own will...

Maggie asks John to tell her more about Redmond, as all her mother said is that he was killed before they could marry. John describes Redmond's consuming passion for tennis, which he pursued with more warlike ferocity than he showed while co-piloting the fighter plane he and John flew together for the RAF. John also reflects on Eileen, to whom he obviously felt quite attracted.

During a tennis practice session, Maggie sees blood oozing from a tennis ball, then disappearing. She expresses to Harry her feeling that there is a presence that doesn't want them there but he scoffs at her. Soon after, Harry goes back to Parliament for a session expected to go long into the night, leaving Maggie alone at the house. Before long she hears the phantom sounds of

a tennis ball being hit. Approaching the court, she notices the padlock is off the door. Entering, she is surprised to find Innes there, who asks for a tennis lesson. Innes' playing again gets gradually more aggressive, and as a humming noise grows louder, Maggie watches the girl's face turn bloody, blistered and deformed. Breathless and frightened, Maggie passes out. When she comes to, she sees that Innes' face has returned to normal. Maggie goes to John's church and demands to know what kind of evil possesses the court. She believes the unquiet spirit haunting it is her father's, and she asks John to perform an exorcism. He refuses. Later, unknown to Maggie, he visits a rest home where one of the inmates is -- Redmond! With tremendous guilt, John recalls that, after escaping their crashed fighter plane, he stood helplessly by as Redmond, by now badly burned, finally struggled free from the cockpit of the burning wreck. At the rest home, unable to communicate, Redmond simply plays for hours with the tennis balls that are sent to him in unmarked packages every six months.

Maggie, still determined to find out what is happening, calls on Dr. Magnusson, a scientist specializing in the supernatural. He sets up his elaborate machinery on the tennis court to observe it during the night. At 2:15 am, Maggie is disturbed by the humming noise and goes to the tennis court, only to find Magnusson has been strangled with the tennis net -- yet no footprints are to be found near him!

A few days after Magnusson's death, Maggie goes to see John. While waiting for him, Maggie learns from Innes that she saw a man with a bloody, disfigured face at the court the night the scientist died. John again refuses to perform an exorcism, but seems to hint that it is up to Maggie to try such a ceremony.

Eldridge, a police detective, shows Maggie and Harry the video footage taken by Magnusson's equipment of his death. It is clear that whatever strangled Magnusson was an invisible force that laughed hideously all the while. Even Harry must now believe Maggie's sense that an evil presence is at work.

John is shocked to receive an unexpected visitor -- Maggie's mother Eileen! They ride into the country, where John tells Eileen that Redmond could not possibly have left the rest home physically, but he believes that his spirit is no longer part of his burned and deformed body. They agree that his spirit is seeking revenge against them through Maggie, for it turns out that John, not Redmond, is her father! After the plane crash, Eileen fled to neutral Ireland to raise Maggie, and John, consumed by guilt, became a vicar, hoping to find solace in the church and visiting Redmond in the hospital almost daily. Eileen now plans to see her former fiance for the first time since the war to seek his forgiveness.

At the rest home, Eileen admits that she is the one who has been sending Redmond the tennis balls all these years. She asks for his forgiveness, but he turns his back on her. Wordlessly, his powerful fingers burst the tennis ball he has been gripping...

Late at night, Maggie begins her attempt to exorcize the tennis court. Simultaneously, Redmond is suffering an attack of great anger and pain in his hospital room. He claws at the walls as if to climb through them. At the Bray home, Innes wakes up with a scream, telling her father to "help her -- quick -- in the tennis court..." John rushes on to the court, shouting, "You can't have her, Redmond! She's my daughter!" Slowly, the humming stops. In his hospital room, Redmond is dead.

Many weeks later, John comes to visit Maggie and Harry in their now-happy home. On this bright and sunny afternoon, he learns the good news that the Dowls are expecting their first child. Almost contemplatively, Maggie wanders over to the tennis court, where John, a cold drink in hand, follows her. Suddenly, the humming begins, John's glass breaks, and the tennis balls scattered on the court all start rolling towards him. With horror, father and daughter realize that Redmond's spirit is not at rest after all...

