

ON THE DOORSTEP OF THE ABSOLUTE - SYNOPSIS

Two couples, Carol Lewis and Alan Milland, and Liz Hussey and Frank Marriott, explore a deserted house at night. They are teenagers and looking to scare each other and themselves.

They find a rotting mannequin in a chair. At least...it isn't a dummy, they find - it is a body. A ridiculously old body which should have decomposed an age ago. Frank pokes the hand with a stick and the hand falls off. It all becomes a creepy laugh until Liz touches the hand and then instantly demands that they return home.

Liz tells the other three that the body was Victor Brackett, a local who died 20 years ago. Then she says that the body was inhabited by the spirit of Henry Bosley, a man who lived in the 1500's, a man who can never die.

Liz says that Liz Hussey is now dead and that she is Henry Bosley. He is responsible for the death of hundreds - anyone he touches dies and is inhabited by Bosley, who retains the dead person's memories, even aspects of their personality, but who, when he moves on to a new body, leaves a dead body behind.

Liz goes missing but the three friends find her and bring her home, convincing Liz that there must be a way to bring her back to mental health.

Their efforts go wrong when Frank can't stay away from Liz, touches her and the girl dies instantly, withering away to a husk.

Carol falls in love with Frank/Henry, while still wondering if he's off his rocker. Alan goes out of his mind with jealousy.

Alan confronts Frank and grabs him. Frank's body decomposes in an instant.

Alan/Henry tells Carol about the multitude of deaths he has caused, the lives he has accidentally taken, the danger he poses to anyone close to him. Carol loves him, however.

Somehow, they manage to live a happy, restricted life. They can never touch, they live together alone, they are separated from the world.

Alan knows that, despite their happiness, he was born to cause pain. Cursed to live on in the dead. An abomination in a dead body even now.

Sixty years go by. Their life has been at once happy, lonely and blighted by physical separation. They both know that some kind of payment is coming due.

Carol becomes terminally ill. In constant pain, great pain, she begs for Alan's kiss. To die from the touch that has been so long denied.

Finally, agonisingly, Alan agrees. They kiss and the body of Alan Milland decomposes before Carol/Henry.

Carol/Henry goes back to the house where the two teenage couples originally found her/him. She/He sits in the old chair and wonders if this will be the last life. Will the curse be lifted when his touch was applied out of love - when the possessed asked for possession?

Or will this go on and on until the end of everything?

END