



When I read the press advert for "Someone's Knocking at the Door," I thought, "Great. Another torture-porn flick." I am happy to report that I was wrong. "Someone's Knocking at the Door" is a masterfully-woven mix of horror, mystery, and mind trip. What is really happening to these six college friends (Justin, Meg, Annie, Joe, Sebastian, and Ray), and who is doing this to them?"

In 80 minutes we are witness to their journey through sex, drugs (namely Taldon), and a really great soundtrack. The film opens with Ray's, the school's resident drug dealer, very vicious killing. There's no other way to put it; it was brutal, bloody, and terribly unkind. Definitely cringe-worthy. The remaining five are questioned by the authorities to find out just what the lot of them have been up to and who (or what) could have killed Ray. What follows is a weekend of unpleasantness to say the least.

There are instances of plain weirdness (e.g., the funeral scene) and the bizzaro homage to "Blue Velvet." "Someone's Knocking" is reminiscent of "Jacob's Ladder" with its creepy images and sounds. You think you know what's going on, but wait, do you really? Chad Ferrin has a way of keeping you guessing until the very end. That's the right kind of storytelling. His use of cut images and editing truly invokes a sense of being under the influence of a drug without ever actually taking one.

There are few campy scenes and badly-acted moments, but it was an enjoyable film overall. I actually watched it twice to make sure I caught everything, and I realized that Mr. Ferrin left you breadcrumbs along the way. You just had to pick them up.

I thought the use of Linda Vista Community Hospital was a nice touch. For those of you who don't know, Linda Vista is a famously haunted hospital that is no longer in operation in the Los Angeles area.

Good marks for "Someone's Knocking at the Door," and even better marks for the film's villains Ezra Buzzington and Elina Madison. Cree-py.

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