CAST

John Bray.....Peter Graves
Maggie Dowl.....Hannah Gordon
Harry.....Jonathan Newth
Magnusson.....Cyril Shaps
Redmond Maryott.....Ralph Arliss
Eileen.....Isla Blair
Eldridge.....George Little
Young Bray.....Marcus Gilbert
Matron.....Peggy Sinclair
Innes.....Annis Joslin
Bobby.....David Cheesman

CREDITS

Executive Prodcer.....Brian Lawrence
Produced by.....Roy Skeggs
Directed by.....Cyril Frankel
Written by.....Andrew Sinclair
Based on a short story by.....Michael Hastings

MARK OF THE DEVIL

At a voodoo rite, Hai Lee, a tattooist and one of the leaders of the ritual, is warned of danger, but he ignores this foreboding message.

Frank Rowlett, handsome fortune hunter, beds and woos Sara Helston, the young and beautiful daughter of a wealthy industrialist. Sara agrees to marry him, and he seems genuinely in love with her. After she leaves his apartment, two thugs break in, beat up Frank and demand that he pay the \$5,000 that he owes them within 24 hours.

Hoping to pawn his expensive watch and enter a lucrative poker game with the proceeds, Frank visits Hai Lee's shop. Frank decides instead to steal Hai Lee's cash, but he is discovered by the tattooist and a struggle ensues. Just as Frank deals a fatal blow to Hai Lee's head, the tattooist pricks Frank's chest with a tattoo needle. Stuffing the stolen money into his pockets, Frank rushes out to the poker game, where he wins even more cash. He pays off the thugs that morning and, believing that he can now leave the events of his past behind, makes preparations for his wedding.

Relaxing with a swim in the Helston's pool, Sara notices a strange mark on Frank's chest. Frank claims that he slipped in the shower and must have bruised a rib and covers the mark with a bandage. Hours later, he notices that the mark, which had been covered completely by the bandage, is now "growing" across his chest. When he goes to a doctor to find out what the strange mark is, Frank is appalled to see that the mark has "grown" even more, now forming a tattoo on his entire chest that plainly shows he murdered Hai Lee! Panicked, Frank attacks and nearly kills the doctor and flees.

Despite the ominous tattoo on his chest, Frank goes through with his marriage to Sara. He tries to hide the picture from her, even though it has now spread to his arms, but she at last sees it. Frightened, she screams, prompting Frank to strike her and escape the hotel before the police, who are beginning to suspect him in Hai Lee's death, can capture him.

Frank enters a church and tries to confess his sins, but he again panics and runs. By now, the tattoo covers his face and neck as well as his torso and arms. In desperation, he goes to a voodoo woman for help. Unbeknownst to Frank, she was an associate of Hai Lee's. She advises Frank to return "naked as a baby" to the place where he got the tattoo, and it will be removed from him according to the picture that has appeared in the tattoo on his back. In Hai Lee's cellar, Frank sees to his horror that the tattoo on his back shows Hai Lee strangling him and, indeed, the tattooist's spirit returns and kills Frank. Once he is dead, the tattoo disappears from sight...

CAST

Frank Rowlett.....Dirk Benedict
Sara Helston.....Jenny Seagrove
Det. Inspector Grant.....George Sewell
Matt Helston.....John Paul
Westcott.....Tom Adams
Hai Lee.....Burt Kwouk
Det. Sergeant Kirby.....Peter Settelen
Father Dowd.....James Ellis
Dr. Melford.....Reginald Marsh
Pymar.....Michael Cronin
Billy.....Nicholas Field
Momma Rose.....Alibe Parsons
Hara.....Robert Oates
Ma Perkins.....Maggie Rennie
Butler.....Hugh Morton
Butch Girl.....Marianne Sherman
Chong Woy.....Robert Lee
Carla.....Hilary Crane
Wilson.....Tony Sibbald
Registrar.....Roger Milner
Sexy Blonde.....Dinah May
Hatfield.....William Derrick
Soo.....Anthony Chinn
Sick Man.....Vernon Nesbeth

CREDITS

Executive Producer.....Brian Lawrence
Produced by.....Roy Skeggs
Directed by.....Val Guest
Written by.....Brian Clemens

PAINT ME A MURDER

Artist Luke Lorenz paints a self-portrait at his easel on the beach. He then takes the painting and rows out on rough seas several hundred feet from shore and chops his rowboat to pieces. The painting, which drifts ashore, is of Luke drowning...

