

Holiday Gift Ideas on Blu-Ray

Indecent Proposal Longtime sweethearts David (Woody Harrelson), an architect, and Diana (Demi Moore), a real estate agent, find themselves on hard times when financial troubles bring them to the verge of losing their house, which David designed. Taking their last \$5,000, they go to Vegas in hopes of multiplying their money. Luck fails them, but they are faced with a major moral dilemma when billionaire John Gage (Robert Redford) spots Diana in the casino and offers her \$1,000,000 to spend the night with him. What ensues causes them to question their relationship more than anything they've ever encountered. Based on the novel by Jack Engelhard. *Fox*

The Siege When the U.S. military abducts a Muslim leader, New York City becomes the target of several terrorist attacks in this gripping political thriller ripped from newspaper headlines. Denzel Washington stars as Anthony "Hub" Hubbard, the head of the FBI terrorism task force who is in charge of investigating the bombings. Ironically, Hub's partner, Frank Haddad (Tony Shalhoub), is Arab-American and must fight for his family's rights as the citizens of New York become increasingly paranoid about the Arab-American population. Elise Kraft (Annette Bening) is an undercover CIA official and Middle East expert who is also investigating the terrorist attacks and joins Hub and Frank as they search for the terrorists. As Hub, Elise, and Frank work to uncover the source of the terrorism, the city erupts in escalating madness, spiraling out of control until the government sends in General William Devereaux (Bruce Willis), who takes over the city and declares martial law. Ultimately, the government seizes the male Arab-American population of New York in makeshift internment camps in this incredibly relevant and cautionary thriller that examines the real dilemma of how a democratic society can uphold the rights of its citizens while under military protection. *Fox*

Predator 2 This electrifying action sequel unleashes the deadly invisible Predator in another jungle -- the urban jungle of Los Angeles. Danny Glover stars as a lieutenant who mistakenly concludes that mangled bodies found by the police are the work of feuding gangs. Instead, he finds himself confronting a savage alien who has come from a distant world to hunt humans for sport. Gary Busey and Ruben Blades co-star in this suspense-packed, high-tech thriller. *Fox*

Spaceballs The farce is with you in this "uproarious salute to science fiction" (The Hollywood Reporter) that teams comedy legend Mel Brooks with an all-star cast of cutups including John Candy (Splash), Rick Moranis (Ghostbusters) and Bill Pullman (Ruthless People)! When the evil Dark Helmet (Moranis) attempts to steal all the air from planet Druidia, a determined Druish Princess (Daphne Zuniga), a clueless rogue (Pullman) and a half-man/half-dog creature who's his own best friend (Candy) set out to stop him! But with the forces of darkness closing in on them at ludicrous speed, they'll need the help of a wise imp named Yogurt (Brooks) and the mystical power of "The Schwartz" to bring peace and merchandising rights to the entire galaxy! *Fox*

Discovery Shark Week The Great Bites Collection Every week can be Shark Week with The Great Bites Collection, a reel of the Discovery Channel's most frightening and daring underwater adventures. In addition to episodes that focus on how to avoid a deadly shark encounter, this package includes the bonus features "Shark Attack Files" and "Jobs That Bite. Shark Attack Files IV: Summer of the Shark, Dirty Jobs: Jobs That Bite, Dirty Jobs: Jobs That Bite ...Harder, Features: Surviving Sharks, Mysteries of the Shark Coast, Mythbusters Shark Special 2, How Not To Become Shark Bait, Day of the Shark, Dirty Jobs: Greenland Shark Quest. *Image*

The Towering Inferno A dedication ceremony at the world's tallest skyscraper turns into a high-rise catastrophe when a defective wire in its systems-control panel causes an electrical flare-up. Within minutes the gala event turns into a hellish inferno, as a raging fire traps society's most prominent citizens on the top floor. Winner of three Academy Awards, this spectacular suspense thriller features dazzling special effects and a star studded cast including Paul Newman, Steve McQueen, William Holden and Faye Dunaway. *Fox*

