# Assignment 2: Part II: Movie 10: Dead Again

1. **Who is the protagonist of the story?**

The protagonist is Mike Church, an orphan who grew up to be a detective of missing persons.

1. **What is the conflict that drives the narrative?**

A mysterious woman who has amnesia turns up at the orphanage and the father calls Mike Church to take her to the hospital and put an ad in the paper. They start falling in love and the story is driven by the need to find out who she is.

1. **What is the theme of the film?**

The theme of the film is about love and how it transcends life and death.

1. **Are the characters relatable? Why and why not?**

The first life characters of Roman and Margaret Strauss are relatable as humans we go through the honeymoon period of love, then, when tested, the relationship is tested either because of other people entering the relationship or the lack of money, the ultimate bond is love and it endures which is what is shown here and make the characters relatable.

The second life characters of Mike and Grace, searching for who she is, the need to know who we are, our identity, is also a human condition and something we can all relate to.

1. **What can you take away from this film that might benefit you as you write your story?**

The idea of flashbacks in a different format such as black and white, the noir type film is a good way to separate the lives.

In representing love, there is a beautiful sequence of Roman and Margaret Strauss coming together, their hands reaching out to each other that is in the movie and is repeated at the end.

The idea of having people outside of the main characters actually living in the different types unites the story e.g. Frankie and Inga who lived with Roman and Margaret in their previous lives and who in the present have an antique store.

The artwork of Grace, with the scissors showing that her past life has been part of her sub-consciousness in the present life is a great visual.

Even though both characters play the first and second lives, somehow, they are able to act differently enough to make it work. Roman Strauss is a man of German descent and maybe because the 1st life is in black and white, he feels different from Mike Church, where the film is in color and his hair and accent are American.

The overlapping of key / crucial scenes between the different eras of the lives e.g. at the end of the movie, the murder scene of the past between Roman and Margaret and the killing of Frankie in the present built the tension to its climax.

I love the idea of two lovers finally being together across different lives.

The impact on a fantastic music score is critical.