

## Ep 95: Psychout for Murder 1969

Show notes:

- “Commendatore”
- Romano Scavolini and Joe D’Amato
- Psychout for Murder - Deep Dive
- Up Next...

Psychout for Murder - Full Movie

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZTzFjNxpzXE>

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Matt Wall:

[www.ihatemattwall.com](http://www.ihatemattwall.com)

## Psychout for Murder - 1969 - Deep Dive

Film displayed in 4:3. Doesn't look cropped.

Characters:

Licia & Mario

Giovana & Francesco

Marco Brignoli & Laura

Opening Credits: "Love your neighbor as yourself. Kill them!"

Montage of closeups. Two people having sex. Hand with rings on it.

Ribbon cutting ceremony. Everyone is clapping... even forced to. Marco, Laura, Giovana, Francesco are all at the event. Seems like the film is sped up.

Licia & Mario. Leg shot. Mario mentions that he's poor. Licia doesn't care.

That leather jacket! Matt would be jealous!

The police raid the brothel(?) where Licia & Mario are hanging out. They try to escape, but Mario leads Licia out a back door where a photographer has been tipped off (by Mario?) to take incriminating photos of Licia for the newspaper.

Montage begins. It's a bit difficult to follow, but this will be a recurring device. Cars driving. Photographer fighting with Brignoli's men. Brignoli and the politician driving to the police station. Brignoli driving home.

Newspaper headline: "Daughter of industrialist involved in a scandal"

Brignoli, Laura, and the politician discuss the article. The politician is worried that more newspapers will pick up on the story and their secrets will be revealed. Laura suggests that the family acknowledges the incident and admits that Licia is mentally unstable. Brignoli discusses this with the priest (who is also part of their group) and he agrees that Brignoli should do whatever it takes to rehabilitate his daughter.

Next scene: Licia and Giovana talking separately from Brignoli and Francesco, but it's hard to notice that because without any pause in the discussion, the conversation moves to all 4 of them talking in Brignoli's office. Giovana is opposed to the idea of Licia

going to a mental hospital to de-escalate the scandal. But Francesco and Brignoli overrule.

Licia (after changing into an all black outfit) packs her bag and leaves for Mario's. She wants to run away with him, but he seems to be agreeing with the idea that she should go away. Suddenly Licia sees her father's briefcase and money and knows that Brignoli has paid Mario to give up Licia. Licia has been betrayed by Mario.

Brignoli emerges from his hiding spot. Licia says, let's go, we have an appointment.

Not clear at this point if Brignoli is paying off Mario just because he led Brignoli to Licia after she left. Or does Brignoli know that Mario arranged for the photos?

Licia and Brignoli driving to the asylum. Intercut with shots of Licia locked up at the asylum and getting injections as well as more ribbon cutting ceremonies. Ending with a long hallway.

Giovana drives to visit Licia. Opposite angle of the long hallway. Giovana walking up a long driveway to the building. Giovana in the waiting room. Licia emerges from the far right side of the frame. She's dressed all in white, with her hair pulled back. She looks much younger and more innocent. She accepts the flowers, but is sad. Giovana says she'll be back to visit again and they'll go on a trip.

Giovana makes love to Francesco, but is distracted by her grief about her sister. She's worried that something bad might happen to them too. She wishes she had the courage to "react" in other words, leave the family and the money.

Licia returns, but there is no one there to greet her. Another long hallway. Music starts. Another montage with Licia walking and destroying flowers. Then running laps around the pool.

Meanwhile the rest of the family is back in the living room (is this the same room that was empty when Licia arrived? With the piano?). Giovana refuses a drink. Everyone is quiet. Licia enters, shot out of a cannon. She greets everyone. Kisses Francesco and tells him that he should have come to visit her because the asylum was full of whores. She escorts them into the dining room and serves dinner.

**Licia's first prank.** She eyes the large cooking fork and threatening music starts to play. Is she going to stab someone? No, she jams it in the electrical outlet and shorts out the lights. While they wait for Pietro to turn the lights back on they hear Licia's voice

echoing through the room. They decide to investigate. The lights come back on. The hallway is littered with wind up toys. Licia's voice is heard again. They return to the dining room to find Licia sitting at the table eating.

The next day Licia flirts with Francesco over breakfast.

**Licia's second prank.** She hides a tape recorder under Brignoli's desk and records his phone calls. (Odd time skip here with the red marker and the horns on the photo). Licia listens to the phone call with the psych doctor. He tells Brignoli that Licia should have resisted her confinement but she didn't and that deep down she feels violated. She needs to have a lot of love and affection in order to integrate back into the family. Licia tears up her father's papers and turns on a fan to blow them all around.

Then she finds a gun. Again, we are led to think that she's going to kill someone, but (for now, at least) she just plays with it, like a child.

Brignoli, reading the paper and not noticing Licia in his office, walks to his car. Licia asks for a ride after putting the gun in her purse. Brignoli goes to open the gate and Licia puts the car in gear. The car almost crashes into him but Licia stops it and pretends to be scared.

In town, no one wants to talk to Licia. Her friends all think she's crazy now. She cries.

Mario arrives at his home. (does he wave to the camera?) Licia is there with the gun. She threatens him with the gun and tells him to do what she tells him to.