Prison Break Final Break The series may be over, but there's more story to tell. Michael Scofield (Wentworth Miller) is pulled back into the game and forced to cooperate with some decidedly unseemly characters when his beautiful girlfriend, Dr. Sara Tancredi (Sarah Wayne Callies), is arrested for a murder she didn't commit. Before someone collects the bounty on Sara's head, Michael must pull one last daring prison break to save his true love and unborn child. Dominic Purcell co-stars in this rip-roaring feature-length adventure that drops fans right back into the exciting world of the hit television series. *Fox*

Big Trouble in Little China A cult favorite (and one of director John Carpenter's personal favorites), Big Trouble In Little China is a fantasy-action film that is brilliantly imaginative, funny, and absorbing. Kurt Russell plays hard-boiled truck driver Jack Burton, who gets caught in a bizarre conflict within, and underneath, San Francisco's Chinatown. An ancient Chinese prince and Chinatown crimelord has kidnapped a beautiful green-eyed woman, who is the fiancée to Jack's best friend. Jack must help his friend rescue the girl before the evil Lo Pan uses her to break the ancient curse that keeps him a fleshless and immortal spirit. Carpenter uses all the best elements of martial arts films, 1940s old action serials, Chinese mythology and straight-forward American adventure to make up a tale wild with imagination. Kurt Russell is wonderful as the brash, brave, and reluctant hero Jack Burton, who is hysterically out of place in this world of magic potions, goblins and curses. A visually stunning work that ranks as one of Carpenter's best films. *Fox*

My Cousin Vinny Two carefree pals (Ralph Macchio and Mitchell Whitfield) traveling through Alabama are mistakenly arrested, and charged with murder. Fortunately, one of them has a cousin who's a lawyer - Vincent Gambini (Joe Pesci, Lethal Weapon 3, Home Alone), a former auto mechanic from Brooklyn who just passed his bar exam after his sixth try. Vinny's never been in court - or in Alabama - and when he arrives with his leather-clad girlfriend (Marisa Tomei in her Oscar® winning Supporting Actress performance), to try his first case, it's a real shock - for him and the Deep South! *Fox*

Sons Of Anarchy - Season One From the creative minds behind The Shield and The Sopranos comes this intense drama about an outlaw motorcycle club. Bound by blood as well as by duty, Jackson Teller (Charlie Hunnam), his mother, Gemma, and his stepfather, Clay (Ron Perelman), are each prominent figures in a motorcycle gang that runs both a (legal) auto body shop and an (illegal) arms trade. Season One follows each member as they struggle to contain their family secrets while battling drug dealers and law enforcement, and attempt to protect their quiet hometown of Charming, California. Action-packed and rife with dark humor, Sons Of Anarchy debuted to critical acclaim for its blend of raucous, revved-engine fun and smart storytelling.

This collection includes every episode from the show's first season on FX. *Fox*

The Girl Next Door In the tradition of Risky Business and American Pie comes The Girl Next Door, a sex-soaked teen comedy that actually has a heart. High school graduation is nearing for senior class president Matt Kidman (Emile Hirsch), who has been more concerned with getting into college than partying. But all that changes one night when the gorgeous Danielle (Elisha Cuthbert) arrives next door. Engaging, funny, and wild, Danielle is Matt's dream girl come to life, and it appears that she likes him back. But before the two can consummate their relationship, his porn-obsessed friend Eli (Chris Marquette) reveals a shocking secret: Danielle's a porn star! When her wacky producer, Kelly (Timothy Olyphant), shows up to take her back to "work," Matt's life really begins to spiral out of control. All the while, he must continue to rehearse an incredibly important speech that will hopefully earn him a major scholarship. But, most importantly, Matt must win the heart of Danielle once and for all. Directed with irreverent yet good-natured sincerity by Luke Greenfield, with an all-star soundtrack (Marvin Gaye, Elliott Smith), The Girl Next Door has a breezy charm that might surprise some viewers. This is due in large part to Hirsch and Cuthbert, who deliver assured and engaging performances that help to sweeten the profane proceedings *Fox*

