

Despite its Title, ‘The Strangers’ Actually a Familiar Repeat of Horror Film Conventions


Submitted by [HollywoodChicago.com](http://www.hollywoodchicago.com) [1] on May 30, 2008 - 3:29am

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CHICAGO – Poor Liv Tyler. She’s stuck in a remote vacation home with nothing but the blank-stare acting of Scott Speedman to “save” her. What’s a rock daughter who becomes an actress to do? First, she shouldn’t sign onto yet another version of the couple-in-terror cliché.



“The Strangers” is a scary movie that has been there and done that with a few style points thrown in to distract from the ripoff.

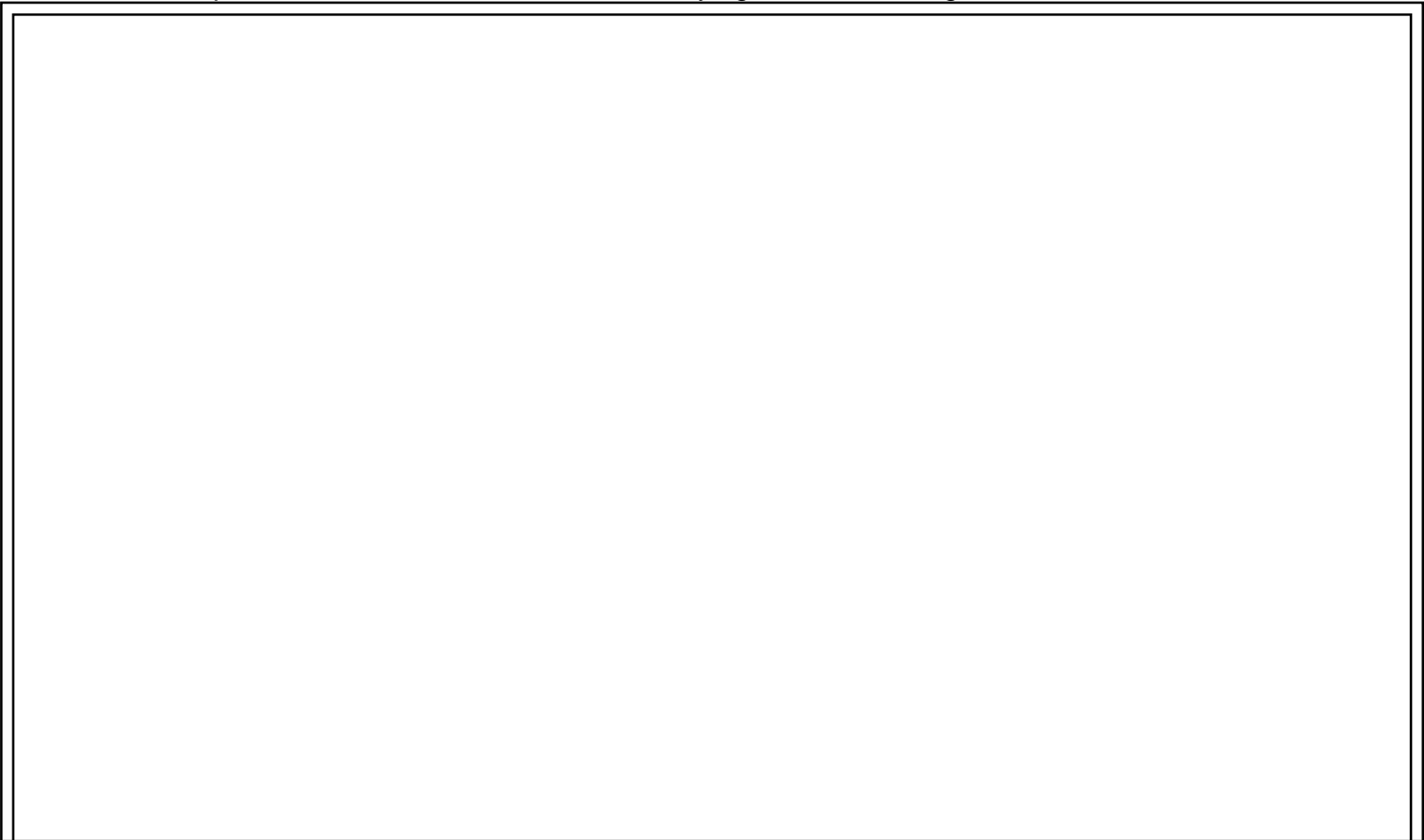
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Tyler is Kristen McKay: a single gal who’s on the precipice of the big engagement. Speedman is James Hoyt. He’s her potential fiancé: a boorish chap who thinks the big rock is a slam dunk.

After they both attend a wedding, Hoyt sets up his uncle’s remote cabin (cue ominous music) to celebrate what he figured would be his betrothal.

Surprisingly, though, Kristen has rejected his promise. For some reason, they’re still completing their depressing journey to the cabin. The heavy and forced atmosphere is interrupted by a mysterious female stranger who asks if someone else lives in the cabin. After they run her off, the house explodes with sounds of a break in. Scary figures are out to get them.





Bryan Bertino in “The Strangers”.
Photo credit: Rogue Pictures



Liv Tyler in “The Strangers”.
Photo credit: Rogue Pictures

★ [Read Patrick McDonald’s full “The Strangers” review.](#) [11]

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