movies...
'The Haunting' grade-C horror movie

By David F. Natan

Thirty seconds after the start of "The Haunting" one can tell the

Theatrical producer of "The Haunting" is intent on

viewers' attention. A silent scene of a dead body

Henri Langlois, a French film

and the sound of another death is the first scene

professor, who has come primarily on

one finds in the movie. Within minutes, this feeling has been con-

a short story called "The Lottery," was interested in

styled on a novel by Shirley Jackson, a writer

confirmed as a sense of uneasiness. A

whose name rests primarily on this

narrator's deeply felt emotion, and

short story called "The Lottery," to

the expression of a grade-C horror movie.

a Mark Twain episode of a sensi-

when it is intended to be the current

able scientific investigation into

state of the supernatural phenomena

viewer's intent on Hill House. On.

associated with a ninety-year-old

Montague is concerned primarily with

ancient and mysterious castle called

haunted house, the film relies exces-

Hill House, the film relies exces-

sively on " gleam" shots and

sively on "gleam" shots and

weird camera angles to show the

weird camera angles to show the

psychological effects of these phe-

psychological effects of these phe-

nomena on the four members of

nomena on the four members of

the investigating group, dealing

the investigating group, dealing

particularly with one Eleanor

particularly with one Eleanor

Vance, a timid and lonely woman

Vance, a timid and lonely woman

who is at least half crazy to begin

who is at least half crazy to begin

with. At the beginning of the

with. At the beginning of the

movie, there is a restrained se-

movie, there is a restrained se-

quence explaining that Hill House

quence explaining that Hill House

is an evil place, complete with

is an evil place, complete with

evil-looking shots of the build-

evil-looking shots of the build-

ing and its former inhabitants, in-

ing and its former inhabitants, in-

cluding Hugh Crain, who designed

cluding Hugh Crain, who designed

the building and so it contained no

the building and so it contained no

orthogonal lines, and his daughter

orthogonal lines, and his daughter

Abigail, who was before your very

Abigail, who was before your very

eyes. After the introduction, we

eyes. After the introduction, we

meet Dr. John Montague, the head

meet Dr. John Montague, the head

of the ghost-hunting expedition, and

of the ghost-hunting expedition, and

his three companions. One of these

his three companions. One of these

is a mysterious Eleanor, a blonde girl

is a mysterious Eleanor, a blonde girl

identified only as "Theorem," and

identified only as "Theorem," and

Luke Henderson, a wise-crack-

Luke Henderson, a wise-crack-
ing college student whose untimely

ning college student whose untimely

death happens to be the current

death happens to be the current

owner of Hill House. On. Montague

owner of Hill House. On. Montague

is concerned primarily with evoking

is concerned primarily with evoking

the Hill House beauty that goes

the Hill House beauty that goes

beyond the rights of Eleanor to

beyond the rights of Eleanor to

be interested in particularly in Dr.

be interested in particularly in Dr.

Montague. Eleanor is interested

Montague. Eleanor is interested

mainly in her own life. Luke thesis

mainly in her own life. Luke thesis

the whole business is a force, and is

the whole business is a force, and is

interested only in how much mony

interested only in how much mony

she can get for Hill House when

she can get for Hill House when

he inherits the place.

he inherits the place.

As this jolly quartet proceeds on

As this jolly quartet proceeds on

their merry way, we are treated to

their merry way, we are treated to

each brilliant dialogue of

each brilliant dialogue of

That's the vault, as I

That's the vault, as I

must be Eleanor in the vocabular,

must be Eleanor in the vocabular,

and I really must spend my

and I really must spend my

vacation somewhere else next year.'

vacation somewhere else next year.'

We also get to see Theora's

We also get to see Theora's

peel and eat a raw potato during

peel and eat a raw potato during

dinner, for some unexplained reason.

dinner, for some unexplained reason.

The four-partners of the way

The four-partners of the way

tough, you are sure that The

tough, you are sure that The

haunting is trying very hard to

haunting is trying very hard to

make something but is not coming

make something but is not coming

through very clearly. Eleanor is

through very clearly. Eleanor is

critically interested in the material

critically interested in the material

side. It seems more than likely that

side. It seems more than likely that

it is a Liebhjw's completely final

it is a Liebhjw's completely final

further, Dr. Montague's wife shows

further, Dr. Montague's wife shows

up and then disappears. From

up and then disappears. From

here on, anything goes, and the

here on, anything goes, and the

whole story ends in a blaze of

whole story ends in a blaze of

dates and stale gadgets. A spot

dates and stale gadgets. A spot

of someone's bare feet ing up, and

of someone's bare feet ing up, and

the movie ends in a blaze up, and

the movie ends in a blaze up, and

then disappears. From

then disappears. From

here on, anything goes, and the

here on, anything goes, and the

whole story ends in a blaze of

whole story ends in a blaze of

dates and stale gadgets. A spot

dates and stale gadgets. A spot

of someone's bare feet ing up, and

of someone's bare feet ing up, and

and when rotated ninety degrees

and when rotated ninety degrees

then disappears. From

then disappears. From

here on, anything goes, and the

here on, anything goes, and the

whole story ends in a blaze of

whole story ends in a blaze of

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whole story ends in a blaze of

dates and stale gadgets. A spot

dates and stale gadgets. A spot

of someone's bare feet ing up, and

of someone's bare feet ing up, and

Here's our deodorant protection

Here's our deodorant protection

YOU CAN TRUST

YOU CAN TRUST

Old Spice Stick Deodorant...fastest, newest way to all-

Old Spice Stick Deodorant...fastest, newest way to all-
dey, ever day protection. It's the old reliable that

dey, ever day protection. It's the old reliable that

guaranteed by most absolutely dependable. Glides on

guaranteed by most absolutely dependable. Glides on

smoothly, speedily...dries in record time. Old Spice Stick

smoothly, speedily...dries in record time. Old Spice Stick

Deodorant—most convenient, most economical deodorant

Deodorant—most convenient, most economical deodorant

can buy. 1.00 plus tax

can buy. 1.00 plus tax

Old Spice

Old Spice

SHULTON

SHULTON

The Tech, Wednesday, September 25, 1963