Holiday Gift Ideas on DVD

Orphan Picking up the pieces after their baby's tragic death, the Colemans Kate (Vera Farmiga) and John (Peter Sarsgaard) -- adopt 9-year-old Esther (Isabelle Fuhrman) from an orphanage, but it doesn't take long for Kate to see through Esther's angelic façade. When John brushes aside Kate's paranoid suspicions, Esther wreaks havoc on the world around her in this chilling tale from director Jaume Collet-Serra. *Warner*

My Sister's Keeper Nick Cassavetes directs another tearjerking literary adaptation with this drama based on Jodi Picoult's novel. Cameron Diaz takes a detour from comedy to play Sara, the domineering mother of Kate, a young girl with cancer. Sara's other daughter, 11-year-old Anna (Abigail Breslin), was conceived just to serve as a donor for her sick sister. On the outskirts of the family are father Brian (Jason Patric), who feels unable to stand up to his wife's strength, and son Jesse (Evan Ellingson), who craves attention in the face of Kate's illness. But the complicated situation gets more difficult when Anna hires a lawyer (played by the always excellent Alec Baldwin), so that she can control her own body and say "no" to giving a kidney to her sister. Cassavetes and Picoult both traffic in tears, so *My Sister's Keeper* is a perfect match between director and source writer. Even the most jaded viewers will find it hard to keep their eyes dry in the face of this emotional family tragedy, so audiences are warned to have tissues parked next to their popcorn. This drama's stellar cast also includes Thomas Dekker as Kate's cancer-stricken love and Joan Cusack as the judge who presides over Anna's case. *New Line*

The Taking of Pelham 123 When a group of hijackers led by criminal mastermind Ryder (John Travolta) take the passengers aboard a New York subway train hostage and demand a king's ransom, it's up to police Lt. Zachary Garber (Denzel Washington) to bring them down. Directed by Tony Scott (*Man on Fire*) this action thriller -- an update of the 1974 film from Joseph Sargent also stars James Gandolfini, John Turturro, Luis Guzmán and Gbenga Akinnagbe. *Sony*

Ice Age Dawn of the Dinosaurs Manny, Sid, Diego, and Ellie are back in this third film in the computer-animated *Ice Age* series. With those creatures in starring roles, fans also get another dose of the vocal talents of Ray Romano, John Leguizamo, Denis Leary, and Queen Latifah, who are joined by Shaun Of The Dead's Simon Pegg. In *Ice Age: Dawn Of The Dinosaur*, Manny and Ellie are expecting their first baby, while Sid the sloth tries an unconventional way of starting a family that gets him into trouble. With all this talk of babies, Diego might be losing his saber-toothed edge, but a journey to save Sid may just turn the whole group into heroes. In addition to all that adventure, it wouldn't be an *Ice Age* film if Scrat weren't on a desperate hunt for an acorn, but he might get distracted by a shapely female squirrel. *Fox*

Batman: The Brave and the Bold Volume 2 In this entertaining homage to the Dark Knight's silver age adventures of the 1950s and '60s, Gotham City's stalwart, resourceful protector goes outside his comfort zone to locales far from home base. If you think Batman is awesome on his own, wait till you see him in action with some of the weirdest, wildest, baddest heroes in the DC universe, including the Blue Beetle, Deadman, Wildcat, the Green Arrow and Aquaman. *Warner*

Will Ferrell You're Welcome America A Final Night with George Bush Adapted from SNL alumni Will Ferrell's one-man Broadway show, this filmed performance finds the celebrated comic lampooning the 43rd President of the United States one last time before George W. Bush ends his eight-year term. From the former president's charmed childhood to his rowdy college years, his post-collegiate stint as co-owner of the Texas Rangers, and ultimate role as the leader of the free world, no aspect of Bush's life or career is immune from Ferrell's outrageous brand of political satire. *HBO*

The Fugitive Season 3 - Volume 1 This classic 1960s television series features David Janssen as Dr. Richard Kimble, a man falsely convicted of murdering his wife. While he's being transported to death row, his train derails, setting him loose and granting him the opportunity to clear his name. As Kimble scours the country for his wife's murderer--the famed "one-armed man"--he must also keep one step ahead of the lawman, Lt. Gerard (Barry Morse), who is pursuing him. A groundbreaking series with an engaging storyline and excellent direction, *The Fugitive* was such a pop-culture phenomenon that its finale was the highest-rated television episode of its time. The hunt is on in this first batch of episodes from the series' third season. *Paramount*

