

EXCEPTION FORM

Date 9 Nov 62
 Title Whatever happened to Baby Jane
 Submitted by Warner Pathé
 Proposed category X

Reel 4. Remove shot of dead rat on BLANCHE'S plate and reduce her consequent anguish and hysteria, and Jane's maniacal laughter.

Reel 5. When JANE beats Blanche ^{she} must not kick her more than once.

Reel 6. In scene in which ELVIRA sees Blanche tied up in bed reduce shots of Blanche and her writhings in the bed

Re-submit all these reels, which should be seen whole to give flavour - minimum cuts.

TRANSCRIPTION

REEL 4

REMOVE SHOT OF DEAD RAT ON BLANCHE'S PLATE AND REDUCE THE CONSEQUENT ANGUISH AND HYSTERIA, AND JANE'S MANIACAL LAUGHTER.

REEL 5

WHEN JANE BEATS BLANCHE (SHE) MUST NOT KICK HER MORE THAN ONCE.

REEL 6

IN SCENE IN WHICH ELVIRA SEES BLANCHE TIED UP IN BED REDUCE SHOTS OF BLANCHE AND HER WRITHINGS IN THE BED.

RESUBMIT ALL THESE REELS, WHICH SHOULD BE SEEN WHOLE TO GIVE FLAVOUR. MINIMUM CUTS.

Examiners.....

2 DEAN STREET,
LONDON, W.1.

12th November 1962.

John Trevelyan, Esq.,
British Board of Film Censors,
3 Soho Square,
W. 1.

Dear John,

When I saw WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO BABY JANE? I knew your Board would want us to reduce the kicking sequence and the one showing Blanche's unhappiness when tied up in bed, but I didn't think that you would ask us to cut the shot of the dead rat on Blanche's plate.

Not only is this occurrence signalled by having Elvira mention that there's a rat in the basement, but if you don't let the audience see the rat, it can imagine that something far worse than a rat was served up for dinner.

I do hope you will reconsider this last elimination. Meanwhile, we are resubmitting Reels 5 and 6 with your other two objections dealt with.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

