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1. PLEX AND ITS AGENTS

What is Plex?

As <u>Per PC Magazine</u>: if you have a vast personal library of TV shows and movies you want to watch or share access to on mobile devices or your TV, Plex is a must-have tool.

If you have a collection of movies (blockbuster or porn) and TV shows in your personal library, there's hardly a better way to manage it than Plex.

Like the similar library app Kodi, Plex gives you an attractive interface to browse or search your shows to find something to watch. But its key feature is in letting you stream your own content from your computer to any device you own, and even share that library with others.

Plex is composed of two applications:

- <u>Plex Media Server</u>: This runs off the one device that stores all of your media; and manages the cataloging of all your media be it films, home videos, photos or music. The app downloads metadata from sites like TVDB, Movie DB, and IMDB and matches these to your library files.
- <u>Plex</u>: The client, which is used to play back the catalogued media managed by Plex Media Server. It, however, also gives the User options to change Plex Media Server settings rather than loading these settings via the default web browser page

Both Apps can be installed on just one device, however, Plex's most useful feature is streaming your media elsewhere, so you'll probably want to download more than one client.

Plex Media Server runs on a wide array of platforms including Windows, Mac OS, Linux, FreeBSD, and a bunch of niche NAS.

The Plex apps (or clients) come on a different, but no less varied, range of platforms, including Android, iOS, Windows, and Mac. However, you'll also find dedicated Plex apps for most smart TV platforms and boxes like Apple TV, Chromecast, and Fire TV, as well as consoles like the Xbox One and PlayStation 4. In other words, if there's a place you watch TV, there's a good chance Plex already has an app for it.

What is Plex Gay Media Adult Agents - Modernized?

Agents are the server component that's responsible for taking the information from Plex's built in scanner and then acting on it to help bring in the rich metadata (plot summary, cast info, cover art, etc.) that brings your media libraries to life.

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Plex by default uses sites like IMDB, TVDB and MovieDB to fetch this rich metadata, however, most pornography has either no listing on these sites or lacking in poster art as an example due to their sexual content.

We created our Metadata Agents (or just "agents") to bridge this gap. When doing this we realized as loads of you out there already have, that pornography comes in two forms:

- Full Films
- Scenes

Therefore, we tailored our approach and created agents to match both film indexing websites (e.g., AEBN, GEVI, IAFD) and/or scene indexing websites (e.g., WayBig, QueerClick, IAFD) to retrieve and populate this metadata in the same way as the default Plex agents do. The full film agent aptly named GayAdultFilms, the scene agent GayAdultScenes and the combination of the two GayAdult.

For an expanded discussion of Plex's native Agent functionality, and their use click here.

2. INSTALLATION

Installing the Plex Media Server

Click here for a Quick-Start and Step by Step Guides for installing PMS.

Planning your Approach

As described in the previous section, the PMS is a fantastic approach to streaming your home media content, both non-adult and adult.

Perhaps you already use PMS and are excited to add your gay adult content.

Some consideration should be given into how you want to structure your libraries. If there are folks in your house that you don't want to see some of your content, you should carefully plan your approach.

You have options. You could install multiple PMS using multiple accounts (one for your non adult content, one for your adult content).

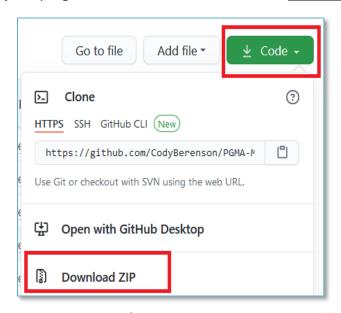
You could install everything on one PMS with one account, and share the non-adult libraries with a 2nd account that will be used throughout your house (e.g., on your Roku devices) for your family-friendly content.

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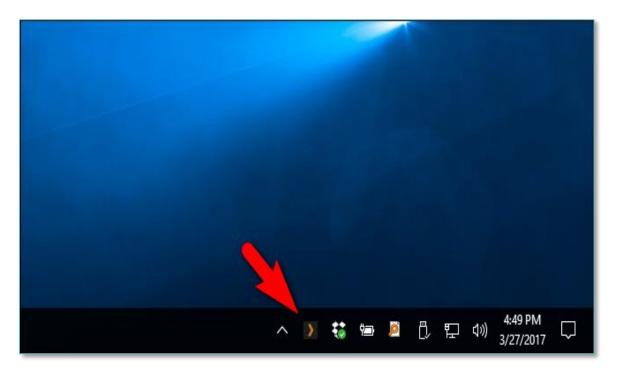
Installing the Plex Gay Media Adult Agents – Modernized

Once you have strategized your approach, it's time to roll your sleeves up and get started. Follow these step by step instructions:

• **Step 1:** Clone this repository to your Plex server and copy all of the .bundle folders and their contents to your plugin folder. Can't find the folder? <u>Click here.</u>



• **Step 2:** Exit and Restart your PMS and Login to the web interface and open settings. Look for the Plex icon in the Windows system tray (or the macOS menu bar).



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• **Step 3:** Select "Exit" to safely shut down the server.



Relaunch the application as you normally would using a shortcut in your Start Menu, Dock, or the like to fire it up.

• **Step 4:** Start small. Before renaming every file in your system, start with one and work with it until you can get Plex to match it.

Trust us, you'll learn valuable insights from what didn't work that could cause a massive amount of rework if you've already renamed all your files.

If you still can't get it to work, we are happy to help!

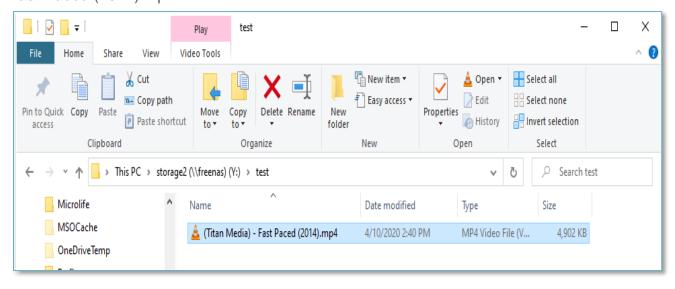
• **Step 5:** Create a new folder with the file you want to match against. For illustration purposes, we'll assume the file is Titan Media's Fast Paced released in 2014.

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• **Step 6:** Find a match for this file on an index site, such as AEBN.com, gayeroticvideoindex.com, gayDVDempire.com etc.