Bleach 20 This hit Japanese anime series based on the manga by Tite Kubo follows the adventures of spirit-seeing teen superhero Ichigo Kurosaki as he and his supernatural sidekick, Rukia Kuchiki, round up lost souls. Ichigo first inherits his powers from a wounded Rukia, who is in fact a shinigami, or soul reaper. Forced to live temporarily in an artificial human body, Rukia must combine her otherworldly abilities with Ichigo's. Vol. 20 includes episodes 80-83. *Viz / Warner*

Eleventh Hour - Season One When villains use the latest technology to pursue their own wicked ends, the government calls in often in the 11th hour biophysicist Dr. Jacob Hood (Rufus Sewell), who draws upon his deep knowledge of science to track down the perpetrators. Executive produced by blockbuster king Jerry Bruckheimer, the exciting series is based on a British miniseries written by noted sci-fi writer Stephen Gallagher. Marley Shelton co-stars. *Warner*

Vegas Season One Volume One A sideburns-bearing Robert Urich and a slicked-back Tony Curtis star in this late-'70s drama set in Sin City. Urich (who went on to play another detective in *Spenser: For Hire*) stars as Dan Tanna, a P.I. whose red Thunderbird convertible wheels him around Las Vegas. A casino magnate pays Tanna to keep his businesses crime-free, and his assistant helps out (but mostly just looks good). This release includes episodes from the show's first season.. Tony Curtis co-stars as casino owner Phil "Slick" Roth, one of Tanna's biggest clients, with Phyllis Davis and Greg Morris playing sidekicks as Tanna's partners in busting crime. *Paramount/CBS*

The Guardian First Season Simon Baker stars in this weekly drama series as Nick Fallin, a hotshot attorney working for his father Burton's (Dabney Coleman) prestigious Philadelphia law firm. Arrested for doing cocaine, Nick is sentenced to 1,500 hours of community service. Reluctantly, he signs on as a part-time child advocate for an inner-city Legal Aid Services, all the while handling his usual high-profile clients. Ever so gradually, Nick finds himself caring more about his younger, poorer charges than he does about his wealthier customers--and in so doing, he becomes the titular "guardian" of this CBS series. Also in the cast are Alan Rosenberg as Nick's skeptical new supervisor, and Erica Leerhsen and Raphael Sbarge as Nick's colleagues. This release features the drama's entire first season. *Paramount/CBS*

Whatever Works While falling for a young Southern belle (Evan Rachel Wood), an aging New York City eccentric (Larry David) finds himself caught in a series of bizarre situations involving the girl's parents and his own Greenwich Village group of pals. Written and directed by legendary filmmaker Woody Allen, this romantic comedy also stars Patricia Clarkson, Ed Begley Jr., Kristen Johnston, Michael McKean and Henry Cavill. *HBO*

The Ugly Truth Chauvinistic morning show commentator Mike Chadway (Gerard Butler) makes his perpetually single producer (Katherine Heigl) the subject of a series of romantic tests in order to prove the theories on relationships he espouses on his segment called "The Ugly Truth." But will his experiments help her find love, or is she just a hopeless case? Cheryl Hines co-stars as an unflappable anchor in this rom-com from the team behind *Legally Blonde*. *Sony*

Great Gift Ideas on DVD

Four Christmases Kate (Reese Witherspoon) and Brad (Vince Vaughn) are a happily unmarried couple who avoid spending Christmas with their families at all costs and instead travel to exotic locales. But when they find themselves fogged in at the San Francisco airport and their flight to Fiji cancelled, they have no choice but to spend the holiday with their divorced parents and the rest of their dysfunctional relatives. From his wrestling brothers and cradle-robbing mother to her oversexed grandmother and perfect sister, the couple is forced to face their worst nightmare head-on. Kate and Brad's greatest fears are realized as their families share their most personal secrets. This film addresses broader themes of how people really know each other and the importance of connecting with family, no matter how crazy they might be. Vaughn and Witherspoon have nice chemistry as a couple that thought they had everything they wanted, improvising and playing off of each other well. Robert Duvall and Sissy Spacek appear as Brad's parents, while Jon Voight and Mary Steenburgen play Kate's parents. Jon Favreau and Tim McGraw are a hoot as Brad's tormenting brothers, and Kristen Chenoweth fits the bill as Kate's sister. Parents should be aware that the film includes adult language and themes, and some comments about Santa that may upset young children.

