

Don't waste time on twisted thriller, silly spoof

By Geri Pare
Catholic News Service

NEW YORK — *Whispers in the Dark* (Paramount) turns the disturbed sexual fantasies of the psychiatrist's couch into fodder for a tawdry potboiler about sexual violence against women.

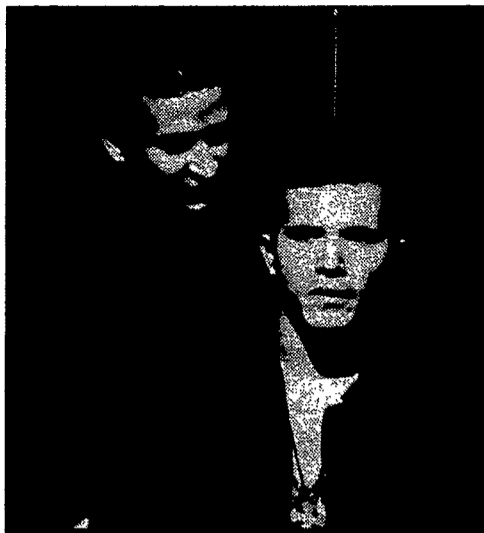
The dopey plot has a naive psychiatrist (Annabella Sciorra) beginning an affair with a pilot (Jamey Sheridan) then discovering he is the sadist her sexually voracious patient (Deborah Unger) has been describing.

When the shrink finds the patient hanging nude in her gallery, she discovers both their mutual lover and another of her violent patients (John Leguizamo) are prime suspects. Terrified of both men, she turns to her mentor (Alan Alda) for help, but this proves fatal for several around her.

Writer and director Christopher Crowe exploits the theme of women being ravaged, tortured and murdered in a lurid melodrama riddled with absurd coincidences.

With the emphasis on women as victims and no logic to the sick behavior of the men, it is more dehumanizing schlock than nifty thriller.

Scenes of nudity, masturbation and mutilation are entirely unnecessary to the mechanics of the plot and make the movie especially repugnant. *Whispers in the Dark* is something to shout



Anthony LaPaglia (left) and John Leguizamo star in the mystery-thriller *Whispers in the Dark*.

about it's trash.

Because of recurring violence and nudity, graphic photos of tortured women, sexually explicit dialogue and situations and much rough language, the U.S. Catholic Conference classification is O — morally offensive. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R.

'Mom and Dad Save the World'

The title characters may, indeed,



New York City psychiatrist Dr. Ann Hecker (Annabella Sciorra) becomes suspicious that her lover Doug McDowell (Jamey Sheridan) may have murdered one of her patients in Paramount Pictures' *Whispers in the Dark*.

save the world, but this movie is another matter.

Saddled with a witless script and Greg Beeman's heavy-handed direction, Teri Garr and Jeffrey Jones haplessly star as a suburban mom and dad kidnaped to a planet of idiots lorded over by a dictator (Jon Lovitz) bent on marrying mom and blowing the Earth to smithereens.

Mom and Dad (Warner Bros.) is about as funny as it sounds. Lovitz, currently winning audiences in *A League of Their Own*, here has a losing role as the fool-

ish, foppish tyrant, inexplicably stuck on the ditzy housewife.

One oasis amid the wasteland of dull dialogue is production design combining a perky panorama of colorful visuals straight out of the "Flash Gordon" era. As a spoof on suburbia and science fiction, however, this flick never gets off the ground.

Due to a few off-color references, the USCC classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The MPAA rating is PG — parental guidance suggested.

Dining Around the Diocese

AVON INN
55 East Main Street
Avon, NY 14414
(minutes off 390, exit 10)
716-226-8181

The Avon Inn welcomes all to join us and to experience the charm of this 170 year old Greek Revival Mansion. Listed on both the State and National Registers of Historic Places, the Inn continues to serve travelers and local communities with an atmosphere reminiscent of days gone by.

Join us for LUNCH, Tuesday through Friday, as you enjoy delicious entrees and our all-you-can-eat salad bar. Dinners are served Tuesday-Sunday with a Fish Fry on Friday nights.

Sunday dinners are now being served from 1:00pm to 8:00pm with early bird specials from 1:00-3:30. Early bird specials are also available Tues, Wed, and Thurs from 4:30-6:00pm.

Try our \$75 GET-AWAY PACKAGE. It includes a room for two, a bottle of champagne, \$25 dinner certificate, and a continental breakfast. Please call for reservations. Not available on Saturdays.

The Avon Inn is the perfect place for Wedding Receptions, Showers, Banquets and Business Meetings for up to 200 guests.

Come visit our charming garden and enjoy a cocktail on our wrap-around front porch.

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Restaurant & Lounge
430 Spencerport Rd.
(corner of Longpond)
716-247-7690

Open 7 days a week for lunch and dinner, we offer a relaxing, comfortable atmosphere and reasonable prices. Whether you choose from our complete menu, or from one of our daily lunch or dinner specials, we're sure to please your palate. Come and try one of our new lunch and dinner specials. Our party room is available for gatherings of up to 60 people. We hope to see you here!

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1551 Mt. Hope Ave.
(1 minute north of W. Henrietta Rd.
exit off Rte. 390)
(716) 461-1026

A Rochester favorite for 24 years, featuring a diverse menu including seafood, steaks,

chops, veal, and Italian dishes. Dinners served Sunday, 4:30pm - 11:00pm; Monday - Thursday, 4:30 - midnight; Friday and Saturday, 4:30pm - 1:00am. Bar opens daily at 4:00pm.

