

## B00066HJBG

["I purchased this item because it appeared from the pictures to be the most lightest and most compact choice. It works well with the video projectors I connect my laptop to, and doesn't add to the weight of my laptop bag.", "doesn't work on humans, but may work on zombies. I think my cables liked it as they are now working together very well.", "Great adapter.Sturdy metal construction.No muss or fuss...works with all VGA connectors without degradation.Will pass all digital video signals and resolutions without error.Don't waste your time with a VGA Switch-Box...it probably won't work like you expect it to.I use two of these to manually switch two PC's to one monitor, because the switch-box did not pass through all video resolution modes as well as degraded the signal quality.Comes in Male or Female connectors.", "I have several of these I use with multiple projector and booster configurations. Does the job. The screws can be removed for the wall jack that won't let you plug in with them. The only con: I live in a small town and no brick and mortar store carries them for a 100 mile radius. Did I mention that's why I keep several in inventory?", "This adapter is pretty awesome in that it's:1. Cheap.2. Small.3. Works flawlessly.I purchased it to attach my xbox 360 to a pico projector while on the go, and I just leave it permanently attached to the xbox's vga adapter. It doesn't take up any more space than it needs to and works very well. I've seen others on the market that do essentially the same thing but are a bit bigger, which could be good if you are worried about losing it. In my case, however, I was looking for something that takes up as little space as possible. After all, everything my pico projector needs fits in a large ziplock bag!", "This handy little gadget is well made and does what it is designed to do (Faster than a sex-change operation too. :-) )Exactly what was expected, two female D15 connectors back-to-back. Plug it into a MALE D15 and VOILA! you have a FEMALE D15 connector. Well made and priceless when you need it.', 'I was able use this product along with others for the enhancement of my computer operations. I am glad I bought this product the seller was appreciated since this is a difficult product to source.', "In hooking up my Xbox 360 to my computer monitor, I chose to go through a KVM switch. To do that, however, I had to adapt a male VGA output from my Xbox 360 to the male VGA input into the KVM switch.This one was inexpensive and works just fine, as I would expect from any gender adapter. It does exactly what is expected. I'd buy more if I needed them.", 'Have used these stubby adapters for years. Always have a few in the tool kit. If you end up doing a bit of hardware interconnect support, put a few in your tool kit.', 'I like these things it is easier for me to just combine two cables together to make a longer one. That way I am not stuck with a bunch of short cables.', "Another quality StarTech.com product. I had to remove the nuts and they came off, not easily though, in order to fit on my KVM switch, but that's only because I tried to take them off with pliers. Then again, they're not supposed to come off.Bottom line, StarTech means Quality! Can't go wrong."]

## B0009XNPT6

["Pro: external antenna, high power output, sensitive receiver.Pro: easier connections to weaker signalsPro: easy installation if you follow the instructions. (if you are going to use this card with another card I suggest disabling the first card before you install, then manually enable one card or the other one at a time)Pro: works with Netstumbler (power indicator rating doesn't update in real time for the associated connection... don't know why)Con: The client manager software that comes with it is pretty lame, but you don't have to use it. Windows' wireless networking works just as well.The external antenna connector and higher power ability were the main reasons I bought this card.The built in Atheros wireless in my IBM X31 works very well and also works with Netstumbler. The Buffalo card works better in weak signal conditions, even without an external antenna.In my environment I use very low power on my wireless router and a yagi antenna that puts the signal right where it is wanted, and not outside my apartment across the courtyard into the neighbor's.The signal in my back room is low but usable. The Buffalo card shows several db increase in signal strength from my router over the built-in wireless and seems to offer a more stable connection.I was