New Line

Ruby-Spears Superman The Man of Steel celebrates his 50th anniversary in an all-new Saturday morning romp as Superman faces off against villains both new and old, and introduces us to poignant moments from his days as a boy growing up in Smallville. Legendary animation company Ruby-Spears is responsible for this fresh angle on the DC Comics hero, combining Superman's action-packed career with a fun peek into his alter ego's home life. *Warner*

Film Noir Classics I: The Big Heat German auteur Fritz Lang directs this gritty, violent drama that follows Dave Bannion (Glenn Ford), a detective who investigates a police sergeant's suicide and winds up on a personal quest for vengeance. When Bannion suspects foul play and is promptly taken off the case he defies his superiors and continues to pursue it on his own, leading to his wife's murder and setting Bannion off on a mission to nab the guys responsible. The Sniper In this tense noir thriller, a lonely man (Arthur Franz) experiences a psychotic break and begins targeting women for death, baffling Lt. Frank Kafka (Adolphe Menjou) -- the detective assigned to the case until a police psychologist (Richard Kiley) puts the man's psychosis into perspective. Director Edward Dmytryk makes excellent use of his San Francisco locations to symbolize the fears, obsessions and misogyny that drive a wretched man to murder.

5 Against the House When five college pals partying in Reno devise the perfect casino heist, they decide to go through with their plan and then return the cash, just to prove they can get away with the high-stakes prank. But when distraught Brick (Brian Keith) betrays them and plots to keep the money for himself, he imperils them all. Phil Karlson directs this tense noir caper that co-stars Guy Madison, Kerwin Mathews and Kim Novak. Murder by Contract When methodical killer-for-hire Claude (Vince Edwards) agrees to assassinate a witness scheduled to testify against his mobster boss, he is unnerved to discover that his target is Billie Williams (Caprice Toriel), a female nightclub singer. Forced to alter his killing methods to accommodate the entertainer's erratic behavior, Claude must also face two mafia goons suspicious of his true motives. & The Lineup Returning to San Francisco from an overseas trip, Dorothy Bradshaw (Mary LaRoche) and her young daughter (Cheryl Callaway) fall in with drug dealers when the girl inadvertently destroys a bag of heroin the crooks had stashed in her doll. Now cold-blooded killers Dancer (Eli Wallach) and Julian (Robert Keith) must protect mother and daughter until they can explain the missing smack to their volatile boss. Don Siegel directs this noir thriller. *Sony*

Thomas & Friends Sodor Friends Holiday Collection The little blue tank engine and his friends star in this seven-episode collection of the beloved PBS children's series. Join Thomas as he learns how to cope with a change in his usual route, the importance of perseverance and that sharing a heavy load can make things easier for everyone. Stories include "Thomas Saves the Day," "Don't Tell Thomas," "Fish," "Halloween," "Spic and Span," "Chickens to School" and "Thomas & the Circus. *Hit Entertainment*

The Mary Tyler Moore Show 5th Season With the hilarious, award-winning series The Mary Tyler Moore Show, creators James L. Brooks and Allan Burns built a platform on which Moore could finally display her skills as a comedian. Prior to the show, Moore had been known to audiences as Dick Van Dyke's sweetly neurotic wife; with the new series, she emerged as a comedian in her own right, playing an independent, quirky reporter at WJM-TV, Minneapolis's lowest-rated evening news show. Moore's Mary Richards shines alongside several equally amusing characters like Lou (Edward Asner), Murray (Gavin MacLeod), Ted (Ted Knight), Phyllis (Cloris Leachman), and Rhoda (Valerie Harper). Asner, Leachman, and Rhoda so impressed audiences that each went on to star in his or her own comedy series. In season five Mary continues to juggle plenty of personal and professional problems, such as dating a great guy with an intolerable son and landing behind bars for protecting a source's identity. Meanwhile, her tough-as-nails boss, Lou (Edward Asner), starts seeing a cocktail lounge singer, investigates a local politician and partners with Ted (Ted Knight) to bet on sports. *Fox*