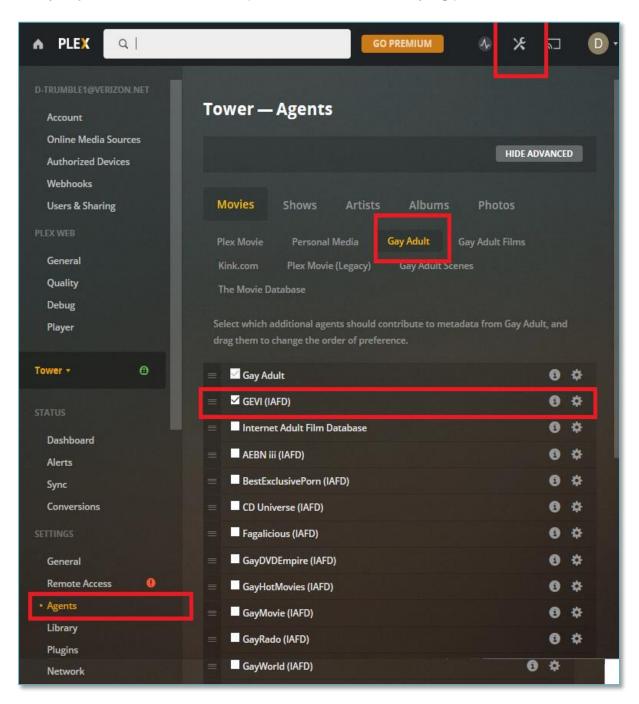


Step 7: Name this file in the proper format (Studio) - Title (YYYY) ensuring this
matches the studio, title, and date from the website. In this example, (Titan Media) –
Fast Paced (2014).mp4



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• **Step 8:** Go into your PMS settings and choose only the film or scene agent whose website you just found the match to (i.e., AEBN, GEVI or WayBig.) Unselect all others.

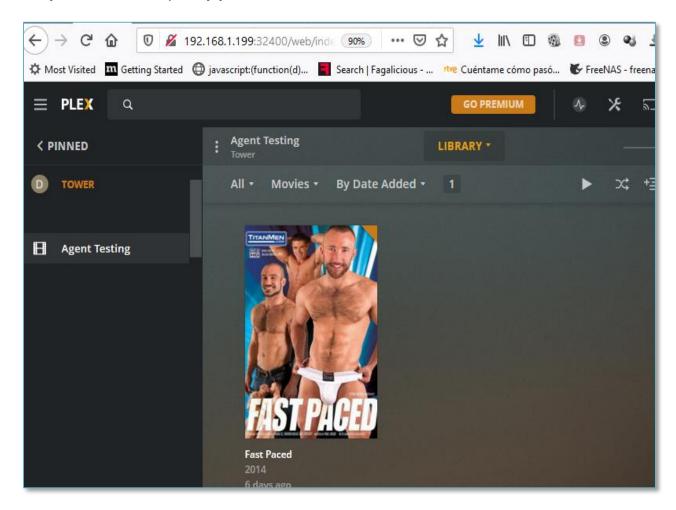


- Step 9: Create a new Plex Movie library:
 - o in the "add folders" step, point to the folder you just created;

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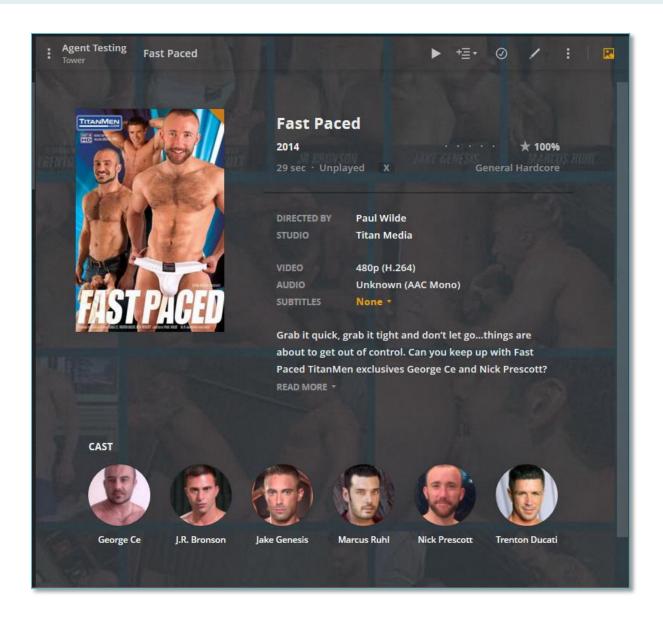
- in the "advanced" step, choose the appropriate Agent just configured in step 8 (GayAdult in this example)
- o Click "Add Library" to complete the wizard.

Plex will create and scan the new library and attempt to match the file using the agent that you selected. Hopefully your match will be successful.



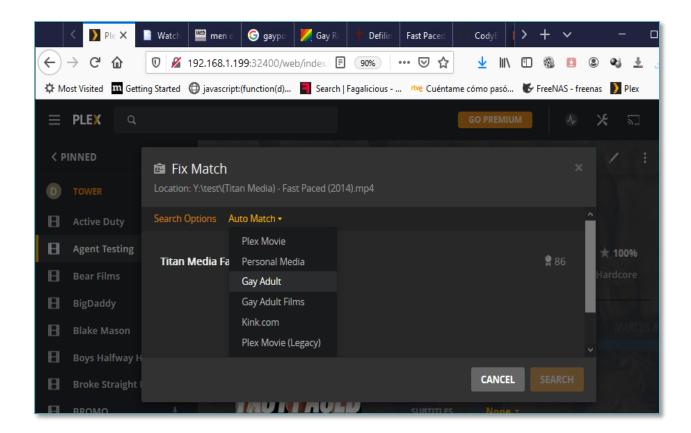
...and when the poster is clicked:

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• **Step 10:** If the match isn't successful, ensure that the metadata for the entry on the indexing website matches the filename. If you need to tweak the filename do so, and then try scanning the library again and if necessary doing a Fix Match on the offending non-matching title.

