

## Ryder's newest: loss of pride more than of souls

**Lisa McChristian**  
Editor in Chief

"Lost Souls" is appropriately titled, because anyone with strong enough constitution to sit through this horrendous error of a film will be in great risk of losing their soul along with their sanity.

Maya Larkin (Winona Ryder) is an exorcism poster girl who, now purged of her demons, must save the world from theirs. Her new project is real-crime novelist Peter Kelson (Ben Chaplin), who doesn't believe in evil. But Maya believes Kelson fits the profile for the perfect vessel for Satan. He was born of incest and wasn't baptized. Maya

sympathy and are as vacant as a college party after a police bust. Chaplin does not change his facial expression for the entire film. If Satan is as powerful as the Bible



Maya Larkin (Winona Ryder) faces a murderer possessed by Satan in "Lost Souls." photo © New Line Cinema

says, there is no chance he would pick the dumbest man in the world to be his host on Earth.

What in the name of all that's holy happened to Ryder's career? Looks like she spent all her money getting "Girl Interrupted" made and now is signing on to any piece of trash thrown at her to turn a profit. "Lost Souls," coupled with the romantic nightmare "Autumn in New York," makes for two strikes against Ryder. One more bomb and she can kiss the gifted actress ballgame goodbye.

This film was doomed from the beginning. Meg Ryan was origi-

nally signed to play the chain-smoking heroine in 1997, but backed out to do "City of Angels." Ryder filled her spot, Chaplin grabbed the role of Satan's body-to-be and Janusz

Kaminski (cinematographer of "Schindler's List" and "Saving Private Ryan") decided to make this film his directorial debut. "Lost Souls" was all set for a fall 1999 release, then the studio yanked the abomination when "Sixth Sense," "Stir of Echoes," "End of Days" and "Stigmata" were released. The movie hit another speed bump when its January release was delayed because of the "Scream 3" opening. During the stall, "Sixth Sense" editor Andrew Mondshein was hired to make the film scarier.

Dialogue consists of such riveting phrases like "Thanks bro" and "The time of transformation is near." The only decent films cells can be seen on the 30-second television trailers. "Lost Souls" is not scary, it is not suspenseful and it is not a movie. It is a repulsive \$35 million ego trip for its creator and cast.

-ROUGH RYDER-	
A comparison of Winona's last three films	
Film	Opening Gross
<i>Girl, Interrupted</i>	\$9.32 m
<i>Autumn in New York</i>	\$10.99 m
<i>Lost Souls</i>	\$ 7.95 m

and Peter fight the Dark Lord by walking through houses with bad lighting and drinking twenty pots of coffee.

These characters invoke no

## Shyne debut reminiscent of Biggie, lacks originality

**Brad Pinkerton**  
Contributing Reporter

After months of delays, the self-titled debut album from Bad Boy rapper Shyne finally hit the shelves.

Much anticipation has built around the release of the Brooklyn-born rapper's CD due to the remarkable likeness of his voice to that of Bad Boy artist, and perhaps the most prolific rapper of all time, the late Christopher Wallace, a.k.a. Notorious B.I.G.

"Shyne" features 16 hard-hitting tracks, including an introduction titled "Dear America" and two interludes. Shyne's rough-edged lyrics in "Bang" and "That's Gangsta" bring to life the harsh realities of the street on which

Shyne, given name Jamal Barrow, grew up.

Like rappers of present and past, Shyne's songs offer an unapologetic view of urban life, describing the drug scene and murder as a way of life.

Although his deep, coarse voice sounds monotonous at times, Shyne's innovative beats, like the ones found on the track "What You Gonna Do," mixed with a variety of guest artists provide diversity where the album lacks originality.

Shyne gets the help of Bad Boy R&B artists Carl Thomas and 112 to somewhat soften his hard, streetwise anthems and Jamaican artist Barrington Levy adds a reggae flavor to the first single released off the album, "Bad Boyz."

Overall, "Shyne" is rhythmically and lyrically diverse, how-

ever, the "song of the streets" has been heard before.

The stories of drug dealing and homicide are clichés of hip-hop and Shyne does nothing to break the mold with his album.

Fans of the Notorious B.I.G. will appreciate Shyne's freshman release without mistaking it as a rip-off of Biggie.

However, those looking for an artist with a unique style, ready to take hip-hop in a new direction should pass on "Shyne."

*"The Mole" has packed its bag and gone to the College Music Journal Convention in New York City this week. Look for more details when "Dirt From the Underground" returns on Nov. 2.*

## The List

### On Tour

Oct. 19: The Elements of Hip-Hop, Cat's Cradle, Carrboro

Oct. 20: Athenaeum, 5 Points Pub, Raleigh

Oct. 20: 38 Special, NC State Fair, Raleigh

Oct. 20: The Samples, Ziggy's, Winston-Salem

Oct. 20: The Push Stars, Room Four, Chapel Hill

Oct. 21: Victoria Williams, The Art Center, Carrboro

Oct. 21: Soulfly w/ Slaves on Dope, The Ritz, Raleigh

Oct. 21: Superdrag, The Brewery, Raleigh

Oct. 21: Jucifer, Track 13, Greensboro

Oct. 22: Emmylou Harris, The Ritz, Raleigh

Oct. 23: Alice Cooper, War Memorial Auditorium, Greensboro

Oct. 23: Death Cab for Cutie, Go! Rehearsal Hall, Carrboro

Oct. 23: Blues Traveler, Cat's Cradle

Oct. 24: Jimmy Eat World, Cat's Cradle

Oct. 26: J Mascis and the Fog, Cat's Cradle, Carrboro

Oct. 27: Barenaked Ladies and Guster, Dean. E. Smith Center, Chapel Hill

Oct. 27: Indigo Girls, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem

### On Stage

Oct. 19: Elon College Chamber Orchestra, conducted by David Bragg Whitley Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

Oct. 31: Sigma Tau Delta Lecture, Paul Wilkes, author of "Beyond the Walls" and other books on contemporary spirituality. Whitley Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

Nov. 1: Joe Clark, "Laying Down the Law." Whitley Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

### On Screen

West End Cinema  
(538-9900)

- Meet the Parents
- Get Carter
- Contender
- Urban Legends: Final Cut
- Remember the Titans
- Digimon
- Almost Famous
- The Exorcist
- Dr. T and the Women
- Bait
- Lost Souls
- What Lies Beneath
- Ladies Man
- Bring it On

### On Disc

Music Releases: 10/17  
www.billboard.com

- Limp Bizkit  
"Chocolate Starfish and the Hot Dog Flavored Water"
- Everlast  
"Eat at Whitey's"
- Squirrel Nut Zippers  
"Bedlam Ballroom"
- Violent Femmes  
"Hallowed Ground"
- Faith No More  
"Introduce Yourself"
- Talib Kweli/ Hi Tek  
"Reflection Eternal"