At the memorial service, Sandra Lorenz, Luke's widow, is approached by Vincent Rhodes, an important art dealer, who is delighted that Sandra is planning to exhibit Luke's paintings that afternoon. Now that he has died in such a sensational manner, a great many art dealers are interested in Luke's work. Sandra drives a hard bargain with Vincent for exclusive rights to the paintings on a piece-by-piece basis.

After the visitors leave the house, Sandra drinks a toast "to the dear departed" -- but Luke, still very much alive, emerges from the attic of the house! Together they have planned Luke's fake suicide to drive up the value of his paintings. Luke doesn't relish the thought of staying in hiding for up to a year, but Sandra comforts him that they'll be making a fortune and enjoy it together.

Although Luke's art now attracts international attention, Sandra persists in selling the paintings one at a time to Vincent. Whether to get more paintings or because he is genuinely interested, Vincent begins to woo Sandra, who is flattered by his advances. On a visit to Vincent's secluded country retreat, Vincent suddenly kisses Sandra, and lunch turns into an excursion that doesn't end until midnight. Sandra returns home at that hour to find Luke angrily jealous and insecure about their whole plan. Dismissing his fears, Sandra tells him she was discussing arrangements with Vincent for a retrospective of Luke's work at London's prestigious Tate Gallery. It looks like their scheme is a success.

More time passes. Vincent falls deeply in love with Sandra and proposes to her. Sandra is distraught because she has fallen in love with him, too, but can't bring herself to tell him the truth about Luke. Later, the police ask Sandra to identify a drowned body they have found, and she says it is indeed Luke's and is wearing Luke's wedding ring. But the inspectors, who suspect Sandra of murder, knew in advance that it was not Luke's body they asked her to identify. Their chief rejects this tactic to expose Sandra as a murderer as inconclusive.

At the pharmacy, Sandra buys some sleeping pills -- and arsenic, "for the mice." Later, she fights with Luke, who has become morose and alcoholic. She leaves him a sandwich which he shares with some pigeons. He then suddenly becomes ill...

Two artist friends of Luke's cause a disturbance at the Rhodes Gallery, claiming that the Lorenz canvas on display there is a fake, exclaiming that they had never seen it among Luke's work in his studio. Vincent, meanwhile, is making Luke's paintings the prize of the art world. He proposes again to Sandra, who, thinking she has poisoned Luke, tells him "there will be no more Luke Lorenz paintings." Despite this, Vincent still wants to marry her.

Unknown to them both, Luke has groggily awakened from his coma -- he didn't consume a fatal dose of arsenic after all. Luke takes Sandra's car and goes to the Rhodes Gallery, where he breaks the front window and slashes his latest painting. When Sandra and Vincent find the attic studio empty, Sandra confesses to Vincent that her husband is still alive. Vincent is furious about their foolhardy hoax, and horrified when he realizes Sandra tried to kill Luke.

In a rundown part of town, Luke is looking for someone to help him, but his artist friends are in jail because of the scene they caused at the art gallery. He wanders around until he finds a painters' platform suspended from the side of a building. He hoists himself up and paints a mural, in black and white, of a man falling to his death. Vincent and Sandra, who have been looking for Luke, arrive and enter the abandoned building. Climbing to the top story, they try to convince Luke that his "illness" was accidental, and beg him not to commit suicide. They succeed, and all three drive out to Vincent's country cottage, where Luke will stay to continue painting. Back in town, Sandra and Vincent agree that "they know what to do." But Sandra finds the police waiting for her in the house, wondering why there were dead pigeons in the attic...

Although Luke's mural is torn down, the police spot it before it is demolished and recognize it as a Lorenz. They now suspect he is still alive. Vincent, visiting Luke at the cottage, notices that he is painting near the edge of a cliff overlooking the sea. The art dealer takes Sandra out to the cottage the next day "to see Luke's new painting" -- on the cliff. Pretending to have a new plan for Luke's "reappearance," Vincent follows Luke to the cliff...

