

ALL THE STARS! ALL THE PARTIES!

FEBRUARY 2 2009
ISSUE #5

OK! WEEKLY



GARTH BROOKS
GETS SASHA
& MICHELLE
DANCING!

★
SPECIAL COLLECTOR'S EDITION
★

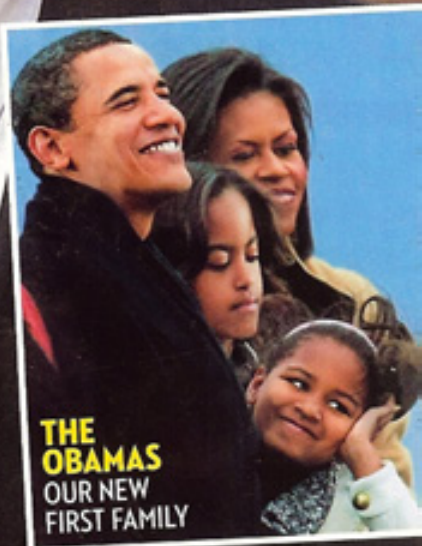


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REVIEWS

MOVIES

BY SARA VILKOMERSON



INKHEART

The author of the novel was inspired by Brendan Fraser (second from left) himself — and dedicated the book to him.

A FUN FANTASY

INKHEART Real or not, **Rafi Gavron, Brendan Fraser, Eliza Bennett, Paul Bettany** and **Helen Mirren** bring books to vivid life

Finally, a movie promoting reading! *Inkheart*, based on the best-selling novel by Cornelia Funke, is all about the magic of the written word. Brendan Fraser plays Mortimer "Mo" Folchart, who has an unusual gift: When he reads aloud, the characters literally come to life. The problem is, for every creature summoned, a real person disappears into the book's pages. That's what happened to Mo's

wife, Resa, nine years earlier, and why he and daughter Meggie (Bennett) are always searching the picturesque countryside and dusty used bookshops for the same rare book, called, of course, *Inkheart*. But when it turns out that Meggie has her dad's gift (she reads *The Wizard of Oz* and gets herself a Toto!), Capricorn — one of the movie's more villainous characters, played by Lord

of the *Rings*' **Andy Serkis** — kidnaps her to force her to bring back the Shadow, the book's most terrifying creature. The cast includes Helen Mirren — clearly having a ball — Paul Bettany and **Jim Broadbent**, and while the movie may be a little short on reason and logic, younger audiences will most likely be thrilled... and may even ask to read the book. ★★★★★

BACK IN THEATERS

THE DARK KNIGHT
Christian Bale, Heath Ledger

Is there anyone who *hasn't* seen *The Dark Knight*? Judging from the truckloads of cash it brought in last summer, not many. But this is a film that's well worth another look on the big screen. Beautiful, sweeping and moody, it's no wonder it landed on so many best-of lists. The late Heath is favored for an Oscar (on top of his Golden Globe) — and after you watch it (again), you'll understand why.

★★★★★



HEATH LEDGER
The scariest Joker in *Batman* movie history freaks out Maggie Gyllenhaal.

PREVIEW



UNDERWORLD
Rhona Mitra as
Sonja, hot Lycan
love interest.

UNDERWORLD: RISE OF THE LYCANS

Michael Sheen, Bill Nighy

The third episode in the franchise is the story that began it all — the start of the feud between the vampires and their slaves, the Lycans. Sheen leads the werewolves against the vampire king (Nighy, a big slice of ham). One thing's for sure: It's awfully dark in the underworld!

HENRY POOLE IS HERE

Luke Wilson, Radha Mitchell

In this quirky dramedy, misanthropic loner Henry (Wilson) finds his world changed when a neighbor (**Adriana Barraza**) sees the face of Jesus in a water stain on the side of his house. ★★☆☆

THE SECRET DIARY OF A CALL GIRL: SEASON ONE

Billie Piper, Iddo Goldberg

This sexy Showtime series is based on the true stories of a London call girl. Hannah Baxter (former pop star Piper) becomes prostitute Belle by night, but finds juggling her separate lives harder than she imagined. ★★☆☆

MAX PAYNE

Mark Wahlberg, Mila Kunis

Fans of *Sin City* will dig this big-screen adaptation of the popular video game, in which Marky Mark kicks butt as a rogue cop. ★★☆☆

SKINS: VOLUME ONE

Nicholas Hoult, Hannah Murray

This fresh new teen drama is garnering a lot of buzz. A group of friends in England navigate adolescence together, dealing with contemporary issues like anorexia, divorce and drugs. ★★☆☆

CHRIS ROCK: KILL THE MESSENGER

Chris Rock

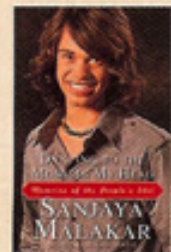
Due to some questionable editing, jokes are spliced in from different locations, such as London and South Africa. Once you get past this distraction, settle in for some good laughs courtesy of Rock's unique world view. Also available in a three-disc collector's edition. ★★☆☆



CHRIS ROCK His first book since 1997 comes out next year.

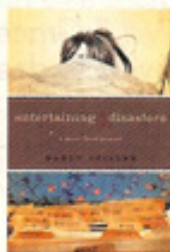
BOOKS

— Sara Vilkomerson is film reporter for the *New York Observer*; DVDs, books and music by Lindsey Hunter Lopez



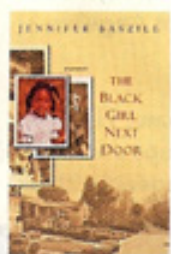
Dancing to the Music in My Head

Sanjaya Malakar (Pocket)
The pony-hawked phenom tells his tale, giving "Fanjayas" an inside (but not very intimate) look at *American Idol* and his own dizzying rise to fame. ★★☆☆



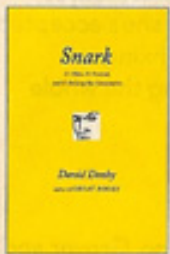
Entertaining Disasters

Nancy Spiller (Counterpoint)
A socially inept food writer fabricates the fab dinners she writes about. Panic sets in when the editor wants a real invite to one of her fake soirées. ★★☆☆



The Black Girl Next Door

Jennifer Bazzile (Touchstone)
Yale prof Bazzile has written a powerful memoir of growing up black in a white California 'burb — from a child's point of view as well as an adult's. ★★☆☆



Snark

David Denby (Simon & Schuster)
Understand this modern form of sarcasm before it rules the world! *New Yorker* critic Denby's guide to the various types of snark and their origins is funny and instructive. ★★☆☆

MUSIC

Mariah Carey

The Ballads

(Sony BMG)
Indulge in the sappy best of Mariah with this compilation from the high points of her reign, including classics like "Hero," "One Sweet Day" (featuring Boyz II Men) and "Dreamlover." ★★☆☆



Light Poles and Pines

Or, the Whale

(Seany)
This talented San Francisco band presents a winning blend of folksy, indie rock that ranges from melodic ballads to boot-stompin' country. Try "Call and Response" and you'll be hooked! ★★☆☆

