

# The Devil's In The Details

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This weekend M. Night Shamalan's new movie *Devil* is premiering. The basic premise is that a group of people become trapped in an elevator. However, over time, they realize that one of those present is actually the Devil himself.

The fallen angel has had increased popularity lately in television and film. So, as we await the next entry into the long list of popular culture works featuring the Devil, let's look at five well-known movies that feature him.

*The Omen* (1976): Children have long been equated to being creepy and evil in numerous films, but this one plays up the belief with good reason. Damien is such a sweet little boy. Too bad he's the Antichrist. He definitely lives up to the role, too, as we see during his torment of his adoptive family.

*The Witches of Eastwick* (1987): Jack Nicholson as the Devil? Yes, please! He's a smooth operator who loves and teaches three witches-in-training. But if you play with fire, you're bound to get burned. Except, this time, dear old Jack is the one that possibly loses out. Oh well, he's still devilishly-good.

*Needful Things* (1991): He will sell you most valuable possessions, but the payment may be a little too much. Stephen King's novel came to the screen in 1991 with Max von Sydow playing the esteemed role. The Devil seeks to bring torment to a small town, but in the end he will live on. Immortality has its perks.

*Constantine* (2005): In a world of half-angels and half-demons, Lucifer (Peter Stormare) seems well-placed. This is a very involved movie that plays heavily into religious mythologies and the roles of angels and demons between Heaven and Hell. What many remember when first seeing this version of Lucifer is his clothes, as he has a keen sense of fashion. His white on white outfit was even paid homage in the *Supernatural* episode "The End."

*Ghost Rider* (2007): Peter Fonda took his turn as Mephistopheles, a Devil-like character, in this 2007 comic-based film. He makes deals and then he calls in the loan when he needs you. Johnny Blaze (Nicholas Cage) lost out when trying to buy more time for his dying father. Except, years later when it was time to pay in, his reluctant acceptance of the job tuned into an empowerment. In the end, the Devil got his due and the Ghost Rider lived to ride again.

So, take a turn with the Devil in a few favorite flicks. You never know, you might like the result.

Photo Credit: Warner Brothers Pictures