Angel and the Badman Lou Diamond Phillips steps into some mighty big boots in this remake of the 1947 John Wayne classic, but he fills them nicely and makes the role his own in his portrayal of a wounded gunfighter taken in by a group of Quakers. As Quirt Evens (Phillips) recovers from his injuries, he tries to teach his peace-loving hosts a thing or two about self-defense in this Hallmark production co-starring Deborah Kara Unger, Luke Perry and Winston Rekert. *Lionsgate*

SciQ Volumes 1 and 2 Teen hosts Paula and Andrew leave the classroom behind and get hands-on experience as they explore the world of science and technology in this four-episode collection from the Smithsonian Channel educational series. In "CSI," they join the crime lab and learn how to nab the bad guys. In "Spies," Andrew and Paula get a high-tech look at espionage. "Movie Magic" shows the duo learning about special effects, and Blue Man Group guest stars in "Sound. Volume 2 Join Paula and Andrew as they swim, fly and shiver their way through this entertaining trio of episodes from the Smithsonian Channel's science series, in which the energetic hosts compete to boost their "SciQ." Together, the pair explores the possibilities of underwater living in "Underwater." They have gravity-defying fun in "Flight." And in "Snow," they join survival expert Les Stroud for a very cool adventure. *Smithsonian*

Thomas & Friends: Holiday Express This Thomas & Friends collection finds preschoolers' favorite train, Thomas the Tank Engine, partaking in some Christmas fun as he and his friends Henry, Emily, and Percy visit snowmen, decorate trees, and attend holiday parties. *Lionsgate*

Shorts When the residents of a tight-knit community learn that 11-year-old Toe Thompson (Jimmy Bennett) has discovered a mysterious multicolored rock that grants the wishes of whomever possesses it, chaos ensues. Directed by Robert Rodriguez (Spy Kids), this family-friendly tale also stars Jon Cryer and Leslie Mann as Toe's parents, Kat Dennings as his sister Stacey, James Spader as the town mogul and William H. Macy as Dr. Noseworthy. *Warner*

The American Soldier Experience Over 300 Years Of War History! Oscar® winner George Kennedy hosts this expansive, ambitious four-volume documentary series which explores every major conflict in America's bloody history. Filled with historian interviews, dramatic reenactments, paintings, photographs, narration and film clips, The American Soldier spans from the Queen Anne's War of 1702 to the current battle in Iraq. War has always been part of the American experience. Born and nurtured in war, America grew in strength and power until the beginning of the 21st Century when it became the foremost military power in the world. With a complete war history, this documentary series spans America's involvement in the Queen Anne's War, the Boston Massacre, the Battle of Tippecanoe, the Black Hawk War, World War I, World War II, the Korean War, the Cuban Missile Crisis, the Gulf War and so much more. This 8 episode series explores the most poignant wartime eras: The Wars of Conflict The Revolutionary War, Manifest Destiny Wars, The Civil War, The Imperial Wars, The Global Wars, The Cold War & The Police Wars. *Mill Creek*