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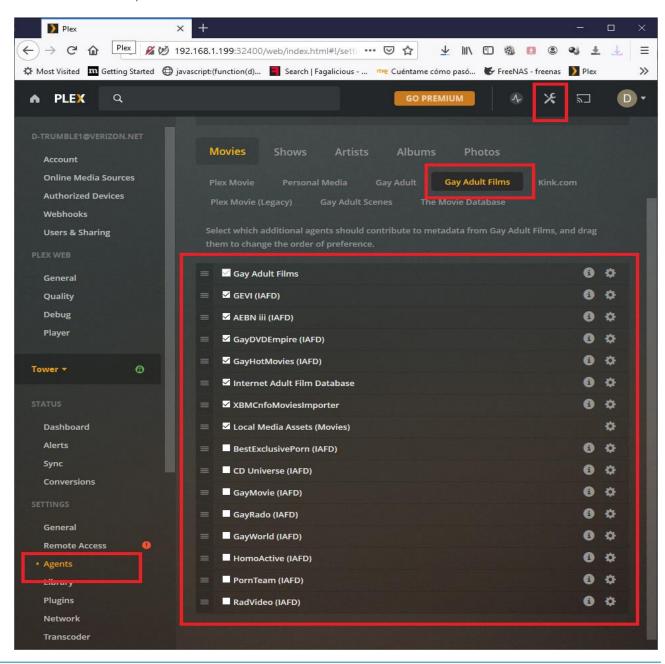


- Step 11: If you still can't get a match, please open an issue and include:
 - The specific operating system/device you have PMS installed on.
 - The logs--attach all the newly created logs from the \Logs\PMS Plugin Logs directories. Not sure where they're located, <u>click here</u>: (e.g., in windows they are typically found in C:\Users\<Your User Name>\AppData\Local\Plex Media Server\Logs\PMS Plugin Logs)
 - o The specific URL of the film or scene title on the Agent's index site.
 - Any information you deem pertinent, error messages you may have received, and any questions you may have
 - Please do not include adult-content images.
- **Step 12:** If you are new to Plex, it really is about getting the first title to match. That is 98% of the battle. Once you get the first title to match, the rest of your library will follow in due course. So, now that you've gotten your first match, go wild.
- Step 13: Go to Settings > Server > Agents select "GayAdult" and/or "GayAdultFilms" and/or "GayAdultScenes" and check any/all agents you wish to use and put them in order of preference (e.g. if you prefer matching against AEBN, consider putting AEBN

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first); check Local Media Assets (Movies) if you include your own poster artwork (see below).

- Gay Adult contains all of the agents for those who mix Films and Scenes in the same Plex library
- GayAdultFilms specifically contains the Film agents (e.g., AEBN, GEVI, and GayDVDEmpire) and is used in libraries which only contain full-length films
- Gay Adult Scenes contains agents for blog sites (WayBig, Fagalicious, and QueerClick). Use in libraries contain scenes.



3. LABELING YOUR FILES

Feature Films vs. Scenes

Earlier you were asked to plan your approach. Part of that approach asks that you consider whether you want to build libraries specifically targeted for Feature Films, Scenes, or both.

Feature Films:

Name your files as: (Studio) - Title (Year).ext

Find your film on one of the Index sites (e.g., AEBN.com or gayeroticvideoindex.com). Name your file using the specific title from the Index site e.g.

- (Titan Media) Copperhead Canyon (2008).mp4
- (Raging Stallion Studios) Manscent (2019).mp4
- (Men) Camp Chaos (2019).mp4

The matching agent will return the movie poster and relevant metadata i.e. actor thumbnails (matched from IAFD.com)



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Scenes from blogs:

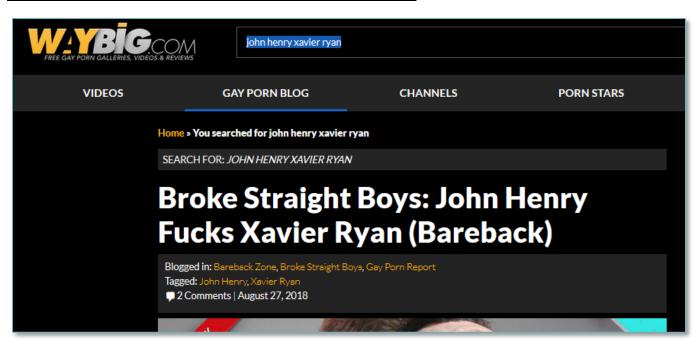
Name your files as: (Studio) - Title (Year).ext

Find your scene on one of the Index sites (e.g., WayBig.com, QueerClick.com). Name your file using the specific title from the Index site e.g.

- (Men Series) Bellamy Bradley, Alex Fortin, William Seed and Morgan Blake in 'Battle Buddies, Part 4' (2017).mp4
- (Active Duty) Phoenix River and Ryan Jordan (2018).mp4
- (Sean Cody) Jess Tops Deacon (Bareback) (2018).mp4

For illustration, let's here's an address for a scene we'd like to match:

https://www.waybig.com/blog/?s=john+henry+xavier+ryan

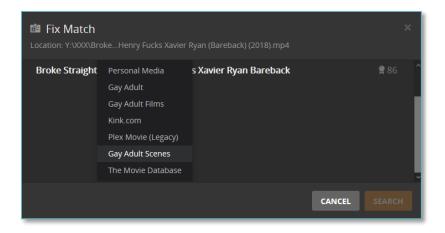


In our illustration, we will name the file using the title from the site. Again, targeting a Plex match using the WayBig (IAFD) agent, properly name the file based on the title from the site:

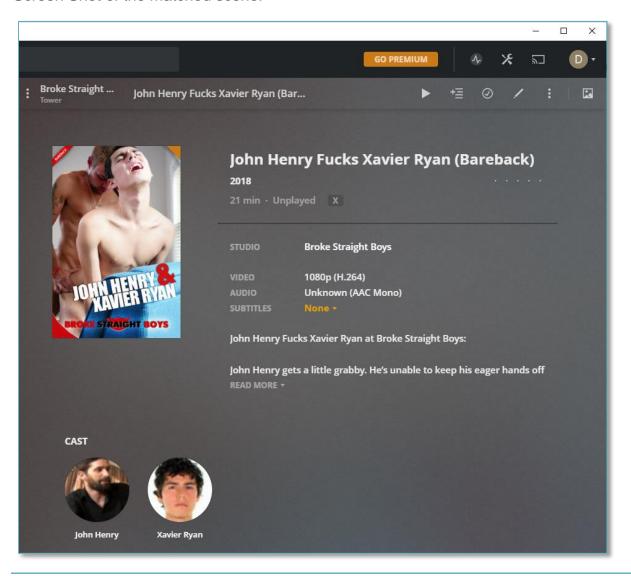
• (Broke Straight Boys) - John Henry Fucks Xavier Ryan (Bareback) (2018).mp4