CINELLI'S
Country House Restaurant
6007 Lake Rd. (Rt. 18)
Sodus, New York 14551
(315) 483-9154

One of Wayne County's finest restaurants and Party Houses, Cinelli's Country House Restaurant is a really special place! Fine service, great view, wonderful food, and a marvelous menu are just the beginning.

A big, beautiful California-coast-style solarlan dining room with real wood arches and glass commands an unparalleled panorama of blossoming orchards, farms, old woods, and Lake Ontario.

In addition to our extensive lunch and dinner menus, you may also choose from between 10 and 12 daily specials. Sunday Specials from our country oven include: Roast Leg of Montana Lamb, Fresh Roast Pork and Fresh Roast Turkey served with country dressing and pan gravies.

For your reception, banquet or dinner for two to be truly special, choose a really special place. There's no better choice than Cinelli's!

Open year-round, serving lunches Tues.-Fri. from 11:30a.m.; dinners Tues.-Sat. from 5p.m.; Sunday 12:30-8p.m. Closed Mondays. Reservations are recommended. "A big city menu at country prices."

CONESUS INN
2170 East Lake Road
(East side of Beautiful Conesus Lake)
(716) 346-6100

Now is the perfect time to take a leisurely drive to the Conesus Inn. Located on Conesus Lake, the Conesus Inn serves dinners Tuesday through Saturday from 5pm and Sundays beginning at 4pm. As always, you'll find the same spectacular Prime Rib, Alaskan King Crab Legs and Australian Lobster Tail that you've come to expect and enjoy from the Conesus Inn. The beautiful surroundings and atmosphere of the Conesus Inn make it an ideal spot for dinner. Whether it's an intimate evening for two or a large gathering of friends...the Conesus Inn has a perfect evening of dining waiting for you.

While you're here, remember to choose a fine wine from our extensive wine list. Visit

the Conesus Inn soon... "For The Prime Of Your Life". Just ten minutes from exit 9 off 390. Call today for reservations.

THE HOLLOWAY HOUSE
Rt. 5 & 20, E. Bloomfield
1-657-7120

Enjoy the colonial surroundings of the historic Holloway House for birthdays, anniversaries or just plain dining out! Built in 1808 as a stagecoach stop, this restaurant (with a ★★ Mobil Guide Rating) offers both a fullcourse and a-la-carte menu including turkey, steak & seafood. Round out your meal with their famous Sally Lunn Bread and homemade desserts. Specials include an "All-You-Can-Eat" Friday Night Seafood Buffet served from 5:30-8:30p.m. (7/3-9/11/92). Enjoy the Saturday Prime Rib Special, or try the Early Dinner Specials from 12-3pm Sunday (not on holidays). Owned and operated by the Wayne Family for over 30 years, they welcome you for lunch Tues. - Sat. from 11:30A-2P or dinner from 5:30-8:30P. Sat. til 9P, Sun. 12-7:30P. Closed Mondays.

IRONDEQUOIT TOWN LOUNGE
705 Titus Avenue
(716) 342-3465

Serving lunches 11:30-3p.m. daily except Sunday. Featuring a Early Bird Special every night but Friday. Fish Frys every Friday. Our party room can accommodate up to 60 people for your next gathering. Clip out this ad and receive \$5.00 off two dinners (not valid on dinners under \$8.00 or Early Bird Specials), offer good Sunday thru Thursday, during the month of September. Please present ad when ordering.

MR. DOMINIC'S AT THE LAKE
4699 Lake Avenue
(716) 865-4630

If you're planning lunch or dinner out, take a drive to Mr. Dominic's at the Lake. Noted for their fine Italian cuisine, they offer delicious appetizers, wonderful soups, 11 veal dishes, vegetarian, chicken and fish specialties, and homemade pasta. Early bird dinner specials are served Sunday-Friday. Also offered is a 10% senior discount. Delivery is available for your luncheon group of ten or more. Lunch hours from 11a.m.-1p.m., Tuesday-Friday. Dinner hours Monday-Friday 4-9:30p.m., Saturday 5-10p.m., Sunday 3-9p.m.



THE OATKA
17 Main Street
(minutes from Chili or
Scottsville, NY 14546
(716) 889-8220

Now under new management we invite you to visit the Historic Oatka for casual family dining in the heart of Genesee Country. Serving travelers since 1824, we know you'll enjoy our country atmosphere, varied menu and friendly service. And we're just around the corner in nearby Scottsville. Daily Dinner Specials start at just \$6.95. Sunday Special: Choose from 5 Full Course Dinner Entrees. Only \$7.95, includes beverage and dessert. Early Bird Dinners served from 4:30-6p.m.

Live country music and dancing every Saturday night. Serving lunch Tues.-Fri. 11:30-2. Serving Dinner Tues.-Thurs., 4:30-9, Fri. 4-10, Sat. 5-10, Sun. 1-7. Reservations are recommended, but not required.

Private Banquet room available accommodating up to 100 people for luncheons, business meetings, seminars, and other occasions.

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Naples, New York 14512
(716) 374-6360

Take a drive to scenic Naples and make sure you visit the Redwood. Serving breakfast, lunch, and dinner, The Redwood serves Fish Frys every Friday, and Barbeque Beef Rib Saturdays. Stop by Wednesdays for our \$8.95 Prime Rib Night. Open 6 a.m. - 8 p.m. Tues. - Thurs. Fri. & Sat. till 9 p.m.; Sun., 7 a.m. - 8 p.m. Closed Mondays. Reservations are recommended.