# The Movies

LOUISE SNIDER

## On the prowl in 'Next Man'

The Next Man (R) is a classy thriller with beautiful people, danger, intrigue, sex and suspense. They're all put together very smartly. Add such typical touches as OPEC deals and Middle East rivalries, and you can enjoy this movie on several levels.

A basic enjoyment is just watching the lions prowl—Sean Connery and Cornelia Sharpe. Sharpe is well named: she has an icy demeanor and striking angular looks. As Nicole Scott, an international jet setter and lethal seductress, she sports terrific clothes on a terrific body, and the movie makes the most of both.

Connery plays Khalil Abdul Muhsen, a Saudi Arabian diplomat whose predecessor was gunned down by an assassin. Two other Mideast bigwigs have also been eliminated. Now, he's the target.

Whether in Arab burnoose or Pierre Cardin suit, Connery is undaunted. He radiates the same cool sensuality and hint of disdain that made him such a perfect James Bond. Here he improves on the performance, fleshing it out with more individual nuances.

As the Saudi minister, he comes to the United States to address the United Nations. He presents a radical new approach to Mideast peace that would defang OPEC and reach an accord with Israel. His fellow Arabs are a little upset with these proposals which make him about as popular as Martin Brandt at an American Legion convention.

Everyone's after his hide, and he's after Nicole's. She's playing hard to get. And don't think this would make him a teensy bit suspicious. After all, he's native royal and wealthy, and he knows how to cook. What more could a girl ask?

He finds out, and the ending is surprisingly sudden.

## 'Carrie' scary, psychic flick

If you like to be startled (and frightened out of your skin), Carrie (R) can do it to you—and more. Carrie has the power of telekinesis, the ability to move objects by psychic energy. (Yuri Geller eat your heart out!)

Sissy Spacek gives a smooth, convincing performance as the title character with the unusual talent. Carrie is a loner, a sensitive, painfully shy high school senior. Eventually, she's driven berserk by the ravings of her fanatical mother and the cruel taunts and tricks of her classmates.

Piper Laurie, who hasn't been seen in movies for many years, overcompensates for her absence by pouring out the juices as Carrie's mother, a religious fanatic. She overacts, but it serves the purpose. An encounter with the mother makes it plain why any daughter would go bonkers.

Carrie discovers her powers by accident. At first, she's content with small stuff: causing a mirror to break and a boy to fall off his bike. Once she gets the hang of it, she exacts a terrifying revenge on all who've humiliated and harassed her.

Director Brian de Palma is just the man to exploit the bizarre opportunities the plot presents. At 24, de Palma already has some notable credits: "Phantom of the Paradise," "Obsession," that demonstrate a flair for mixing terror with romance, horror with satire. An admirer of Hitchcock, he scores heavily in the direction of Grand Guignol.

De Palma is inventive and clever in maximizing the use of camera angles and optical effects to achieve the mood he desires. He can create a dreamy, romantic interlude with the camera circling around a dancing couple or a fiery holocaust with sharp angles, slow motion effects and red tints. At the end, he uses the camera to deliver a shock attack that will leave you with a pounding heart and a pale complexion.

Offbeat entertainment for a dull day.

# GLIMPSES

### NEW RELEASES

**THE ADVENTURES OF A WILDERNESS FAMILY (G).** City dwellers flee civilization and its trappings for rugged pioneer existence. Family fare.

**THE AMAZING DOBERMANS (G).** Five canny canines share star billing with Fred Astaire, James Franciscus and Barbara Eden in fun picture.

**BUGSY MALONE (G).** Gangster musical starring all kid cast. They sing, they dance, they act like toughs and show girls, and their average age is 12. A novel idea some people find amusing.

**CAR WASH (PG).** A day in the life of a car wash with a spirited cast, a disco beat and anal jokes. The large ensemble includes Richard Pryor, the Pointer Sisters and George Carlin.

**THE CLOCKMAKER (PG).** Character study of conscientious father struggling to understand criminal action of his son and remain loyal to him while pressured by police, media and politicians.

**COUSIN, COUSINE (R).** A delightful romantic comedy enacted by a relatively unknown but sparkling cast. The mature lovers conduct their romance against a lively background of family action.

**MARATHON MAN (R).** A spy thriller that overwhelms a terrific cast with a surfeit of blood and violence. Laurence Olivier, Dustin Hoffman, William Devane and Roy Scheider give it their best.

**SHOOT AT THE DEVIL (PG).** Lee Marvin and Roger Moore see action in this movie about a group of swindlers who plot to destroy the most powerful German battleship of World War I.

**SMALL CHANGE (PG).** French director Francois Truffaut celebrates childhood in this uncommonly good movie about children and the special quality of their lives.

**THE SONG REMAINS THE SAME (PG).** Film of the 1973 Led Zeppelin Madison Square Garden concert in stereophonic sound. Includes scenes of bandmembers' antics, fantasies and personal lives.

**TWO-MINUTE WARNING (R).** All the action on!! on the line of scrimmage when a mad sniper starts picking off the crowd at a packed football stadium. Charlton Heston, match, takes command.

### BACK AGAIN

**BURNT OFFERINGS (PG).** Predictable plot as haunted house takes over its tenants. They struggle gamely, but lose.

**LOVE AND DEATH (PG).** Woody Allen and Diane Keaton at their best in historical comedy set in 19th-century Russia. If certain situations seem familiar, congratulations! You read "War and Peace" and recognized the spoof.

### MOVIE RATING GUIDE

G General audiences admitted.
PG Parental guidance suggested. All ages admitted.
R Restricted. Adult must accompany person under 18.
X No one under 18 admitted.

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