The matching agent will return a scene poster and relevant metadata, actor thumbnails (matched from IAFD.com). If Plex doesn't correct the match (for me, Plex is hit or miss), do a "Fix Match" for this particular scene choosing the proper Agent set:

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Plex will then attempt to re-match the scene against each of the enabled agents. If the WayBig (IAFD) agent is enabled, it should match the new properly named file name. Here is a Plex Screen Shot of the matched scene:

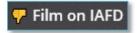


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Populating Actor's Roles

The Agents now have functionality that will pull Role information (e.g., Top, Bottom, Non-Sex, Mast-Only, BJOnly), if available, from IAFD for each actor. As discussed, content is normally labeled as **(Studio) - Title (Year).ext**. However, it isn't unsual that one indexing site may use a slightly different Studio Name (e.g., Titan Men) than IAFD (e.g., Titan Media).

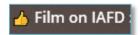
For example, let's match the film title (Titan Men) - Cut to the Chase (2014).mp4 using the GayHotMovies agent. The Film on IAFD result will be a Thumbs Down.



Cast will be retrieved from IAFD but with no Roles because IAFD can not find this film as it is registered under Titan Media.



If the Film is on IAFD but using a different Studio name, you now have the option to label the file as (Studio;IAFDStudio) - Title (Year).ext. So, let's match the film title (Titan Men;Titan Media) - Cut to the Chase (2014).mp4 again using the GayHotMovies agent. The film on IAFD result will be a Thumbs Up,



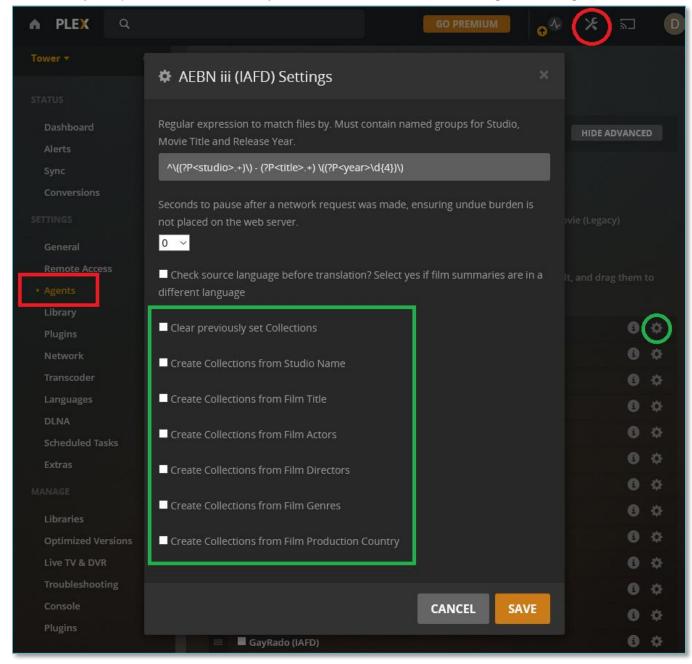
and the Role will be populated for the cast.



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Dynamically Creating and Updating Collections

The Agents now have functionality to create or update collections of various sorts. The functionality is optional, is set to off by default, and is controlled via Agent Settings.



You have the option to create collections for:

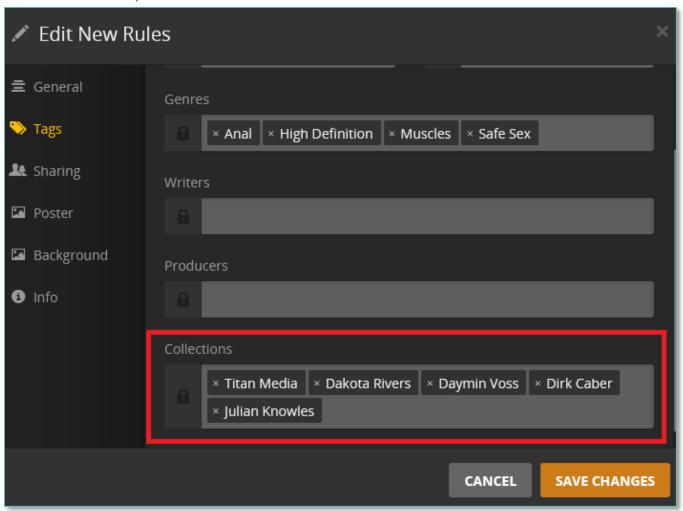
- Studio Name and/or
- Film Series (e.g. a collection called "Bareback Auditions" if the film is part of a series "Bareback Auditions 8" and/or
- Actors and/or

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- Directors and/or
- Genres and/or
- Production Country.

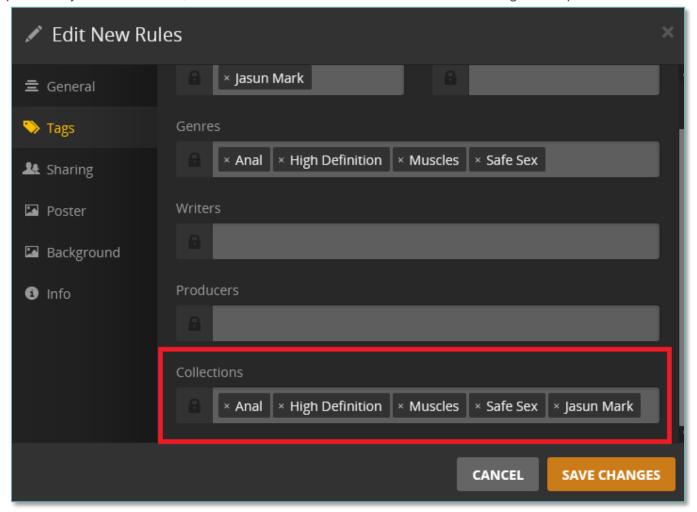
You also have the option to clear previously set collections.