using the IBM Access Connections to manage my Atheros card. I installed the Buffalo drivers and Buffalo client manager. When I rebooted the Atheros card was non-functional. The solution to this was to uninstall the IBM wifi manager, uninstall the Buffalo wifi manager, and strictly use Windows XP wireless networking to control the cards. I have had both cards active simultaneously but I don't recommend it. Disable one card and use the other. Disable that card and re-enable the other. With Windows controlling both cards this isn't an issue and the two cards co-exist peacefully. The install (Windows XP Pro, SP2) is a piece of cake. The hardware and drivers are stable and work excellently in XP SP2. No problems. It's an excellent product and very useful in weaker signal areas. Tips: Disable 'afterburner' under Configure/Advanced in the properties for the connection unless you are using this feature on your wireless router and all other clients on your wlan. Tips: If you are planning to use a pre-existing wifi card, disable it prior to install, remove the proprietary client manager, use windows to manage wireless connections. **YOU DO NOT NEED TO INSTALL THE CLIENT MANAGER TO USE THIS CARD - YOU ONLY NEED TO INSTALL THE DRIVERS.**", "Works for both Windows and Ubuntu. Although Buffalo offers no Linux support, it worked natively in Ubuntu 8.04 (had to edit this review as I had previously stated this card was Windows only). Getting it to be 'properly' recognized complicated things, but now I can use one wifi card for my Inspiron 2650 laptop dual-booting Ubuntu and XP! If Dellomere Streets works on Ubuntu, I'm kissing XP goodbye. Great reception and the external antenna connector makes this thing sweet to hook up to the big antenna and scour the city.", "An Amazing adapter. Buffalo didn't lie when they said it will improve your wireless performance by reducing or eliminate the dead spots. I didn't believe when I got a signal in my room which I couldn't enter the local network and the internet in the past by using the built-in wireless of my laptop. The Installation was very easy. I use Windows Vista Home Premium. as soon as I put the adapter, the vista recognize it as broadband adapter. also you can get the official vista driver from the official web page but I couldn't use the software client. it says install failed and it doesn't matter. The Router I use is Buffalo WHR-HP-G54. This adapter works great with the router.", 'Pros: This thing gave me a 7dB boost over the Linksys card I was using. Makes it easier to roam about and not worry about dropped/low signals. OK it sticks out more than a typical card ... but I don't mind. Cons: The software needed to install it. You have to "find" the correct driver but it's on the disc. Unfortunately I don't recall exactly where but it was Windows 2000 not XP like I expected.', "I purchased this in an attempt to increase the range of my laptop wireless range in and around my home. It has greatly improved my laptop's sensitivity to wireless signals when compared to the factory installed Agere adapter. Highly recommended.", 'Got it working with very little effort and it connects much better than my previous solution.', "I've used a handful of wireless cards; this one by Buffalo has about twice the signal strength compared to the others such as linksys and D-link. All of the cards have worked well but speeds have suffered until now. I purchased this Buffalo from Amazon and received free shipping; it took a few days to dispatch and then arrived two days later. The pricing was better than anywhere else I could find. The card arrived packed in original shrink wrap box with the driver CD and instructions. Installation was a snap, it took all of about 2 minutes to install the drivers and then I just used Windows to manage my connection and enter in my security settings. I am using this card in an IBM ThinkPad A31p which has an internal 802.11b card (slow and relatively weak connection). The IBM card generally connected from 1-5Mbps connection with about 40% signal strength and could not handle hidden SSID configurations. This Buffalo card is typically connected at about 36Mbps and 75% signal strength. I have a network hard drive for storing photos and backup data, file loading time when accessing the network drive is at least twice as fast now. The card has the option for an external antenna which was one of the reasons I bought it because my router is about 150 feet away, the connection with this new card is so improved that I haven't purchased an external antenna yet; I may in the future just to get things moving a bit faster. I am very happy with this card and highly recommend it to others.", 'I bought this for a laptop that did not have wireless capabilities. It works great. Be advised that it does stick out of the slot about an inch but it does have great range.', "I was pretty impressed with the buffalo wifi card. I use a top end sony vaio laptop but because my computer is far from the nearest router my signal frequently cuts out. The buffalo allowed me to hold the signal longer and with a better speed. I'd recommend this if you need to improve your wifi performance. Remember

that if you buy a new laptop this won't work because most new laptops use the thinner PC express card and Buffalo does not make this size card yet.", 'I bought it to improve the WiFi range at home over the internal WiFi in my laptop. It installed effortlessly. (It is important to install the software from the included CD first.) I tried it with my old router, a Linksys WRT54G, and saw modest improvement in the number of dropped packets (tested using the DOS "ping" command). When I added the matching Buffalo router (AirStation Wireless G High Power), the improvement was dramatic. Another advantage of this card is the jack for an external antenna. I attached one to improve throughput wherever I go in my large house, and it has helped even more. The bottom line is that for wireless internet throughput, signal strength is much more important than the rated maximum data rate of your adapter, and the combination of this card and its matching router is excellent. The Amazon price for the combination is great, too. Highly recommended!', 'just slide this thing into your laptop and you are good to go, no problems at all with it.', "This card is amazing. By using this card instead of a Cisco, Proxim, or my built-in Atheros chipset, I can get nearly twice the data rate and this is when using a standard 802.11g access point (Linksys WAP54G). Definitely the best wireless client card that I've come across for my network and I've also tested it in a dozen or so other environments while writing the Official Study Guide for the Wireless# certification from McGraw-Hill. Buy it here and return it if I'm wrong, but you won't be sending this one back.If you get it and have a hard time getting it to work, contact me through my website at [...] When I write a rave review like this, I'll back it up by helping you get it up and running! Awesome device!"]

