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"Devi," made by the renowned Indian director Satyajit Ray. He has deserted his poetic chronicle form for a more artificial story of a young Indian bride who is elevated through her father-in-law's pious vision into an incarnation of the goddess Kali. The simple people of the community sit and pray at her feet, and a miraculous cure of a child takes place. The bemused child-bride becomes convinced that she has a divine spark, but not so her rationally minded husband, who, in the attempt to restore her to a more earthly outlook, only weakens and finally destroys her mind. While the film can't help but charm by its exoticism, it is also painfully slow and all too predictable. It does not represent Satyajit Ray at his best.

—HOLLIS ALPERT.

"DEVI" STARS SARMILA TAGORE

... *Satyajit Ray film from India*



Child watches while villagers pay homage to "Devi," a woman believed to be a goddess in Satyajit Ray's official Indian entry in San Francisco International Film Festival.