For example, for the Title "New Rules" the following tags are populated and Collections created when the options for "Studio Name" and "Actors is selected:



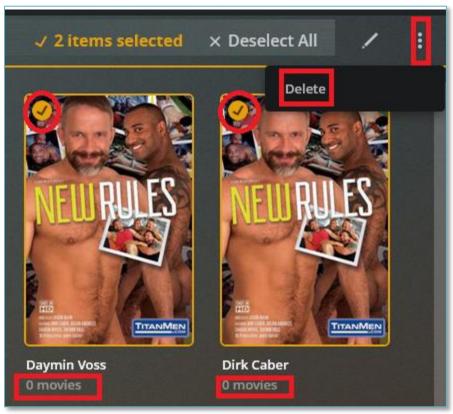
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If the options are changed, for example, to Genres and Director and the option to clear previously set collections, when the title is rematched the Collections tags are updated:



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Note: Previously created collections remain in Plex even if metadata has been removed from it. Unwanted collections can be deleted through standard Plex functionality.



4. Agent Specific Considerations

Gay Erotic Video Index (GEVI)

GEVI has a **TREMENDOUS** amount of indexed content, but has some quirks that are easy to navigate. Unlike other agents, GEVI allows you to use either:

- (Studio) Title (Year).ext
- (Distributor) Title (Year).ext

In GEVI as in the other Agents, if on windows, one cannot use a colon (:) in a filename. If the site uses a colon either in the Studio or Title replace with space dash space, i.e. " - ".

Scene Blogs Including "at Studio" at the End of the Title:

There is a quirk that some of the blogs temporarily undertook. Waybig, for example, circa 2016-2017, started titling their entries with "at Studio" at the end of the entry.



For titles falling into this category of "quirk", simply remove the "at studio" from the end of the title and follow the proper file naming convention, i.e.

(Men.com) - Adam Ramzi, Alex Mecum, Julian Knowles and Kurtis Wolfe in 'Dangerous Days' Part 3 (2017).mp4

Or,

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(Men) - Adam Ramzi, Alex Mecum, Julian Knowles and Kurtis Wolfe in 'Dangerous Days' Part 3 (2017).mp4

Internet Adult Film Database (IAFD) Tips and Considerations:

IAFD is a robust database of adult films and scenes (straight, bi, gay, etc.). Sometimes, when a particular film can't be found on any of the other indexing sites, or a particular scene can't be found on any of the other blog sites, it will be on IAFD. We consider it a next-to-last resort (last resort being manually tagging metadata and posters).

However, unlike the other indexes, IAFD contains no posters. Everyone has their own individual tastes. To some, the autogenerated poster from Plex may be just fine, as long as the metadata is pulled from IAFD. For others, metadata isn't enough and a quality poster is needed.

For those whose taste falls into the latter, you have the option of finding a poster that you like for the content, and manually uploading it using Plex's built in functionality (or using Local Media Assets (Movies) (see below). For example, often on Google you can find studio stills for a particular scene. If you like one, copy the source URL and upload it manually. Plex utilizes a 1 x 1.5 ratio for posters (e.g., 600px width x 900px height). If your image doesn't fit those ratios, Plex will auto crop. For the connoisseur, you may want to manually adjust in Paint 3d, Photoshop, or in Coverlabs, an easy to use Plex Companion Application (see section below) etc.

For example, the blogs contain very little indexed Blake Mason scene content, whereas IAFD had most, perhaps nearly all, of it (at last for the recent several years). The IAFD Agent is a good option.

We recommend that you include it last in the order of priority, unless it is your particular go-to agent.

Local Media Assets (Movies) Considerations:

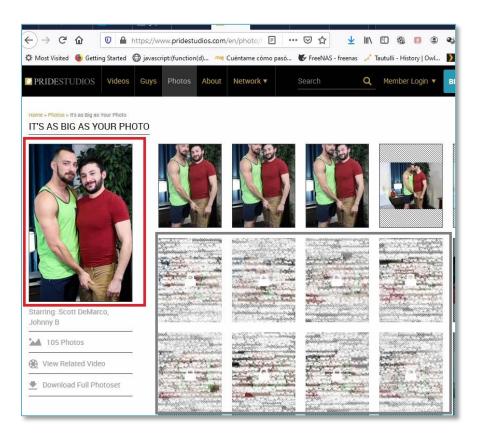
This is a useful tool to use, especially in combination with the IAFD Agent. Suppose there is a film or a scene that can only be found on IAFD.

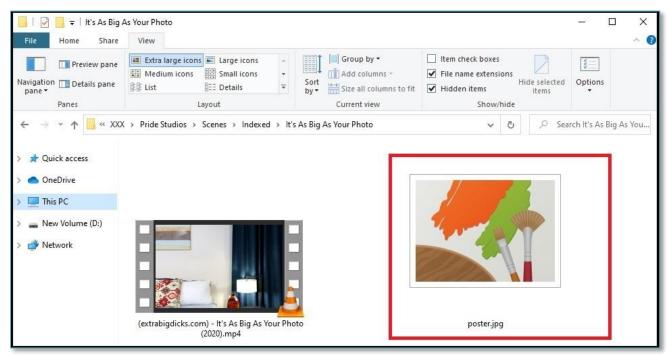
For example, many Pride Studios and Next Door Studios scenes can't be found on the blogs, but are indexed on IAFD.

Further, those two sites offers high quality photos (not still captures) for that scene, including a 1 x 1.5 ratio image. If you create a subfolder (e.g., John and James), and put both the IAFD

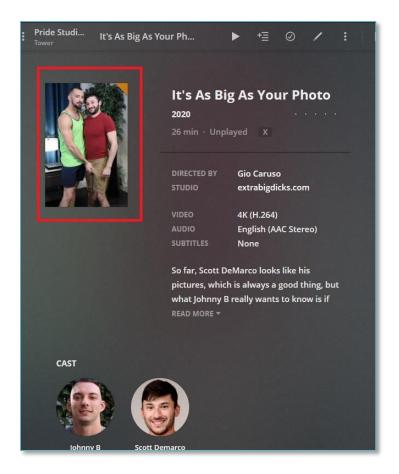
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appropriately named scene file *and* the artwork image titled **poster.jpg**, Plex will grab the metadata for the scene from IAFD and use the poster.jpg image as the poster artwork if Local Media Assets (Movies) is checked in Plex's Agent Settings.





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Another type of local media assets are the tags that may be embedded within a file's properties. If you'd prefer to use the resulting metadata from one of the blogs vs. what may be encoded in your file's properties, make sure that Local Media Agents is ranked lowest in the ordering of agents.