## B000K8IZ3Q

[This was used for my sand rail wiring project, with the battery in the back, and the wiring harness in the front. No issues at all after running in the sand for 2 months!!!!, "As others have stated over & over, this is not 4 gauge by the wire beneath the insulation. I have an old roll of 4 gauge, but needed some additional wire for add-on not necessarily needing 4gauge wire. This wire was just the right size for what I needed but not 4 gauge wire.Why did I buy it, if it has been clearly described as not being 4 gauge? Well, 25ft of 6 gauge still costs more than this product at the brick & mortar. I gave it 3 stars for the price; I took away 2 b/c it's not 4 gauge as described.It is thicker than 8gauge, though an 8gauge crimp fitting will work. The actual product consists of multi-stranded fine copper wire around 4-4.5mm in diameter; w/ insulation diameter is about 8-8.5mm. These measurements come out to 6gauge roundabout. Since it's smaller than 4.5mm it's not quite 5gauge, and being larger than 4mm makes it larger than 7gauge. While the insulator is suitably thick for commonsense applications it isn't part of wire measurement as I'm sure the people at Pyramid Power know.Please take into consideration your application and understand the differences/limitations of 6gauge vs. 4gauge.", 'Its about 3 1/4 gauge; shielding is good; held up well during 100+ degree summer under my hood. Its wire so not much I can say about it.', 'Turns out not to be as big as the 4 gauge wire that came in an older JL Audio amp install kit but worked fine anyway.', "Truly this is about a 6 gauge wire, so don't buy this expecting a true 4 gauge wire. I knew this beforehand and still purchased because it it's a really good price per foot of wire, even if it is 6 gauge.", "I bought the black and red version of this product.I needed to make an extended run from my battery in my 32' Sailboat in the aft to a new switch panel.I like these have a bit more colorful coating than your standard Battery Cables.Solid product, well made.", 'Great quality product, fast shipment. I picked up the same gauge power line as well to run power to my winch on my truck.', "A lot of reviewers say that this is not true 4 AWG wire. I don't agree - I looked up the American Wire Gauge information on Wikipedia ([...] and can see that 4 gauge wire measures ~5.1mm. I measured the wire, and it does measure approximately 5mm. While I do admit that I've seen other 4 AWG wire that \*is\* much thicker than this, it measures correctly and appears to be true 4 AWG wire. I also compared it to some 8 AWG wire I recently purchased, and this is approximately double the thickness of my 8 AWG wire.All of my measurements were against the actual wire, and did not include the jacket.As far as the quality of the product goes, it seems like it's a high quality wire. The jacketing is a bit stiff for my preference, but can still be easily worked with. Maybe if it's unrolled and

left to sit in the sun it will be a bit more supple and easier to install in your vehicle, or project. I'm happy with the purchase, especially for this price.", "This is a good quality wire. The image shows a deep black insulator which is not exactly what I received. On the other hand, the electrons that flow through the cable, I am sure, won't mind the slight color issue. As a 4 Gauge wire it is quite flexible and easy to handle. The bend radius, as one would expect is limited. If you intend to use it in small spaces with tight bends, it is probably better to use some higher gauge wire. I use it to connect a battery bank with wires of equal length together and don't want too much of a voltage drop between the individual batteries.", "As others have noted, this wire is not really 4 gauge. The spool I received is labeled 4 gauge, but the conductor measures 0.17 inches diameter, which is about 6 gauge AWG. If you're looking for 6 gauge it's fine. Otherwise you'll need to look elsewhere for true 4 gauge.", 'No problems noted. It meets my needs and appears to be of the quality that I would expect for the price.', 'This is made of High quality of Copper wire. I noticed that the wire was stronger and would carry the current needed for my electrical needs. I also got it for it for a great price.']

