



is hearing about a car detailing house that even sprayed the cars they fixed with new car scent. I always thought that most new cars smell horrible, but there are people who seem to like the miasma of a new car. It strikes me that car detailing is not the only place where the amateur would want to give things a professional look. Anyway, I told him that he had nothing to worry about....

THE MT VOID

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"Don't worry. You won't run into him again. He got to me and I got to him first. Luckily someone else got the rap. That's because I knew how and now ... you can too. Or at least you can if

I get my latest soon-to-be-published book C\_r\_i\_m\_e\_w\_i\_t\_h\_t\_h\_e\_P\_r\_o\_f\_e\_s\_s\_i\_o\_n\_a\_l\_T\_o\_u\_c\_h. Would you like to know how to make your common

everyday crimes look like they are the work of professionals? Haven't you ever seen a film where the police are investigating a crime and they say with admiration "This looks like the work of professionals." Haven't you asked yourself what is so special about the way professionals kill and steal. Now you can commit crimes with the same great style as the pros.

Is your neighbor's daughter going to get the cheerleading spot you want for your daughter? Killing is the obvious answer. But if you do it wrong you could end up being the laughing stock of the nation. (And I do mean "end up.") Do you know what it takes to make it look like a genuine gangland slaying? Read C\_r\_i\_m\_e\_w\_i\_t\_h\_t\_h\_e\_P\_r\_o\_f\_e\_s\_s\_i\_o\_n\_a\_l\_T\_o\_u\_c\_h. Learn the 73 tip-offs that scream at police

that a crime was done by an incompetent amateur. Make just one of these 73 mistakes and the police will know they are looking for a klutz. Learn 14 clues that have been tested and proved to scare the bejeezus out of the police. And once they know that, how long before they know that klutz is you? Learn how to make the crime look like a Mafia kill. Be fascinated by how to make it look like it was Middle Eastern Terrorists. Or, if you have a taste for the exotic, how about making it look like the crime was committed by dacoits? You will learn not just murder, but robbery, numbers running, even prostitution. You know the Mafia can do it and get away scot-free (cause who wants to tangle with them) and now you can make your crimes look like they did it. And don't miss the offer in the back of the book. For \$5,000,000 (or best offer) and

one proof of purchase seal from the back of the dust jacket. I will tell you the secret code word that the IRA uses to identify its crimes to the police. Man, \_ n \_ o \_ b \_ o \_ d \_ y messes with the IRA. In today's economy, can you afford to be without \_ C \_ r \_ i \_ m \_ e \_ w \_ i \_ t \_ h \_ t \_ h \_ e \_ P \_ r \_ o \_ f \_ e \_ s \_ s \_ i \_ o \_ n \_ a \_ l \_ T \_ o \_ u \_ c \_ h?

3. Readers who receive hard-copies of the MT VOID may have noticed that the past few week's issues have been late. Two issues were delayed because of our vacation, and one because of the changes in printing here. (The printer used to be right near my office; now I have to go further to pick up the output and can't always make the mail pick-up on time.) The net result of all this is a delay in getting the copies out. Readers who would prefer a more timely copy can switch to electronic delivery by contacting me at ecl@mtgzy.att.com. (Note that you can always print out the electronic copy at your end if you want.) [-ecl]

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SCHOOL TIES  
A film review by Mark R. Leeper  
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Capsule review: In 1955 an elite New England prep school recruits a ringer quarterback who happens to be a Jew. When the secret that he is a Jew leaks out, we get a view of the "old boy" system and the bigotry beneath the surface. Rating: low +2 [-4 to +4].

In 1955 St. Matthews is an extremely elite private prep school in New England. Graduate from St. Matthews and you are practically assured that you will make it into an Ivy League college and go on to a distinguished or at least comfortable career. One of the students sums up the philosophy of life at St. Matthews: "We do the things they tell us to and they give us the good life." But there

is something that St. Matthews finds most distressing. For three years straight they have lost the big football game to their rival school and the alumni are tired of it. So the school has broken the code. They have let the coach recruit a ringer, a great high school quarterback as well as an excellent scholar even if the boy is, unfortunately, a Jew. But David Greene (played by Brendan Fraser) has been cautioned by his father and his new coach to let his religion remain his little secret.

Where D\_e\_a\_d\_P\_o\_e\_t\_s\_S\_o\_c\_i\_e\_t\_y is about the pressures of posh prep schools and the wondrous joy of learning English literature, S\_c\_h\_o\_o\_l\_T\_i\_e\_s is about the pressures and the dark underside of blooming bigotry and the old boy system for preserving class barriers. It is dark in tone, dark in photography, and a much more real film than is D\_e\_a\_d\_P\_o\_e\_t\_s\_S\_o\_c\_i\_e\_t\_y. Greene has been given mixed signals by his father (played by Ed Lauter, cast very counter to type). His father has told him to fit in, but also to maintain his religious traditions. At first, there is little anti-Semitism: a comment here, a joke there. Greene turns out to be a great student and a superb athlete and just the kind of guy that everyone wants to be friends with, including the visiting girls. It is, in fact, a fault of Dick Wolf's or Darryl Ponicsan's script that Greene is just a little too good to be believed. But when tensions do arise through no fault of Greene's and the secret of his religion is revealed, his classmates show their cliquishness and religious bigotry.

Music was provided by Maurice Jarre (and, yes, there is a brief scene of a train). Jarre's score is a bit more somber than his D\_e\_a\_d\_P\_o\_e\_t\_s\_S\_o\_c\_i\_e\_t\_y score. Similarly, the camerawork is also somber and casts a grayish tinge through the film. Photography is by Freddie Francis--perhaps the greatest cinematographic stylist alive. His style lets him down only during the football scenes where he uses

clicked slow motion and repeated motion. The film is directed by Robert Mandel.

Minors flaws in the script--including the Jewish boy being just a bit too perfect and also an unsatisfying climactic scene--rob what could have been a great film, but still leave a very good film. I rate S\_c\_h\_o\_o\_l\_T\_i\_e\_s a low +2 on the -4 to +4 scale.