BestExclusivePorn Tips and Considerations

Unlike other blog sites, this site does not consistently include metadata for performers' names. A workaround, specifically for scenes, has been built into the agent. The agent will look for sets of two words both beginning with Upper Case, assume they're an actor's name, and look for a match in IAFD.

For example:

(NextDoorRaw) - Don't Stop Dacotah Red fucks Zak Bishop bareback (2020).mp4

The agent will see if it can find matches for

"Don't Stop"

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- "Dacotah Red"
- "Zak Bishop"

As it parses the title for sets of two capitalized words and will treat all three as actors. However it will not find a headshot for "Don't Stop", the agent will properly build metadata and actor information and headshot for the remaining two matches (Dacotah Red and Zak Bishop).

However, if you named the file as

(NextDoorRaw) - Please don't stop Dacotah Red fucks Zak Bishop bareback (2020).mp4

The agent will look for the following actors:

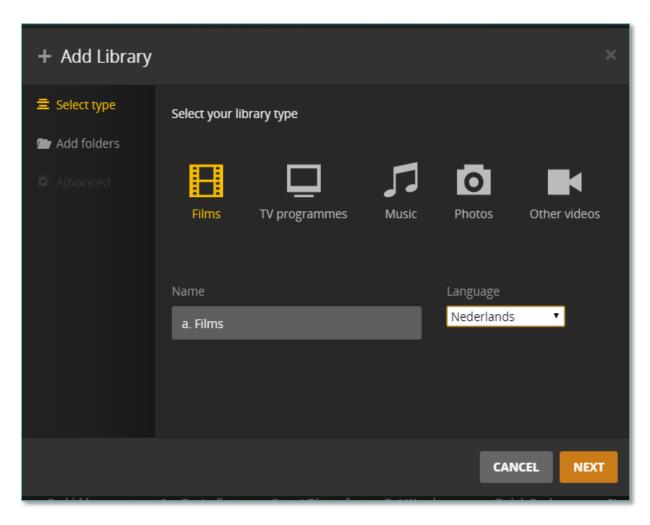
- Dacotah Red,
- Zak Bishop

Which is what is required and will return matched metadata/headshots for Dacotah Red and Zak Bishop.

5. LANGUAGE TRANSLATION

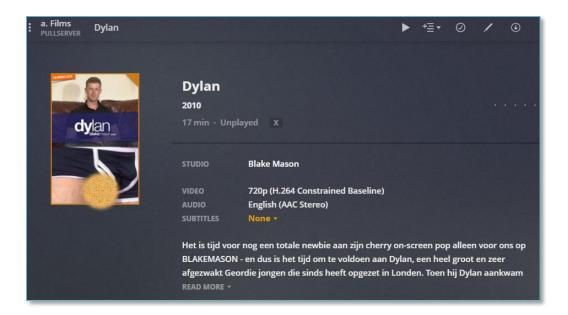
All PGMA-Modernized Agents now provide optional language translation functionality. Perhaps you're an English speaker and you'd prefer the Summary metadata for your libraries to be in English and not the native French from the index (e.g., https://www.gayeroticvideoindex.com/V/6/49506.html).

Conversely, you'd prefer to have Film and Scene summaries translated to your native German. Perhaps you wish to duplicate and share one of your libraries with a friend whose native language is different than yours.



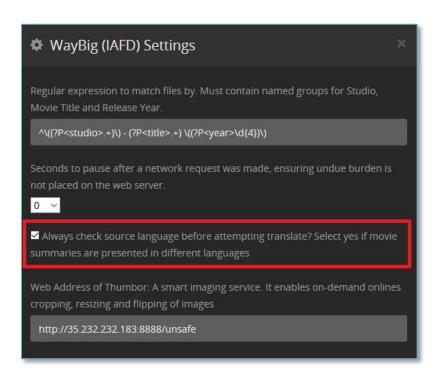
When you create a new library or update an existing library, choose the language that you prefer the library's summaries to be translated to (if translation is necessary).

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When the agent matches the file, if the library language choice (in this Example, Dutch) is NOT the same as the website's default language (English for example, if using the AEBN agent), the agent will translate the summary to Dutch.

You may optionally force an agent to check the source language before attempting to translate. In the GEVI example above, by checking this setting the GEVI agent will translate the native French summary to your library's language, even though GEVI's default language is English.

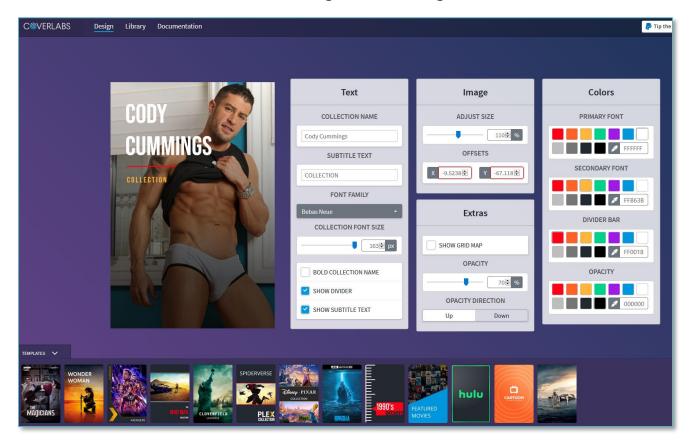


6. CREATING CUSTOM COVER ART

Creating Cover Art for Film, Scene, and Collection Posters

Special thanks to @joshallen13 who came across this site while looking for a suitable collection cover poster, and found it very simple and easy to use...AND QUICK!

Consider trying out Coverlabs, for those who wish to create something visually appealing for the file thumbnail rather than a blurred auto-generated ambiguous thumbnail.



Just a few steps to create awesome content:

- 1. Select your template
- 2. Insert your Title
- 3. Drag an Image
- 4. Resize
- 5. Download
- 6. Upload to your Plex Library entry

Et voila!

7. COMBINING MULTI-PART SCENES INTO ONE MOVIE

We have had questions on how to combine multiple scenes for a film into one film using a Film Agent, with one poster, rather than using the Scene Agents and creating multiple Plex items.

