



RAPPACCINI'S DAUGHTER

[SHORT-STORY]

AUX FRONTIERES DE L'RREEL (RADIO SOTTENS)

[Jeudi—

February 8, 1968

"La Fille du docteur Rappaccini"

SCRIPT: Robert Schmid.

THE REGIMENTED DEAD

[RADIO-SCRIPT]

"The Legion of the Dead," a piece of "message horror," was presented to acclaim on Armistice Day in 1938 on Chicago's *Lights Out* series, but it was, in fact, not originally written for *Lights Out*. It had already been performed on the air several years earlier in conjunction with a series of previously unpublished world war pictures that were being run in the Hearst newspapers. Written by W. J. Parker and Ken Robinson of the *Chicago American*, it was first broadcast on Chicago station KYW on January 12, 1934 (two weeks before *Lights Out* premiered on WENR) under the title "Regimented Dead." A publicity release described it as follows: "What do fallen heroes talk of, and do, in the hereafter?... The story is based on the idea that the legion of the dead, recruited from fallen fighters of all nations, must keep on marching—although dead—until there is peace on earth. It is a touching epic of the wars that man fights—and of their consequences." KYW subsequently repeated the broadcast the following Thursday (January 18), and the script was apparently made available across the country. In my files I have an announcement from the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* (also a Hearst paper) that lists no less than seven stations in Washington state doing their own enactments of the script—all of them on Friday, January 26. Retitled "The Legion of the Dead" (and credited only to Ken Robinson), it was revived for *Lights Out* in observance of Armistice Day.]

[CHRONOLOGY]

(KYW, SAN FRANCISCO)

[

January 12, 1934

"Regimented Dead"

(WSYR, SYRACUSE)

[Monday—10:00-10:30 PM]

December 10, 1934

"Regimented Dead"

[SYRACUSE HERALD: "...American Legion..."]

LIGHTS OUT (WMAQ, CHICAGO—NBC-RED)

[Wednesday—11:30 PM-12:00 MIDNIGHT]

November 9, 1938

“The Legion of the Dead”

[“...This Armistice Day drama is based upon the horror of war and upon the grief that follows the rumble of cannons...”]

SCRIPT: Ken Robinson.

CAST: Willard Farnum (The Boy), Bob Griffin (The Captain), Arthur Kohl (The German), Phil Lord (The Sergeant), Mercedes McCambridge (The Nurse).

NOVEMBER 11, 1938:

[Miami Herald]

“Even the spooky **Lights Out** program Wednesday night dealt with the Armistice. The weird program, coming over the air well past midnight, was a nightmare of the Legion of the Dead, marching on into eternity. The lost souls described how each had died in battle, decided that they had died in vain. Horrifying as these programs try to be, at least this one attempted to drive home a moral.”

RECORDINGS RECOVERED FROM THE HOUSE OF LEAVES

[NOVEL]

“A Fiction Factory production for BBC Radio 4.”

FRIDAY PLAY (RADIO 4, LONDON—BBC)

[Friday—9:00-9:58 PM]

October 28, 2011

“Recordings Recovered from the House of Leaves”

[BBC RADIO 4: “...‘The Navidson Record now stands as part of this country’s cultural experience and yet, in spite of the fact that hundreds of thousands of people have seen it, the film continues to remain an enigma. Some insist it must be true, others believe it is a trick on a par with the Orson Welles radio romp *The War of the Worlds*. Many more have never even heard of it.’ With these words Zampano preludes the excerpts from an extraordinary film, cut together by Will Navidson from cameras located within his house and those he took with him into the labyrinth that had sprung up there over the course of a few days. According to the Navidson record, it was when the family returned to the house from a trip to Seattle that they first discovered the additional door and the space behind it. Will Navidson, celebrated adventure photographer, was intrigued, his partner Karen insisted that the door be permanently locked. But one night after a row, Navidson opened the door and went in. He found rooms beyond rooms, all windowless, all unlit, and only narrowly escaped becoming lost forever in the labyrinth. Not long afterwards the spiral staircase appeared, corkscrewing downwards to a dark infinity. So Navidson equipped his brother Tom and others for an expedition, as if they were embarking on a quest into some architectural jungle. The cameras rolled and they descended, and here’s the audio. *House of Leaves* is the remarkable cult novel by Mark Z. Danielewsky, a labyrinth of its own kin with its multiple interwoven narratives and textual tricks. This dramatic piece re-imagines the terrifying heart of the story...”]

SCRIPT: Mike Walker (adapted from the novel *House of Leaves* by Mark Z. Danielewsky).

PERSONNEL: John Taylor (producer-director).

CAST: Eleanor Blaney (Daisy), William Hope (Will Navidson), Jeff Mash (Jed Leeder), Martin McDougall (Tom Navidson), Vinta Morgan (Reston), Jim Norton (Zampano), Richard Ridings (Holloway), Debora Weston (Karen).



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