

Out of sight, out of mind

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Sadistic conmen typically aren't in the habit of fighting over dolls, but when the doll happens to be filled with drugs and its unsuspecting owner is blind, what sounds like a farcical situation soon becomes a horrifying plot in a local theatre's new production of Wait Until Dark.

Written by Frederick Knott, the play centres around Susy Hendrix, a young blind housewife who unwittingly becomes embroiled in the machinations of a crew of drug traffickers, after her husband brings home a doll that may hold contraband.

Working out a highly involved plot, the crooks lure the husband away and are ready for a fairly easy task, as the only companion Susy has left is a little girl who lives in the flat above.

The crooks tell the blind woman a frightening story involving her husband's supposed infidelity and other complications. She, however, becomes suspicious, using her ears to make up for what she lacks in her eyes.

What follows is an suspenseful battle of wits between the blind woman and her sadistic tormentors. In a terrifying climax, she makes use of the fact that in the dark the blind have an actual advantage over those who can normally see. The classic suspense thriller that was made into a major Hollywood movie starring Audrey Hepburn, is now returning to the stage courtesy of the Shinfield Players.

** Wait Until Dark runs at the Shinfield Players Theatre until Saturday, March 12, 7.45pm. Tickets £7. Contact: 0118 926 7135.