

Scene 119: The Stalker

a



No matter who else this Stalker might be, he is also a symbol of Death. Death is stalking Dr. Bill, who has just dodged a bullet at Domino's and is about to have eyes only for a corpse on a body tray.

Consider the image (a). In the continuum of the film, why is this shot so riveting, so pregnant with meaning? This shot is a symbolic representation of the basal condition of humankind. We have sex, in the lingerie shop. We have eating, in the Verona Restaurant. Eating and Reproduction. On a fundamental biological level, what else is there but . . . Death? Shot (b) further clarifies: what is Death but a STOP, the last stop of them all? Need more persuading? Notice, in (e), the Verona Restaurant that Bill passes just before the Stalker shows himself at the corner. The street number of the restaurant has a significant ring to it. 237.



c



b



Bill and the Stalker trace a dreamy trajectory through the streets, one that seems to violate the street map. Watch closely and see, using a green "Deli & Grocery" awning as a guide [see (d)]. Also consider, in (c), the NAILS shop that becomes hidden behind the newsstand just as Death arrives, bringing with him the suggestion of the threat of violence and pain.

d



e

