



# House of Psychotic Women: An Autobiographical Topography of Female Neurosis in Horror and Exploitation Films

*Kier-La Janisse*

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## **House of Psychotic Women: An Autobiographical Topography of Female Neurosis in Horror and Exploitation Films** Kier-La Janisse

Cinema is full of neurotic personalities, but few things are more transfixing than a woman losing her mind onscreen. Horror as a genre provides the most welcoming platform for these histrionics: crippling paranoia, desperate loneliness, masochistic death-wishes, dangerous obsessiveness, apocalyptic hysteria. Unlike her male counterpart - 'the eccentric' - the female neurotic lives a shamed existence, making these films those rare places where her destructive emotions get to play. HOUSE OF PSYCHOTIC WOMEN is an examination of these characters through a daringly personal autobiographical lens. Anecdotes and memories interweave with film history, criticism, trivia and confrontational imagery to create a reflective personal history and a celebration of female madness, both onscreen and off. This critically-acclaimed publication is packed with rare images that combine with family photos and artifacts to form a titillating sensory overload, with a filmography that traverses the acclaimed and the obscure in equal measure. Films covered include The Entity, Paranormal Activity, Singapore Sling, 3 Women, Toys Are Not for Children, Repulsion, Let's Scare Jessica to Death, The Haunting of Julia, Secret Ceremony, Cutting Moments, Out of the Blue, Mademoiselle, The Piano Teacher, Possession, Antichrist and hundreds more. Prior to this ebook edition, Kier-La's highly acclaimed book has already been issued twice in hardcover and twice in paperback, garnering extensive press coverage. Endorsement including the following: God, this woman can write, with a voice and intellect that's so new. The truth in the most deadly unique way I've ever read." Ralph Bakshi, director of 'Fritz the Cat', 'Heavy Traffic', 'Lord of the Rings', etc. "Fascinating, engaging and lucidly written: an extraordinary blend of deeply researched academic analysis and revealing memoir." Iain Banks, author of 'The Wasp Factory'

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