## B000VY8EUI

[I've gone through a host of these types of cables over the years, and inevitably they all wear out. While I've not given this particular brand cable "years" of use at this point, I can easily say that they sound terrific, and they seem quite durable. I use them to connect my earphones with the computer so I can listen to music in the cloud. My old set dropped a LOT of tones. This cable keeps the tones intact, making the music sound better than ever. Plus, the price is right. Recommended!', "I've had no issues with this product, it works just fine and I don't notice any difference in noise levels going to my audio recorder with this cable. I'm not sure how long it would last in moderate to heavy use though, since in my use it's been very far and few between that it's broken out and used.", 'for about \$4 delivered this cable works perfectly across the living room for using headphones with my Tuner/Receiver/TV to watch a movie without waking up family.', ':) &#34;There is no fear where love exists. Rather, perfect love banishes fear, for fear involves punishment, and the person who lives in fear has not been perfected in love.&#34; 1 John 4:18', 'I had to buy this cable because of a problem with using the &#34;Creative Sound Blaster Tactic360 1on Stereo Amplifier and USB Gaming Headset for PC&#34; plugs were too short. So if your going to by the &#34;Creative Sound Blaster Tactic360 1on Stereo Amplifier and USB Gaming Headset for PC&#34; your going to need an extension cable to get them to even work.', 'This chord is both useful for TV and stereo- but also functions well running sound from your computer. Not cat resistant.', "Well, even if you feel it very flimsy and that in any moment it could break internally, you're wrong. I'm a man with gazillions of cable in the room, and after it has been splattered, bent, and smashed, this cable is still delivering the sound as good as new. You won't regret it.", 'It works. It is a headphone extension. It works and nothing much to say. It works for the price, thanks.', "I needed an extension cord for my headphones that not only was long enough, but also worked in my television and computer speakers so I wouldn't wake my roommate. This cord was just what I needed. It is long enough for me to get up and do other things while still wearing my headphones and the price couldn't be beat. It works well and no interference or static. Worth it", 'This is very nice product looks and it feels heavy dutie cable. 12ft damn that perfect for my apple head phones. With a 3.5mm jack wicth is a standerd size. I can see movies on my ipod touch 4th generation from across the room, I use this for my ipad 2 so I can also se movies and videos from across the room... I aso connect my portable tv to this cord all works perfect and its a thick cable so you can step on it and no tair will happen. Very high quility.....', 'Guess you get what ya pay for....in this case little paid for a piece of junk not worth the postage cost to ship it to me. On first use, it apparently has a short in it as I have to keep jiggling it around to get it to work properly. The sound cuts off completely or off in one side of the stereo earphone.', "This 12 foot cable has been fine for me. It's hard to believe that for this price you can actually get something that works. A word of caution though, I got the 25 ft extension later on (this one ended up not being long enough) and it's pretty much useless. I'm guessing that for these prices you are pretty much taking a gamble, but this one paid off.", 'Purchased three of these for the price (\$2.46

each when I purchased), and came back to buy three more. You will pay much more at radio shack for equivalent adaptors - highly recommend. I have found no issue with the connector size for the one adaptor currently in use. Happy to have saved some \$\$\$ on a great product.', 'Comes in handy for looping behind furniture to connect to tv and dvd player outside easy headphone reach or access.']

