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Home	About Us	Advertise With Us	Legal Crap	Contact Us
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- Film Reviews
- Juke Boxx
- Articles
- Interviews
- Contests
- Grim Tales
- Top 13 Lists
- Blood Donors
- Grim Links
- Search



**Title:** Under the Raven's Wing  
**Directed By:** Susan Adriensen  
**Written By:** Susan Adriensen  
**Starring:** Kimberly Amato, Kamilla Sofie Sadekova, Jessica Palette  
**Release Date:** 2007 (Theatrical)  
 2009 (DVD Release)  
**MPAA Rating:** Not Rated  
**Reviewed By:** Will  
**KillingBoxx Score:** 10 Cleavers  
**Trailer:** [One year ago I met some interesting people, people I wish I never met ...](#)

Sometimes less really is more! *Under the Raven's Wing*

"Transcendence is a gift"

*Under the Raven's Wing* from writer/director Susan Adriensen is a psychological pot boiler insight into the lives of three disturbed young women who are the subject of a documentary film. The tightly bound narrative slowly builds as the viewer is introduced to each of the leads and their story is slowly revealed to uncover mental instability and ultimately murder! Director Adriensen has told the perfect tale for this type of filmmaking. By setting it as a documentary by a young filmmaker it is easily believable even at it weakest points, these points simply are production value issues that become completely overlooked as you find yourself sucked into the proceedings. This film is the result of both competent and pre-meditated craftsmanship specifically designed to cause its viewers to let down their guard unknowingly, allowing the director to lead you right where she wants you to go!



The filmmaker (Coy Deluca) begins by simply introducing the audience to his subjects. Raven (Kimberly Amato) is the spiritual leader of the group. Angel (Kamilla Sofie Sadekova) and Jessie (Jessica Palette) are Raven's followers who all believe in a path which revolves around multiple dimensions. Death is not the end to them but rather a new beginning in another realm. At first it appears that this is just a look at some kooky new age crystal types that may or may not be witches. As the story progresses however the audience learns there has been a murder committed by these young ladies, or as they would have you believe, "transcendence" to a better place. It is at this reveal that you begin to see into the psychological underpinnings of the story and the truly twisted psyches at work.

All of these young women have come from terrible places and have latched on to one another, particularly Raven, as a means to an end in finding relief from the psychological torment of their lives. As the story evolves the viewer begins to learn not only what makes the girls tick but what truly motivates the films director as well. He has his own agenda and this too is brought to light by slowly revealing what his intentions are. Director Adriensen has deftly weaved a tapestry that by its climax has placed you on the edge of you're seat in anticipation of the outcome. You actually find yourself forgetting this isn't a real documentary!

*Under the Raven's Wing* was put together by a filmmaker possessing both the desire and the talent required to tell a tale such as this one. On the surface it appears quite simple, but in reality it is far more than that. The faux documentary approach for many is an easy out when there is a lack of funds available but that was not the case here. In order to deliver a compelling story capable of the suspension of disbelief requires much more forethought as well as hindsight in order to smooth the stories seams. Susan Adriensen was quite clearly in complete control when putting this little time bomb together. She (Adriensen) tells a subtle story with a very fine hand not discernible to the viewer. This is one of those rare independent films that should be used in film schools to represent technique that should be employed in



communicating visually with an audience.

Write this one down and seek it out when it is released, write the directors name down too, and remember that as well, because you will be hearing it again!

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