Great news! The functionality you're looking for comes out of the box from Plex, and therefore our agents support it. Here are two methods:

Method 1. Plex logically treats all individual scenes as 1 film with 1 poster, and plays as if 1 film

Here's how this method works: let's say you have individual parts that make up the Raging Stallion release Get a Room Too

(https://www.gayeroticvideoindex.com/V/5/67325.html)

Step 1. Properly name your files:

(Raging Stallion Studios) - Get a Room Too (2021) Scene 1.mp4 (Raging Stallion Studios) - Get a Room Too (2021) Scene 2.mp4 (Raging Stallion Studios) - Get a Room Too (2021) Scene 3.mp4

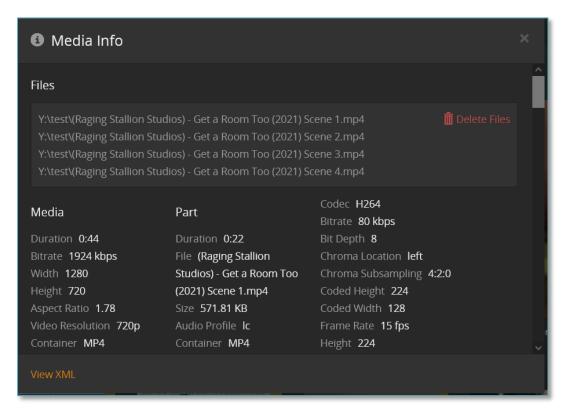
(Raging Stallion Studios) - Get a Room Too (2021) Scene 4.mp4

Step 2. Match using our GEVI agent, Plex will group all four entries into one movie, with one poster.



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When you click on "Get Info" for that "movie", it will display the individual parts that were grouped to form that movie.



When you click on the poster, it will display all of the information GEVI had for the film.

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A couple points to note:

- For the most part, playback is as if it were one large movie (i.e. the aggregate of all the scenes combined) and not multiple individual scenes, When the player finishes the first scene, it will smoothly and seamlessly move right into the next scene, as if they were not separate media files. However, not all playback devices/apps support the playback of stacked media
- All parts must be of the same file format (e.g. all MP4 or all MKV)
- All parts should have identical audio and subtitle streams in the same order
- Plex has a limitation to the # of scenes it will allow you to stack (per their documentation, up to 8; perhaps somewhat larger though....approximately 8 - 10); Plex recommends using software to join the scenes into one file rather than stacking them if you're facing a large number of scenes for a movie
- There is also Plex functionality that allows you to "merge" mutiple scenes into one movie/one poster as a fallback
- "Other Videos" libraries or those using the "Plex Video Files Scanner" do not support stacked content.
- "Stacking" isn't limited to "Scene". Media named properly as (Studio) Title (YYYY)
 Split_Name.ext will also work, where Split_Name is one of the following:
 - o cdX
 - discX
 - diskX

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- o dvdX
- partX
- o ptX

(please refer to the "Movies Split Across Multiple Files" section of https://support.plex.tv/articles/naming-and-organizing-your-movie-media-files/)

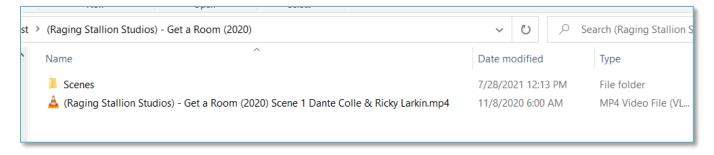
Method 2. Using Plex's "Extras" functionality, Plex treats all individual scenes as individual scenes and groups them together as 1 media item with 1 poster

Here is a 2nd method for handling scenes where each individual scene is separated and you can maintain your naming convention but are combined under one poster. For this example, let's use Raging Stallion's Get a Room and its 6 individual scenes. Again, this is native functionality to Plex which works with our agents.

Step 1. Create a Parent folder for the movie. Let's use the file naming convention of (Raging Stallion Studios) - Get a Room (2020)

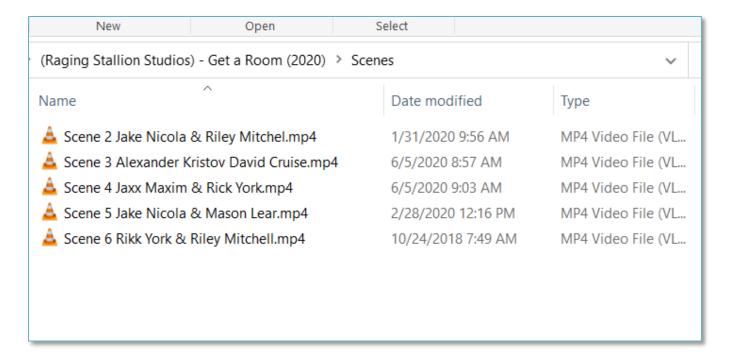
Step 2. Within that folder, create a child folder called Scenes

Step 3. In the parent folder, put Scene 1 properly named so that the GEVI agent is able to match the movie. I used (Raging Stallion Studios) - Get a Room (2020) Scene 1 Dante Colle & Ricky Larkin.mp4



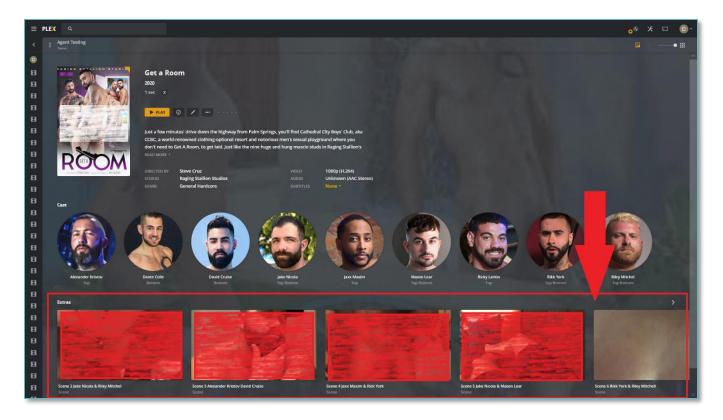
Step 4. In the Scenes folder, put the other 5 scenes named however you want to name them.

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Once plex matches, it will return one media item with one poster. When you click on the poster, you will get the full description from the GEVI site for this movie. Scene 1 will play if you click on the poster. Unlike in the earlier example Plex doesn't "stack" the scenes into one "film" and treats them individually, so you will now also have scenes 2 - 6 displayed individually below.

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Note: Plex allows multiple options for the naming of the "Scenes" folder, including

- Behind The Scenes
- Deleted Scenes
- Featurettes
- Interviews
- Scenes
- Shorts
- Trailers
- Other

It is recommended that you provide some sort of descriptive name for the extras filenames.