Great Gift Ideas on DVD

Angels & Demons Dan Brown's novels are packed with fascinating historical tidbits which he ingeniously twists into plots that are so intricate and complex that there is a constant need to inform the reader with exposition, often leaving little room for character development. There is a bit of this stilted quality to *Angels and Demons*, the second of Brown's novels to be brought to the big screen by the tandem of Ron Howard and Tom Hanks, but more than enough intense action to keep the eyes of the audience as busy as their minds. The details of the plot are as diabolical as any in Hollywood history: after the pope's death, a nefarious organization stashes an antimatter bomb somewhere in the Vatican, threatening to annihilate the conclave of cardinals who are meeting to elect the papal successor. To pass the time until the bomb will detonate, the enemy begins to torture and kill a few of the individual cardinals, but there is a pattern to the grotesque executions, involving hidden sculptural symbols and secret architectural clues. Unfortunately for the church, the man most capable of deciphering the code is the American "symbologist" Robert Langdon (Hanks), who happens to be an affirmed atheist. The script is filled with amazing details about the centuries-old conflict between the church and the Illuminati (whose members included Galileo, Michelangelo, and Bernini), which Hanks uncovers as he breathlessly races between various landmarks in Rome, always a step behind the sinister assassin. The secondary cast consists almost entirely of European actors, including Ewan McGregor, Stellan Skarsgaard, and Armin Mueller-Stahl, who betray so little emotion that it is impossible to tell who is a part of the conspiracy until long after the explosive climax. *Sony*

X-Men Origins Wolverine This action-packed prequel to the popular X-Men films explores Marvel Comics character Wolverine's (Hugh Jackman) past and the events that influenced the mutant before the Weapon X program bonded his skeleton with the powerfully strong metal alloy adamantium. After the death of his girlfriend, Wolverine seeks vengeance against supervillain Victor Creed (Liev Schreiber). Ryan Reynolds, Danny Huston and Lynn Collins co-star. **Fox**
Rocky The Undisputed Collection *Rocky* is the stand-up-and-cheer saga of Rocky Balboa (Sylvester Stallone), an underdog boxer who gets his million-to-one shot at love, self-respect, and the world heavyweight title. Rocky is a down-on-his-luck Philadelphia southpaw who works at a meat-packing factory while fighting at a local club. He's given the chance of a lifetime when the world heavyweight champion, Apollo Creed (Carl Weathers), chooses him as an unlikely opponent in his championship bicentennial fight. What was originally planned as a publicity stunt becomes a chance for Rocky to prove himself as a prizefighter while training with his cantankerous manager, Mickey (Burgess Meredith), to rise to the challenge. Thrilling scenes of Rocky's arduous training, including his unforgettable run up the Philadelphia Art Museum steps, are interspersed with a sweet and touching love story between the fighter and his best friend's shy sister, Adrian (Talia Shire). With the love of Adrian on his side, Rocky struggles to overcome the odds, fighting with all his heart in the glorious and brutal finale. Shot with gritty realism on the mean streets of Philadelphia, Rocky introduced a new American cinematic hero, spurred on by rollicking action sequences and a rousing soundtrack. A triumph for star and screenwriter Stallone, who himself came from nowhere to reach the top, Rocky is crowd-pleasing entertainment at its finest. *Rocky II*