Hours later, unable to contain her concern, Sandra leaves the cottage and goes to the cliff. Calling both Luke's and Vincent's names, she sees Luke's overturned easel and a man's body on the beach below. She turns to see Luke on the cliff behind her. Startled, she slips backwards and, before Luke can help her, falls off the cliff -- exactly the same scene as portrayed in Luke's latest prophetic painting...

THE SWEET SCENT OF DEATH

New York, ten years ago. Two lovers enjoying Central Park are shocked by a hand that emerges from a rose bush, then collapses lifelessly to the ground...

London, today. Ann Denver meets her husband, Greg, an American diplomat, in his office for lunch. Greg introduces Suzy Kendrick, his new aide-de-camp, and they are delighted to learn that Suzy has just found the Denvers a country retreat less than an hour from London. But at that house, a mysterious stranger puts a blood-spattered poster of Ann on a wall in the basement...

Ann's father, John Fairfax, an influential politician, calls with the good news that his party is interested in running Greg as a candidate for office. The couple discuss the possibilities as they drive to the secluded lodge where, unbeknownst to them, the stranger awaits them. He is Terry Marvin, the local florist, who seems to know a lot about Ann. He gives her two bunches of blood-red roses, ordered from London, and calls her Ms. Fairfax, her maiden name.

At dinner, Greg tells Ann his political aspirations will mean the end of her career as a lawyer, which she had interrupted when they married. But Ann is still somehow disturbed by Marvin's sinister attitude. She asks Greg to investigate a sound she heard outside, but he tells her there was nothing there. Ann also sees something from the bedroom window, outside, looking up at her. At last, she remembers how she met Terry Marvin. Ten years earlier, Ann had defended the accused "Red Rose Murderer," a man thought to have murdered an English tourist who was found in a red rose bed in New York's Central Park. Marvin had been the dead woman's fiance, and he blamed Ann for his lover's death when she won an acquittal for her client. Greg advises her to forget the whole thing and go to bed.

The next morning as Greg leaves, Ann is disturbed to find a single red rose on her pillow. At the embassy, Greg's secretary Paula asks odd questions about Ann and the country house, but Greg politely answers her. At the house, Ann wanders into the basement and finds the bloody poster. Greg rushes home to comfort Ann, but they find another bunch of roses, these with the heads cut off. They call the police, who are unresponsive in the face of largely circumstantial evidence. Furthermore, Marvin denies any knowledge of these events when the police confront him.

Suzy comes to the country house with Ann's car and some items for Greg. Ann talks to her about Greg, his overly-possessive secretary Paula, and Ann's comfortable lifestyle. It turns out that Greg has had Suzy bring him a shotgun, of which Ann is leery. Meanwhile, the police learn that Marvin has a girlfriend who works as a secretary in London...

THE SWEET SCENT OF DEATH

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The next morning, Ann theorizes that Marvin has probably been scared off by the police, who are now investigating him. After Greg leaves on some errands, Ann hears someone moving in the woods, but finds nothing. Angry, she drives to Marvin's house to confront him. He again denies spying on her or delivering the additional roses. When Ann returns home, she finds Greg has borrowed a guard dog. He has also hired a housekeeper and arranged for a party for his embassy friends.

Greg is shocked the following day to discover that someone has killed their new dog. He goes into town to get the police, but first he goes to Marvin's shop and beats him up. The police break up the fight and, while refusing to arrest Marvin, promise to scrutinize him. Oddly, they find that a tall, slender woman has also been asking questions about Marvin for the past several months. The police track down the photographer who made the poster of Ann. He tells them that it was ordered by an attractive woman who left him the phone number of the American Embassy...

At the party, Ann encourages the shy Paula to mingle with the guests. Unbeknownst to them, the police are tracking the Embassy employee whom they suspect is behind the harassment Ann has been receiving. And party guests notice a peeping tom spying on them...