Brignoli gets gas (why?) "Commendatore" and drives to Laura's house. Mario is hiding outside with a tape recorder. Laura has poured Brignoli a Johnny Red. They are having an affair. Laura shows Brig plans for a motorway and her husband will be the deciding vote if he is elected to be the minister. They decide to have Brig buy up all the land on the proposed motorway map in order to sell it after the motorway has been approved.

Strange montage. Licia in the bathtub and bed. Dolls on the floor. Record playing File folders.

**Licia's third prank.** Licia rigs some fishing line between the 2 bedrooms and a mirror in Francesco's room. To be used later.

Out by the pool. Birds on a rotisserie. Giovana and Francesco laying by the pool. Licia comes out and sits to paint her toes. G and F decided to go in the pool.

**Licia's fourth prank.** Licia unplugs the rotisserie grill and dumps it in the water shocking them. WTF?

Next scene, we've seen before. The factory. Brignoli and his assistant (Paterlini?) are discussing the opening of a leisure center and how the dedication will be a publicity event for the minister. This is told in many quick cuts showing the 2 in various locations having one continuous conversation. They finally stop in Brig's office. Brig tells his helper to buy up all the land but to leave Brig's name out of it. They joke that women can't negotiate.

G and F talk about the factory. G asks F if he married her for the company. F stands at the mirror. Licia pulls the wire to open her door and reveal her laying on the bed naked. When he turns back to look again, the door is closed.

Brig and the minister(?) argue (about what?). Laura comes in. The event is about to begin. (Is this the same minister who is trying to get elected and married to Laura?)

The event begins. Crowd runs in. Band starts to play. Hippies dancing. A wild montage. Licia dancing with Francesco. Licia dancing with Paterlini. It's a scene, man!

**Licia's fifth prank.** The family, plus Paterlini and the priest are about to watch a film made by the workers about the pilgrimage to Lourdes. Suddenly the film changes to Brig and Laura making out. Giovana starts laughing. The priest is mortified. The phone starts ringing.

Brig answers the phone. It's Mario who takes responsibility for the film (while sketching a church and a face). Mario doesn't want money this time. He wants to marry Licia. He tells Brig to meet him at 6 on Wednesday. Brig is wounded.

Giovana puts on face cream and drinks. She walks to the balcony and drops her drink. Francesco arrives. She tells F that she is alone. That everyone is only interested in her money. She's starting to go crazy. Licia leaves a record playing loudly.

**Licia's sixth prank.** Licia throws stones up to F and G's window. F goes to the window to see. Licia takes off her clothes while F watches. F goes down the stairs to the pool, but Licia is gone. Giovana notices.

Montage, Licia in town with pink glasses and a white see-through sweater. Cut with various scenes of her with Francesco. Licia tries on clothes.

Licia in a car with Paterlini. He admits that he's a playboy. Licia asks to be driven to Brig's chalet. They arrive and Licia seduces him. (What's with the pom pom top?) They start making out but Mario is there. It's a setup. They blackmail him to admit what's happening with the land purchase.

Montage: Licia, Mario and friends painting signs.

"Paterlini straw man who is behind him?"

"Paterlini works for Brignoli. Brignoli, who do you work for?"

Laura tells Brig that her husband didn't make it. After the bad press (the signs?) the government can't keep him. Brig insists they will be fine. Laura is convinced that they are finished. Laura wants to know who's behind all the resistance. Brig says he doesn't know and doesn't want to.

Licia and Brig discuss marriage to Mario. Brig thinks he will make a good son-in-law. Laura joins them and starts to accuse her father of being a blood sucker for the family fortune. She tells Licia that she should leave. That the family is already dead.

Licia and Mario in bed. We finally see Licia's boobs!

"It's the first time since I came home. And the last time was with you" (??)

**Licia's final prank.** After sex Licia pours champagne, but puts a pill in Mario's drink. After it dissolves she gives it to him and he drinks it down. Then he passes out within 30 seconds. Licia turns on a record. It's an instrumental version of Love Potion #9. She rigs the gun with a fishing line to the door handle and leaves.

(There's been a lot of camera angles through the decorative wall in Mario's house. Is this foreshadowing for the gun?)

Brig arrives to tell Mario that it's all good. He opens the door and Mario is shot in the head. Killing him. Brig takes the gun.

Francesco outside at night. Licia coaxes him into her room. Giovanna pretending to be asleep. Francesco forces himself on Licia. Giovanna tries to open the door to catch them but it won't open. She tries the other door and catches them. She runs to the balcony and jumps off.

Brig talking to someone about the arrangements. Looks like dawn outside.

Francesco walking around the factory?

Francesco leaving.

Voiceover of Mario talking to Brig about the film. Brig wakes up to hear it. Thinks he's going crazy. More hallways. He finds the recorder playing the conversation and turns it off. But Licia has another recorder outside and starts playing it. Brig runs outside and slaps Licia. Notice the servant's reaction!

Licia confesses that she is behind everything and that she has the gun that could convict her father of killing Mario. She wants everything to go on as normal with Brig constantly under the threat that she'll go to the police. Ultimately, all she wanted was her father's love and this is the only way to get it... by eliminating everything else in his life.

Final scene: Brig and Licia having dinner. They look at each other and don't speak. The servant brings the cheese plate. Licia puts the entire block on her plate and smiles. Camera zooms out. Fade to black. Love your neighbor as yourself. Kill them.

