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This film (closely followed by Love) is probably Garbo's finest early achievement, as well as being one of Clarence Brown's masterworks. A passionate story of two friends drawn to the same woman (the smouldering love scenes are now part of MGM's history), it has the rich visual surface common to Daniels' work at this time, rising to delirious heights in the cloistered interiors, the duel and icy river episodes and in the famous love scene with the match. The cat-and-mouse intrigues involving her two lovers, John Gilbert and Lars Hanson, have their share of ironies. USA 1926/Dir Clarence Brown, With Barbara Kent.

Wed 3 Sep 8.45/ Sun 7 Sep 6.30

Flesh and the Devil