During the night, a window is broken in the Denver house, and they discover their phone is dead. Greg takes the gun and goes downstairs to investigate, instructing Ann to stay in the bedroom upstairs. Hearing him scream, she runs downstairs, finding the shotgun and Greg's unconscious body. Marvin, who had received a mysterious phone call at his house, comes up behind Ann. They struggle for the gun and it goes off, stunning them both. They then see someone disguised as Marvin -- it is Suzy, who had called Marvin and told him to come to the Denver house at once. Greg, who was never really unconscious, now enters the room and kisses Suzy. He holds a knife to "finish them off," as Suzy tells him. But Marvin lunges at Greg, saving Ann's life, just as the police arrive and arrest Suzy and Greg for conspiring to murder Ann. "You'll get over it eventually -- I know," Marvin gently tells the stunned Ann as the police lead Greg and his lover Suzy away...

CAST

Greg Denver.....Dean Stockwell
Ann Denver.....Shirley Knight
Terry Marvin.....Michael Gothard
Suzy Kendrick.....Carmen du Sautoy
Det. Sergeant Wells.....Robert Lang
John Fairfax.....Alan Gifford
Paula.....Toria Fuller

- more -

CAST (cont.)

Det. Constable Gray.....Struan Rodger
Michael Patson.....Andrew Seear
Marine Officer.....Ray Charleson
Marine Sergeant.....Kenny Andrews
Tanzi.....Lindsay Holiday
Young Man.....Russell Sommers
Young Girl.....Erin Donovan
Boy in Park.....Christopher Warrick
Girl in Park.....Mary Greco
Estate Agent.....Geoffrey Colville

CREDITS

Executive Producer.....Brian Lawrence
Produced by.....Roy Skeggs
Directed by.....Peter Sasdy
Written by.....Brian Clemens

AND THE WALL CAME TUMBLING DOWN

Amid heavy demolition work in the East End of London, St. Peters Church, a 300 year-old building, stands alone. Inside, Brinkley, a construction worker, uses his jackhammer to put a hole in a retaining wall that blocks off access to an alcove in the old church. As he drills, he hears a human wail. He peers inside the hole at the alcove and sees a strangely-colored mural -- and a skeleton with snake-like images crawling through it. Suddenly, the power and air lines running to his jackhammer take life and, snake-like, envelop him, choking him to death, as "blood" drips from the cut stones in the wall...

In the mid-1600s, a village craftsman, Martin Yardley, confesses to his priest that he has been involved in a Satanic coven and he names three of the members of the cult before being frightened away by a raging storm. When the exposed Satanists are burned at the stake, the leader of the cult, Daniel, chases Martin -- to St. Peters Church, where the other coven members capture him and chain him down in front of the ominous fresco he had painted for them. Daniel calmly explains that, because of Martin's betrayal, they must both die "until the time we rise again." With that, the Satanists wall in Daniel and Martin.

In the present, a crowd watches as an ambulance carries Brinkley's body away. Among the onlookers are Alan Yardley -- who looks exactly like Martin -- and Alan's fiancée, Kim Osborne. Alan had grown up near St. Peters and had hoped to show Kim the church, but the police move them away from the scene. One person who does get through the police blockade is Caroline Trent, an American woman working with the British government. Peter Whiteway, the site manager, gruffly stops her, but she matches him with her own very business-like attitude. Alan, meanwhile, promises that he'll bring Kim back to the church when the police leave, because the building is so very special to him.

Peter has two difficult problems to contend with when he returns to his office. First is General Haswell, the man who will command the military base to be built on this site and who phones to demand to see the church in person. The second is Caroline, who hopes to get a preservation order to save St. Peters from destruction. Meanwhile, in the church itself, the hole Brinkley knocked in the retaining wall is slowly closing, as though it were a wound healing...

Alan introduces Kim to his grandmother, Gran Waters. She has refused to move out of her house even though it, too, is scheduled for destruction. The walls of her house are adorned with the very detailed paintings Alan made of the church when he was a child. One even shows a scene of three people in agony as they are burned at the stake!

AND THE WALL CAME TUMBLING DOWN

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Later, Alan takes Kim inside St. Peters. While he fondly reminisces about the old church, Kim spots the mysterious painting through the opened retaining wall. Feeling a sudden sense of evil, Alan calls her away from the wall. He sees a scene from the past, when Catherine Parkes, whom Martin loved, was "sacrificed" by Daniel to "consecrate" the Satanic coven. Horribly, Daniel appears behind Kim in the present and murders her, just as he killed Catherine 300 years earlier. Alan, appalled by Kim's death, runs blindly from the church.

