

He said...



BEN WALKER
Staff Writer

After a nice walk along the Waterfront, my date and I get settled in the seats of the near empty movie theater. The lights dim and "Along Came a Spider" begins. Hundreds of thoughts and questions run through my head. "Wow, this girl is really cool." Dr. Alex Cross (Morgan Freeman) has just lost his partner. "Man, I'm really getting the vibe, maybe I should hold her hand." The story unfolds and a kidnapping is in progress.

With the help of his gorgeous new partner (Monica Potter), who makes me forget about my date all together, Alex Cross must find the man who kidnapped a senator's daughter. The plot is a classic mystery, and each time they seem to be closing in on him, the bad guy gets away. Midway through the movie, I realize three things. "Along Came a Spider" is a sequel to the hit "Kiss the Girls." Sec-

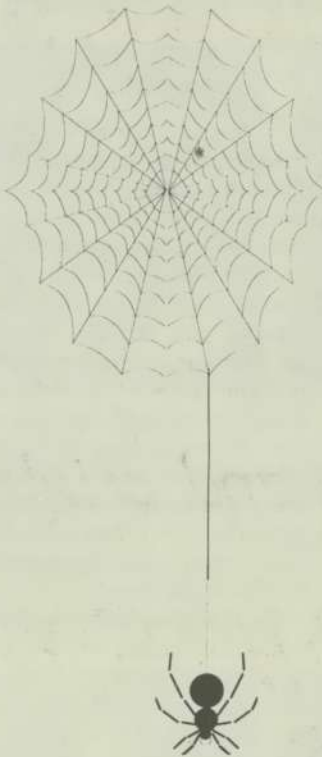
A long time ago, in a time not too far back actually, Ben and Chrissy went to Canby High School. Through the years they developed crushes on each other, at completely different times. (Although this is completely irrelevant, Chrissy needs to know that Ben knows she liked him freshman year. Take that "Mrs. Too Good For Me By The Time We Were Juniors And I Liked You.") They have watched many a movie together and their opinions differ a bit. Each one's experience of "Along Came a Spider" may be read in the following section.

Along Came a Spider



Dr. Alex Cross (Morgan Freeman) and partner (Monica Potter) search for a teacher turned kidnapper.

ond, because of my nervous mindset and therefore sweaty hand, my date obviously does not enjoy the handholding. Finally, the movie isn't as scary as I thought it would be, and that's all right with me, considering I have the courage of a newborn kitten. But I digress. As Alex Cross continues digging through the ever-mounting evidence, he discovers a plot nothing short of plain evil. "So what's her deal anyway? I mean, she asked me out. Wait, who cares, Monica Potter is way hot." The movie ends and mercifully, so does the awkward handholding. "Along Came a Spider" is a movie full of surprises. Although I would not say it's even near one of my favorites, it is definitely an entertaining thriller full of twists and turns as well as a surprise ending. I'd give it a "go ahead and rent it as long as you aren't trying to make a move," because, as I discovered the hard way, "Along Came a Spider" is no turn on.



CHRISTINA MCFARLAND
Staff Writer

Believe it or not, the movie "Along Came a Spider" actually exceeded my initial expectations. I had heard some bad reviews, so I wasn't exactly excited to be watching it. However, as the movie progressed, it began to draw me in. Morgan Freeman's character possessed a rarely-seen intelligence that comes only with long-term police force experience. His analytical nature and ability to link seemingly unrelated clues was quite intriguing. His partner, on the other hand, played by Monica Potter, was anything but intelligent. And surprisingly, she was cast as a blonde. Freeman and Potter combine efforts to find a young girl kidnapped by her teacher. (I know it sounds a little far fetched, but wait until you see it.) The villain, Mr. Sonji, is your typical "bad guy." Unloved as a

child he has turned to a life of crime as a cry for help. He even sheds a few sorrowful tears. Frankly, I didn't buy into it at all.

I think what I enjoyed the most about this movie was the surprising intelligence of Megan, the kidnapped youth. Most often you see the helpless victim whimper and cry, yet do nothing in protest or in effort to escape. Megan, however, thinks fast on her feet and is able to make several remarkable attempts. But it was the fact that she was only ten years old that was so surprising. It's quite unusual nowadays for the kidnapped damsel to put up a fight, but this one does.

It is the "fight" in Megan that allows the movie to end happily, oddly but happily. As far as recommendations go, I'm not sure I'd suggest going out and seeing it tonight, but it's worth renting at some point in another.



She said

Horoscopes

by Leah Boeringa

Aries: Your culinary ability is at a highpoint this week. Try to find some time to prepare an elaborate feast for a loved one without the necessity of any special occasion. Suggested movie for you to watch this week: "Silence of the Lambs."

Taurus: Leadership is an asset worth applying. Those around you have a great deal of respect for you, and many are secretly longing for you to take the lead in a situation that may have significant repercussions. Suggested movie for you to watch this week: "Fight Club."

Gemini: Everything worth doing is worth doing right! You need to improve the amount of effort you are putting into a current endeavor. Also, an old friend you have not spoken to recently will call on you for help and guidance.

Do all you can to aid this person, without overstepping your own boundaries. Suggested movie for you to watch this week: "Jumpin' Jack Flash."

Cancer: You are feeling very artistic but can't seem to find the right outlet. This dilemma is easily solved: try a bit of everything. Sing, dance, draw, compose, sculpt, take some pictures, and so on. If you still can't find anything to soothe your creative need, befriend a Leo and run around in the rain. Suggested movie for you to watch this week: "The Full Monty."

Leo: Let go of your inhibitions. The fall is a powerful time of the year for you. Run around in the rain with some friends. Take some time to rearrange your surroundings, but be careful of your most loved possessions or some-

thing may get broken. Suggested movie for you to watch this week: "Pulp Fiction."

Virgo: You are one with the moon, and the alignment of the planets mixed with the migration of your power animal brings you a special understanding of the world around you. Stand tall, for you will be at a basketball game. Suggested movie for you to watch this week: "Clerks."

Libra: Take a break from your regular routine. Try new foods, new music and maybe even a new hair color. Whenever you find the time, take a break to look at the sky and harness some of its positive energy. Suggested movie for you to watch this week: "Grosse Pointe Blank."

Scorpio: It is time for you to treat yourself. Keep an eye open for any local bands playing in Port-

land this week, you may discover a new favorite act or venue. Be extra careful with your shoelaces, as they will have a tendency to trip you. Suggested movie for you to watch this week: "SLC Punk."

Sagittarius: Your horoscope this week is more or less the same as Libra's... only you will get beat up. Suggested movie for you to watch this week: "Cry Baby."

Capricorn: Investigate that strange smell coming from your basement. It may be time for you to take a few hours to clean and organize your space, especially now that a mysterious visitor may be dropping in for a few nights. Suggested movie for you to watch this week: "Pink Flamingos."

Aquarius: Avoid becoming in-

involved with anything this week; it is only going to add needless stress to your life. You will soon have more than you feel you are able to deal with regarding your school work and personal life. It may be the beginning of a struggle for you, but rest assured, you will come out of the situation stronger and more prepared for the future. Suggested movie for you to watch this week: "Goonies."

Pisces: Since you are a Pisces, other people easily influence you, so look long and hard to find someone that you would like to be. Do your best to find someone with a decent hair and a fresh pine scent. Suggested movie for you to watch this week: "The Talented Mr. Ripley."