(please refer to https://support.plex.tv/articles/local-files-for-trailers-and-extras/)

8. FINAL THOUGHTS

Rationalizing Movies in a Series, .com, etc.

• If a title from an index site includes "Vol" or "Volume", it is optional to include in the filename. E.g., the film "Raw! Vol. 5: Pounded" on Gay-world.org. Valid filenames which will match include:

```
(CockyBoys) - Raw! 5 - Pounded (2019).mp4
(CockyBoys) - Raw! Vol. 5 - Pounded (2020).mp4
```

- Further, including 1 when the first part of a series is optional. e.g., (Studio) title 1 (2020) can be written as (Studio) title (2020)
- Avoid using Part as Plex will classify both movies as a two-parter and list it as one film.
- Studios with internet names ending with: .com, .org, .net, and co.xx are optional can be normalized as such.

```
(men.com) - film title (2020), you can have (men) - film title (2020)
Seancody.com - film title (2020), you can have (Sean Cody) - film title (2020)
```

For entries listed under slightly different studios e.g. Next Door Raw on AEBN and Next
 Door Studios on GEVI you can shorten the Studio name to Next Door

Some final tips:

- Consider using a couple Agents. Can't find the film you're looking for on AEBN? Try GEVI.
 Like the description or poster image better on HomoActive? Use it. Remember, that the
 same film may be on multiple sites, with each site using its specific version of the studio
 name or title. Match your filename to the specific site you're wanting to match to.
- The Agent will attempt to crop the scene poster for display in Plex, using either an inline cropping service, or if unavailable a visual basic script (for Windows PMS installations). If both fail, the agent will return the (often oversized) poster as-is from the blog site.
- If you come across a site that indexes films or scenes and has Plex style movie covers, it
 may be a good candidate for a new Agent. Open an issue and make a request. **Note: **
 we will not create studio specific Agents...studios don't offer Plex style movie covers and
 often update the framework of their site which breaks Agents.
- If you have any challenges or struggles, open a new issue. Please describe your challenge as thoroughly as possible, including which agent you were targeting, the filename and include the log, if you can. Note: please, no screenshots that contain graphic content.

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9. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: When choosing the agent in the library setup window, when it asks for scanner, which scanner option should I choose? Plex Movie Scanner, Plex Video Files, or Plex Video Files Scanner. I'm not sure which one works/works best with this.

A: Choose Plex Movie Scanner. Then after choosing the Plex movie scanner you have three options depending on your library's content:

For video scenes - use gay adult scenes agent

For full movies - use gay adult films

For a mixture - use gay adult

Q: When setting up the agents for Gay Adult, Gay Adult Scenes and Gay Adult Films the description mentions it utilizes different sources. Are those sources always used or do you need to also manually check the sources you want those agents to use?

A: For any given set of agents, you choose which sources and the priority that it uses. Let's say that 90% of your content matches from AEBN; certainly choose AEBN and rank it first.

Q: I can't get any Scenes to Match on GEVI. Please help.

A: The GEVI Agent only scrapes films, not scenes. Sorry.

Q: I can't get the WayBig Agent to match videos. Help!

A: The WayBig Agent won't scrape videos from WayBig.com, only Blog entries. If WayBig doesn't have the scene you're seeking, try Fagalicious or QueerClick. Not on any of the three? Try IAFD and upload your own poster.

Q: I've figured out the setup and have successfully matched films and/or scenes. BUT, I've tried everything, and I can't get a particular film/scene to match. What now?

A: Open a new Issue. Please describe the challenge, include the URL for the film/scene, and the corresponding Agent's log file (i.e. if the film is on AEBN, please include the com.plexapp.agents.AEBN.log.) Unsure how to find the log? This blog entry describes the log location for each PMS platform:

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https://support.plex.tv/articles/200250417-plex-media-server-log-files/.

The log will be in the PMS Plugin Logs subfolder. Please, do not upload graphic images. Once a new issue is opened, we troubleshoot. Most root causes turn out to be an incorrectly named filename. However, even though we have robustly tested the agents, we still find anomalies (e.g., special characters) that a particular index may infrequently use which necessitates an update to the logic in the Agent. If the update is technically feasible, we'll likely make the fix and release the updated Agent. Regardless of the root cause, you'll be able to track the progress of your issue (and look at any others you may find interesting).

Q: I've got a great idea for new functionality...or, there's an indexing site that I use all the time that you haven't provided an agent for. What should I do?

A: Open a new Issue. We love to be challenged with creating new agents or making the current set of agents more robust. However, we 1) won't create studio specific agents (e.g., SeanCody.com) or 2) likely won't create agents for sites that don't offer consistent quality poster art (IAFD being an obvious exception). Our goal is to never, or nearly never, have to manually index content. If you know a site, let us know. We'll gratefully and happily see if it is feasibly scrapeable for Plex metadata.

Q: Does the code for the Agents ever change/get updated?

A: Yes! We are always developing new agents. For existing agents, new functionality may be added (e.g., language translation support), or site updates to an index may break the Agent's ability to search. It is a good practice to periodically check back and install the latest set of code. Remember to stop and restart your Plex Media Server (PMS) in order for the new/updated Agents to take effect.

Q: Any best practices for backing up your Plex libraries and settings? I backup all my video files but wondering if there's another step I should do to make sure my metadata and album artwork is backed up in case of a drive failure. What do you guys do?

A: There's a topic on the Plex Forum specifically about backing up (and restoring) the PMS libraries and settings: https://support.plex.tv/articles/201539237-backing-up-plex-media-server-data/

Since you're putting so much effort into building awesome libraries, you don't want to take any chances with losing them!

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Q: Why would I want to create separate libraries for movies and scenes? Why would I want to comingle movies and scenes in one library?

A: There are pros and cons to each approach. You may want to consider questions such as How many files do you have? How well-organized is your content?

Separate libraries:

Pro: A TimTales library is just that. You don't have to further filter the library if all you want at that moment is your TimTales content.

Con: if you click on the actor it only returns matches for that particular library...you'll need to type in the name in the general search engine which will return all libraries;

Combined libraries:

Pro: One-stop shop. All your indexed content in one location.

Con: a downfall of comingling, is that the larger the library grows, the longer Plex takes to scan.