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Accident

Great Britain 1966

Director: Joseph Losey

Production Company: Losey-Norman Priggen
Production

Producer: Joseph Losey

Screenplay: Harold Pinter, based on Nicholas
Mosley's book

Cinematography: Gerry Fisher

Editor: Reginald Beck

Sound: Simon Kaye, Gerry Humphreys

Principal Cast: Dirk Bogarde, Stanley Baker,
Jacqueline Sassard, Michael York, Vivien Merchant
105 minutes

Screenwriter Harold Pinter has held a mirror to what has become a very ordinary dilemma. It's the old story of the restless man in his 40's — that dangerous period when a terror of aging results in the desperate pursuit of younger women. Dirk Bogarde and the late Stanley Baker recreate Pinter's exacting slice of life as two Oxford dons whose becalmed academic world is suddenly thrown out of kilter by a supposed Austrian princess, played by a coltish miniature of Sophia Loren — Jacqueline Sassard. Joseph Losey's direction is so polished it tends to detract from the emotional impact of this superb British film. But it remains as mentally stimulating as a chess match as Losey moves his actors around typically lush English lawns with the precision of a grand master.

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