

Document Citation

Title	The tired death
Author(s)	
Source	<i>Publisher name not available</i>
Date	1921 Nov 18
Type	review
Language	English
Pagination	
No. of Pages	1
Subjects	
Film Subjects	Der müde tod (Destiny), Lang, Fritz, 1921

"The Tired Death," which followed "Christine," is considerably better film stuff. The scenario, by Fritz Lang, also the director, is called a German folk song and has somewhat the quality of "The Blue Bird." A young wife loses her husband on the marriage night and goes to Death to ask him back. Death tells her that it is impossible, but promises his return if she can save from death the life of one of three different persons who are about to die. She tries, first in Arabia, then in Renaissance Italy and finally in China, and fails each time. Then Death gives her one final chance, to bring him the life of another human being in exchange for her lover. All people refuse her request, but, rushing into a burning house, she is saving a baby left there, when Death stands before her. Here is her chance to win her lover back. But at this cost she cannot take him and, throwing the child to safety, she awaits in the burning cottage reunion through death.

Lil Dagover as the wife is decorative enough and Bernhard Goetzke as Death combines the sinister with the sympathetic. Fritz Lang's direction achieved some fine moments, but he seems to lack a final feeling for style, the whole being a bit confused.

11-18-21