After Rocky (Sylvester Stallone) goes the distance with champ Apollo Creed (Carl Weathers), both try to put the fight behind them and move on. Rocky settles down with Adrian (Talia Shire) but can't put his life together outside the ring, while Creed seeks a rematch to restore his reputation. Soon enough, the "Master of Disaster" and the "Italian Stallion" are set on a collision course for a climactic battle that is brutal and unforgettable. *Rocky III* Now the world champion, Rocky Balboa (Sylvester Stallone) is living in luxury and only fighting opponents who pose no threat to him in the ring. His lifestyle of wealth and idleness is shaken when a powerful young fighter known as Clubber Lang (Mr. T) challenges him to a bout. After taking a pounding from Lang, the humbled champ turns to former bitter rival Apollo Creed (Carl Weathers) to help him regain his form for a rematch with Lang. *Rocky IV* Sly Stallone heads into the ring for the fourth time in this heart-pounding sports drama. A new challenger steps forward to take on Rocky's world heavyweight title: Drago (Dolph Lundgren), a gargantuan fighter from the Soviet Union. After Drago kills Apollo Creed (Carl Weathers) in an exhibition match, Rocky sets out to avenge his friend by agreeing to a globally-televised match in the heart of Moscow. Expect a heart-pounding fight to the finish. *Rocky V* times are different for boxing champion Rocky Balboa (Sylvester Stallone). A lifetime of taking shots has terminated his career, and a crooked accountant has left him bankrupt. In this final chapter of the Rocky series, the Balboa family is forced to return to their gritty beginnings in the old neighborhood, attempting to start their lives anew. Life in Philadelphia means a lot of adjustment for the once-wealthy Balboa family. Adrian (Talia Shire) has to return to her job at the pet store, Rocky Jr. (Sage Stallone) struggles to endure a punishingly tough high school, and Rocky is forced to face that his championship career is finally over. Soon, though, Rocky returns to what he knows best--boxing. He becomes a manager for Tommy Gunn (Tommy Morrison), an up-and-coming boxer, teaching him all of the tricks of the trade. Inspired by the memory of his own trainer, Mickey (Burgess Meredith), Rocky is able to find glory in training. However, Tommy leaves his tutelage for George W. Duke (Richard Gant), a flashy Don King-like promoter, and Rocky's rage and sense of betrayal inspire him to fight one final grudge match. Young Tommy and Rocky duke it out in a bloody streetfight that recalls the brutal glory and hard-knocks finale of the original Rocky. *Rocky Balboa*, the sixth installment of the long-running film franchise, just as his longtime corner man Paulie describes the Italian Stallion himself, this movie is all heart. Thirty years after Sylvester Stallone first introduced the underdog backroom brawler from Philadelphia in the Oscar-winning Rocky, Rocky Balboa returns for one last dance. Speculation as to whether Balboa, in his prime, would have been able to defeat lackluster champ Mason "The Line" Dixon spurs Dixon's management to set up an exhibition fight between the two. That Balboa is in his 50s in the film and wouldn't be sanctioned to fight anyone, let alone a man 30 years his junior and in the prime of life, must be left up to the viewer's ability to suspend disbelief. To its credit, however, the movie addresses at every turn the insanity of a man approaching 60 getting back into a boxing ring, and Balboa's impassioned explanation of his motivations is just believable enough to give all other improbabilities a free pass. Though it may sound like faint praise, this is the best Rocky movie since the original. It's very much a love letter to Philadelphia, and Stallone, who wrote and directed the movie, shoots everything with an unflinching eye that humanizes the mean streets of the City of Brotherly Love and evokes the gritty dignity of the original film. And while Burt Young's cantankerous Paulie and Tony Burton's Duke both return, Talia Shire, sadly, does not reprise her role as the beloved Adrian. It's revealed early in the film that Adrian has died of cancer, and it's the pain of that tragedy that ultimately fuels Rocky. Boxing as a metaphor for life is certainly nothing new, but Stallone makes a legitimate contribution to the tradition with Rocky Balboa. Life hits harder than any man can, and one's ability to keep getting up until the final bell rings is the true measure of self. *MGM*

Farcy A hardened seaman and a dogged reporter become trapped on an island with a mysterious scientist, a ruthless band of mercenaries, and a vicious pack of unidentifiable creatures in Bloodrayne director Uwe Boll's seventh video-game-to-screen adaptation. A team of mercenaries has been attacked on a remote island in the Pacific Northwest, and as mysterious reports begin to emerge from the chaos, a veteran Seattle newspaper editor sends top reporters Tom Moore and Valerie Constantine to the scene in hopes of getting the scoop on the story. Shortly after arriving on the island under the guidance of ship captain Jack Carver (Til Schweiger), the trio is attacked by mercenary commander Maria Sanchez. Though Tom is killed, Valerie and Jack manage to stage a daring escape and quickly begin to bicker over their plan as Maria's murderous soldiers fast begin gaining ground. Despite Captain Jack's plan to locate his friend Emilio and get off of the island as quickly as possible, reporter Valerie remains determined to investigate the strange situation and get as many details as possible for her upcoming story. Later, when Jack, Valerie, and Emilio are captured and taken to the secret lab of genius scientist Dr. Krieger, Valerie is extended an invitation to join the doctor in announcing his latest findings to the world. Though it finally seems as if Valerie has gotten just the scoop needed to make her story, the situation quickly turns chaotic when one of Dr. Krieger's creatures escapes from the lab and sets out on a murderous rampage. *Vivendi*