T7175 TRAPS (AUSTRALIA, 1994)

Credits: director, Pauline Chan; writers, Pauline Chan, Robert Carter; book, (Dreamhouse) Kate Grenville.

Cast: Saskia Reeves, Robert Reynolds, Sami Frey, Jacqueline McKenzie.

Summary: Melodrama set in French Indochina in 1950. Australian journalist Michael Duffield (Reynolds) is assigned to write a favorable piece about life on a French-owned rubber plantation. Michael and his wife (Reeves) arrive at the plantation run by Daniel (Frey) and his intense teenage daughter Viola (McKenzie) and discover the local population to be sullen and fearful with Viet Minh activity on the rise. Viola, who has grown up in Vietnam, is a woman without a country. Her attraction to a Vietnamese houseboy leads to the capture of the women by the Communists.

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Bertrand, Ina. “Traps” in Viet Nam war films II (edited by Jean-Jacques Malo and Tony Williams) [GB]
Gilbert, Matthew. “‘Traps’ falls victim to its contrivances” Boston globe (Dec 15, 1995), p. 69.
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