## B0010NQ08M

["First: Read Port Tack (regarding Com settings (phone, not Google), and Marty's (overall info).Second: Enjoy a POWERFUL unit at a great price.Very sensitive, really good performance, small, light, totally cool. Don't be without it....I've tried others, this is THE one.", "This little unit performs impressively and the build quality is better than I expected for the cost. It reliably gets precise GPS readings to within 30 feet or less and works very well with my Samsung i760 smart phone using Google Maps. So far it has easily kept the satellite lock even inside a moving vehicle in residential neighborhoods. But the lack of detailed documentation for connecting it to a PDA or smartphone is lamentable. They do offer a simple one-page setup guide plus a link to their (terrible) website, where you can find barely adequate configuration instructions if you look hard enough. Nowhere do they even tell you that you can charge the device with your computer using the USB cable -- you can, and it's a great feature -- but providing hardware with no instructions on how to use it is inexcusable. If the documentation weren't so laughably inadequate for such a great product, I'd give this 5 stars without question.", "Please see the image I uploaded for testing the accuracy of this device.For this test I placed the GPS down and recorded the location at 1 second intervals. The GPS was never moved. This was after the gps had settled down to more or less 1 location. The spread is 150 feet for about 5-10 minutes of recording. Not very accurate, it seems in most populated areas GPRS is more stable.The first time I turned it on I couldn't get a connection, but after about a lengthy tour around my town it settled down. The test ran with 8 satellites connected.You need to use a laptop or good cell phone with good software (hard to find) to make this unit at all worthwhile. Even so, I think the lack of on-board memory (this unit is NMEA RECEIVER ONLY) means this will have limited use for most people, but in certain situations could be really nice to have. I will say though, I find it's smallness very cool, if it had software and data logging capabilities it would be an excellent device.If you want to use this for geotagging or geocaching, I suggest getting something with onboard memory. I couldn't find a cheap stand alone blue-tooth data-logger, but maybe they exist. This will not act as a stand alone device. You will need another device (such as laptop or data logger) to capture the GPS data. It did not work with my lousy 2 year old samsung. (useless cell phone)If you're looking for something to keep you from getting lost, you might be better off with a standalone hand held GPS, or buying a phone with GPS build in (although more expensive).I can't comment on battery life, as I have only used it today, and it's been plugged in most of the time.. but it seemed to charge quickly and the blinking lights are cute.I still haven't figured out how to geotag.. I've already been installing freeware all day just to find a decent program to log the data. However, I won't be photo tagging anything with this. I don't think it's possible to carry my (open) 16 inch laptop everywhere (mind the 1 hour battery) in case I want to take pictures.In summary:pros-small and cute-NMEA gps data (including LL, elevation, UTC timestamps)cons-accuracy is not great-no software included, windows real-time NMEA software is hard to find and usually not very useful. (I'd like to hear suggestions)there seems to be a lot of mobile software however-almost completely useless for my phone, the only use is to display latitude and longitude... which falls very short of mapping, data logging, and driving directions.-the tinniness isn't very useful if it's tied to your laptop.I'm giving this a 3/5, because it does what it says it does. Although I was disappointed that it turns out to not be very useful in my case.", 'I love this keychain Freedom Input Keychain GPS 2000, it worked well with my jailbroken Ipod touch and android smartphone. It acquired signal very fast compared to the built-in gps of my android smmartphone.', 'Great Productno software but the free gps software from google works great with my pda phone.charge it once a month, install google maps. and your good to go. quick acquisition time with

google, and haven't had any problems. hthD.', 'I love this thing! To get an initial fix it needs some kind of view of the sky, after that it's amazing. I can take it into my back yard, let it get a fix, put it in my pocket, go inside my house and it never loses the fix!! The only problem I had was configuring my ATT Tilt w/WM6 to work with it: There are no instructions with the Freedom 2000. So the lack of instructions is the debit, it's the reason it gets 4 stars instead of 5. There are a few settings that need to be taken care of with your smart phone and with the GPS apps you're using. To that end I'm including some notes I made that hopefully will help anyone who buys this get going. Do this first for using GPS Bluetooth Receiver on ATT Tilt running WM6.1. Go into Wireless Manager and select Bluetooth.2. Go to [...] to see how to config your com port and make a note of the com port number. I used a baud rate of 4800 and COM1 where the example uses COM6.3. You're only half done now, the next step is to go into your GPS app and tell it what Bluetooth port to find the GPS Bluetooth receiver on.4. NOTE: I have the Freedom 2000 and the Bluetooth icon will NOT blink 1/sec to indicate a connection till you have opened a GPS app and configured that app to communicate with it. However it will blink 1/5sec w/o connection so don't be fooled. Google Maps:1. W/GPS rcvr on open up Google Maps, select Options>GPS Settings2. Select Set Manually, select COM1, baud rate of 4800 and tap OK.3. From main screen select Menu>Use GPS. If it's working the upper right corner of the screen will show Seeking GPS satellites and the 2000's Bluetooth icon will blink 1/second. Garmin XT:1. W/GPS rcvr on open Garmin XT app main page select Settings>System>RemoteGPS. The default value was GPS Intermediate Driver.2. Select Disable to turn off the regular GPS connection. You should get a prompt with radio buttons to select either Use Bluetooth GPS, Use GPS Intermediate Driver, or User Serial GPS. To active the Freedom 2000 select Use Bluetooth GPS and hit Enable. The screen now shows Keychain GPS 2000 and the Bluetooth icon on the 2000 is blinking 1/sec.3. Note: I've seen "Com0:COM0" come up as though the app thought this was an option for GPS. Just hit the Disable button and you can select the proper input.4. Note: When my ppc is turned back on and I re-access Garmin XT it says "Scanning Bluetooth as though it's looking for the 2000 even though I've set it to use it's own GPS Intermediate Driver. It's not a problem and times out soon.", "I am very happy with this GPS device, it works great with my BlackBerry Curve and I can't believe how well it really works for being so small. Totally recommend!", "i don't do a lot of reviewing, but felt compelled to do so in order to warn others who, like myself, may be about to waste 80 dollars. actually, a one-star review may not be fair, because the problem may lie with blackberry and not with the device. at any rate, it appears now that verizon has unlocked the gps chip for the curve 8330, allowing it to be used not just with the proprietary VZ Navigator, but also with the built-in Blackberry Maps software. that software is ok, but i really wanted to use gps with google maps. the catch is that google maps on the curve now appears disabled from using the gps data from this device, rendering it useless. bottom line: if you have a curve thru verizon and want to use google maps, you're stuck with positioning via radio cell towers. if you want more precise gps performance, your choices are limited to either vz navigator (and its ridiculous monthly fee) or the less functional (when compared to google maps) blackberry maps. so save your money and don't buy this keychain device.", 'works great. even while still in my pocket. once it locks on it just stays locked on. on the keychain, and so small, you never know its there and never forget your gps device. works with my samsung i760 and inav v4.0. highly recommended', "Bought this to synch with my Motorola q9m smartphone. Once I adjusted the settings on them q9m (no thanks to Moto found on a forum)it worked great. Amazing actually. Once it obtains satellites it doesn't lose them. If your looking for a bluetooth GPS receiver, look no further.", "My only complaint is the battery life on this. Everything else works great. I used it with my AT&T tilt and Tom Tom Navigator. I wish that the iPhone had native support for it. The iPhone 3GS and 4 have decent GPS, but not sufficient in some cases. Maybe one day I won't have to Jailbreak my iPhone to use this with it.", 'I bought this to replace one that was lost/stolen. It was great then and still works as advertised.']

