

The Temp becomes latest in series of cheap thrillers

Movie marred by a derivative plot

By Gerri Pare
Catholic News Service

NEW YORK — Adding to the spate of cheap thrillers about the baby sitter from hell (*The Hand that Rocks the Cradle*), the cop from hell (*Unlawful Entry*) and the neighbor from hell (*Consenting Adults*) comes the secretary from hell, in *The Temp*.

The action in the Paramount release appropriately takes place at a cookie company since the derivative plot is straight out of the cookie cutter.

Madly overacting is Lara Flynn Boyle in the title role as the temp ravenous to kill her way to the top. Not

to be outdone in the scenery-chewing department is Faye Dunaway as the company's hysteria-prone top banana, while Timothy Hutton stumbles around between them trying to get a promotion, get back with his wife, get cleared of industrial espionage and eventually just get out alive.

Filmed at what looks like a furious pace and with more twists than in a pretzel factory, director Tom Holland's all-too-obvious thriller seems to be looking for just a temporary position at the box-office.

Because of some stylized violence, sexual innuendo and rough language, the U.S. Catholic Conference classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted.



Matthew Reistman-Paramount Pictures
Peter Dinklage (Timothy Hutton) becomes suspicious that his temporary secretary Kris Bolin (Lara Flynn Boyle) is using devious methods to further her career in *The Temp*, a contemporary thriller of the corporate jungle.

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