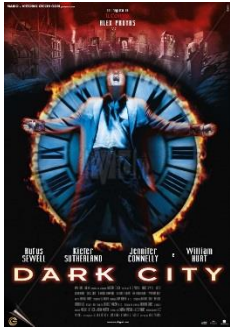


## Short Review: “Dark City” (1998) by Dr. John L. Flynn



**Dark City** (1998). New Line Cinema, color, 100 min. Director: Alex Proyas. Writer: Alex Proyas. Producers: Andrew Mason and Proyas. Cast: Rufus Sewell, William Hurt, Kiefer Sutherland, and Jennifer Connelly.

In a future city, John Murdoch (Sewell) wakes up in a hotel to discover he is wanted for the serial killing of prostitutes, but his memory is almost gone. While the police seek to arrest him for the crimes, Murdoch relies on Dr. Schreber (Sutherland) to help him to escape a deadlier foe—the Strangers, an alien race that wants to dissect Murdoch’s brain. The chase is on through the nighttime streets of the city, with Hurt as the police Inspector Bumstead (Hurt) and Connelly as his wife. The film’s pace is fast, and “Dark City” ends with a bang. This film’s look is a mix of German Expressionism (“The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari” and “Metropolis”) and film noir (“The Maltese Falcon” and “Blade Runner”). If you like the original “Matrix” and were disappointed by the sequels, then this is the film you should watch instead. Sexy Jennifer Connelly never looked so good!

Copyright 2015 by John L. Flynn, Ph.D.