At the harbor, an old tramp stumbles into his shack and finds Alan has taken refuge there. Still shocked by the previous night's violence, Alan seems to recognize the old man as the reincarnation of the village priest to whom Martin confessed his sins so long ago.

As Caroline and Peter explore the church, she admits that her interest in the church is for its connection with the occult and psychic phenomena. Peter, although he agrees that the hole in the wall seems to be closing slowly, disbelieves Caroline's claim that this church had been used by Satanists and that a destructive, evil power lurks behind the retaining wall. They then discover Kim's body...

While two officers are stationed at Gran's house to wait for Alan, Caroline tries unsuccessfully to prove to the police that forces of black magic are at work. Mesmerized by his continuing visions of the seventeenth century, Alan desperately runs through the city, as if still trying to escape Daniel. Caroline and Peter spot Alan as he passes the church on his way to Gran's. There he is arrested and, during interrogation, he is declared insane by the police when he describes to them Catherine's death.

Hoping to learn something from Alan's paintings, Caroline enters St. Peters and sees the hole in the wall has closed almost completely. As she digs at the mortar with a scissors, she is suddenly surrounded by hooded figures from the coven. They disappear when Peter enters the church, just in time to save Caroline from a statue that falls from overhead.

Now convinced that she is on the right track, Caroline and Peter visit Father Harris, the priest of St. Peters at the time of its deconsecration in 1979, when it was converted into a warehouse. Harris confirms that Satanists might once have used the church, and that a painting depicting the aims of the coven is supposedly behind the retaining wall. He is surprised to see Alan's painting, which shows a stained glass window destroyed during the Blitz -- several years before Alan's birth. At Gran's house, Caroline finds more paintings, these showing the colors of the abstract painting Peter glimpsed through the

hole in the retaining wall. After they leave, Gran goes to St. Peters to pray for Alan -- an act that results in her death.

In the office of the police psychiatrist, Alan spots a newspaper headline that causes him to go wild. He tears a picture from the paper, knocks the doctor out of his way, and escapes out the window. The newspaper headline reads, "General To Visit Site Of New Defense Headquarters." Alan runs to the shanty of the old tramp, "to do a deal" with him...

With great fanfare, General Haswell and his retinue arrive at St. Peters. Haswell poses for photographers -- he is Daniel reincarnated! Alan also comes to the church, disguised in the old tramp's clothes. As Caroline and Peter escort Haswell inside, Alan appears and confronts him. Suddenly the military men and women accompanying Haswell are seen in their true form -- as hooded members of Daniel's coven. Alan leaps at Haswell, and their momentum crashes them through the retaining wall. The painting, now fully exposed, shows flames gathering together and turning into the mushroom cloud of a nuclear blast. As the painting fades and the Satanists again take form as military personnel, Alan slowly rises. He has broken Haswell's neck, thus accomplishing his 300 year-old mission to stop Daniel's destructive plans. But, as Caroline warily eyes Haswell's staff, and Peter's men prepare to destroy the church once and for all, she can't help but wonder if Alan truly was successful or not...

CAST

Caroline Trent.....Barbi Benton
Peter Whiteway.....Gareth Hunt
Alan/Martin Yardley.....Brian Deacon
Daniel/General Haswell...Peter Wyngarde
Gran Waters.....Pat Hayes
Kim/Catherine Parkes.....Carol Royle
Father Harris.....Ralph Michael
Inspector Crane.....Gary Waldhorn
Father Ambrey/Packard....Robert James
Pinder/David Pritchard...Richard Hampton
Jill.....Angela Grant
Sergeant Mills.....Ray Armstrong
Talbot.....Peter Baldwin
Policeman.....Jona Jones
Brinkley/Robert Ford.....Tim Pearce
Constable Hopkins.....Michael Kingsbury
Military Aide.....Christopher Farries
Military Policeman.....Peter Macklen
Male Nurse.....Simon Sutton
Press Photographer.....Danny McCarthy