B002EK0U68

["and I have no complaints. You can't even tell it is on. It was easy to apply, it fit perfectly and I'd buy the same brand again for another camera. If this company has a cover for an iPod Touch I'm going to give it a try. I had a kiosk in the mall put a screen protector on my iPod (for about 25.00) and it is not as nice as this screen. Deliver was fast too - much faster than I expected.", "These protectors do what they're supposed to and are generally trouble free. For the price, however, it should include free shipping, or, at least, FREE with purchases from the same vendor in the case of buying it with the camera. I also would see where some might be interested in buying more than one, yet the shipping continues to be half again the cost of the product.", "I've always had good luck with Boxwave protectors and this was no difference. Cleaned the screen with the included cloth, layed the protector down, no bubbles at all, you pretty much can't see it's there.", "I was surprised to find such a quality product. The plastic film sticks very well to my Lumix DMC-ZS3 and it is a perfect fit. It is a bit tricky to put the protector onto the camera screen because one teensy speck of dust will cause a bubble, and you cannot get the speck off without washing the sheet. Even though I used great care, two specks got under the plastic and formed two bubbles, I don't know why the bubbles are so much bigger than the specks. I felt I probably did the best I could since the static sucked the dust specks to the plastic sheet. I left the two small bubbles and they don't really bother me. Of course, if you are Type A, obsessive-compulsive, or a perfectionist, they would drive you nuts and you would probably wash the sheet and go into a sterilize room to re-apply the plastic, and you would probably be able to do a much better job than me. The directions are clear and helpful, and it does say you can wash and reuse the sheet--which is a plus. I just wish that for this price, you should get two protectors. Thus the 4 stars instead of 5. I bought this here on Amazon from their seller: BoxWave Corporation and the delivery was fast.", 'A great, inexpensive and easy way to protect the beautiful LCD screen on your camera - worth the money!', 'Box Wave used to make pretty good screen protectors back in the days when they were the best thing going. I used them back in the handheld Palm days. Now years later, I purchased a new Lumix camera. One of the Amazon advertised options was to purchase Box Wave's screen protector designed for the view screen of this camera, and I did that. I have to say I'm disappointed. Advertised as "bubble-free": it isn't. Let me say that I have and have had a lot of different smartphones, iphones, ipods, palms, etc. I am experienced at applying screen protectors, but I was amazed how un-bubble free this product was. Really pretty shocking in fact. The applied Box Wave protector looked as bad or worse than the sticky film manufacturers use to temporarily cover electronic screens when they're boxed. I also didn't like the feel of the exterior surface of this protector after application. It's not sticky, but your finger - or anything else - drags across the surface.. You'll definitely notice it when you try to slip this in or out of a pocket or tight camera case. Bottomline: I removed it and threw it away. I would rather have NO screen protector and risk scratching the viewscreen than use this product. The camera looks great. This screen protector makes it look - and feel - cheap. Is it the worst product out there? No. But why settle for something that hasn't improved in ten years when there are other companies out there now making screen protectors that are far superior? I didn't bother to return it for refund. While Amazon is good about returns, a \$6.95 refund doesn't begin to compensate me for the time and effort of going through the refund process and standing in line at the post office, etc. For that price, I'd rather write a review and hopefully save a few others from making the same mistake I did.', "This does the job you would expect a screen protector to do. I don't really notice it, which is a compliment.", 'This works well for preventing scratches on your view screen while also reducing glare glad I purchased this screen protector.', "Item was as described. Can't see why they want so many words in the this description, as I said, it's a screen protector, not much different than others I've used.", 'I bought this item after reading all the review before me. Though there were some negative review, I still bought this as the average rating was above 4. And I am satisfied with the product. The product case comes with the instruction. I read the instruction first, cleaned the camera LCD surface as per instruction using the cotton cloth provided. Then followed the instructions to remove the correctly numbered tab in proper sequence. And the screen protector fit correctly. When I was showing the LCD to another person, she did not even realize that there was a screen protector. I am using the camera for one week now, and no bubble or no problem yet.']

