

Media Studies - Hollywood Film Don't knock twice (2016)



DIRECTOR Caradog W. James

SCREENWRITERS Mark Huckerby, Nick Ostler

STARRING Katee Sackhoff, Lucy Buynton

PRODUCTION Seymour Films, Red & Black

Films

DISTRIBUTOR IFC Midnight (U.S.)

Signature Films (U.K.)

BUDGET Unknown

BOX OFFICE Unknown at time of writing



REVIEWS/ ARTICLES

Vodzilla – online reviews of VOD products http://vodzilla.co/reviews/raindance-2016-reviews-dont-knock-twice-incarnation-noma-forgiving-apartheid/

Popmatters website

COMPANIES

http://www.popmatters.com/review/dont-knock-twice-caradog-w-james-visual-aesthetic-moral-agenda-dark/

Task-How does the first review contextualise the film in terms of genre?

Task- read the *Popmatters* review. What comments does the reviewer make about *Don't Knock Twice*'s use of media language and how the film positions audiences.

POINTS TO CONSIDER

- The film maker Caradog W. James has a background in creating effective, low budgeted genre films with his previous film *The Machine* (2013)
- The film has a strong, developed female lead, and the plot hinges on female roles, specifically mother/daughter relationships.
- Katee Sackhoff is an American star transplanted to this Welsh production. Aside from her 'tough' persona, she invites recognition from overseas audiences.
- The film is age certified at 15, which allows a broader audience than higher age rated horror films.

TRAILER

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IK-MtPRPbcU

SYNOPSIS

For Jess, life has never been better. A successful American sculptor, she has recently returned to the UK, where she spent much of her troubled youth. Now happily married, wealthy and settled, all that remains to make her life complete is to rebuild her relationship with Chloe, the daughter she was forced to give up nine years ago. So when Chloe agrees to come and live with her, Jess is optimistic that she can make amends and be a good mother once more.

What Jess doesn't know is that Chloe has not come to stay because she wants to get to know her mother again. She has come because she is scared that a supernatural curse has claimed the life of her boyfriend, Danny, and is now coming for her. Chloe and Danny made the mistake of revisiting an abandoned house, once home to 'Ginger', a mysterious old woman said by some to be a witch. Local legend says that if you knock on her door then the vengeful ghost of Ginger will snatch you away to her hellish limbo. (via <code>DenOfGeek</code>)

INTERVIEWS WITH FILM MAKER

Interview with Star

http://www.shockya.com/news/2017/02/04/interview-katee-sackhoff-talks-dont-knock-twice-exclusive/

Task- make notes on Sackhoff's experiences of the low budget film industry.