

The Scene of Violence: Cinema, Crime, Affect

Alison Young



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In the contemporary fascination with images of crime, violence gets under our skin and keeps us enthralled. *The Scene of Violence* explores the spectator's encounter with the cinematic scene of violence – rape and revenge, homicide and serial killing, torture and terrorism. Providing a detailed reading of both classical and contemporary films – for example, *Kill Bill, Blue Velvet, Reservoir Dogs, The Matrix, Psycho, The Accused, Elephant, Seven, Thelma & Louise, United 93, Zodiac,* and *No Country for Old Men* – Alison Young returns the affective processes of the cinematic image to the study of law, crime and violence. Engaging with legal theory, cultural criminology and film studies, the book unfolds both our attachment to the authority of law and our identification with the illicit. Its original contribution is to bring together the cultural fascination of crime with a nuanced account of what it means to watch cinema. *The Scene of Violence* shows how the spectator is bound by the laws of film to the judgment of the crime-image.

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