## B002MQPD9S

["This product is as good as advertised and easy to use. If I had an objection it would go to Logitech (the radio's builder) because what these are is AA NiMH or Lithium batteries soldered together in series to get 12v and a couple of taps out at in-between voltages. The connected batteries are then held together by heat shrink plastic. The fact is, when this pack wears out (long time from now) I will probably make my own replacement(not for everybody to do). Anyway Logitech could have made this radio so that you could buy off the shelf rechargeable AA batteries and inserted those into a built-in AA holder which would be less expensive. A Costco member could get all the AA rechargeable needed for half the price. I suspect Logitech didn't go this route to piss us all off, it's probably about how space inside the radio's cabinet would be allocated, and likely as not having a bass-port to improve sound dictated some of the space concessions made. Still, manufacturers would do us all better if they would buy batteries we can replace at Walgreen's or Wal-Mart, etc. and that's not just for radios, it's for cameras, shavers, etc. As long as we buy devices that are manufactured to need weird batter combinations it is good that we have solid manufacturers and sellers like this one to rely on. Having the right battery is important, look at the trouble Boeing is in because of their design involving lithium batteries.", "Great sound, easy to use. I mostly use it for Pandora, and it works perfectly for that. Six preset stations make it even better. I bought a Grace internet radio, and it just doesn't compare. This one costs more, but you get what you pay for.", "It's great to be able to use the static-free, gazillion-station squeezebox wherever I go ( and if you have a mobile hotspot device or smartphone, you can connect the squeezebox anywhere).", 'I would say that this is a suitable item at a fair price. The new EU radio comes with a batter and with a different plug arrangement. So this is likely the only game in town if you want one that fits. It is a lashed together combo of smaller batteries and a standard plug. One could certainly make a do it yourself rechargeable battery if necessity required. But who has the time to fuss with that.', 'to make it truly portable (within WiFi range) I added this battery. No need to be near an outlet. I got the battery at a pretty good price, installed in a jif, and once charged, will run the radio about 6 hours continuously. Unless you plan to leave your Squeezebox in one place forever, you should add this battery', 'This is a heavy little battery. It worked about 4 hours at medium-high volume on the first charge. Since you can use a computer or smartphone for a remote, it is better to buy this battery by itself. With it in place you can move the radio around without losing connection.', "I ordered this after reading several reviews on Amazon. Most gave this battery positive reviews; however, there were some negative reviews saying it didn't fit or it didn't hold a charge long enough, etc. I haven't found any problems with it. Working just fine.", "The squeezebox is a fantastic internet radio, its use really limited by a lack of battery. Logitech, bad decision! Thankfully, you can buy a rechargeable battery to fill the empty compartment in the squeezebox and get a couple of hours of mobile use. Yep, not very long really, maybe why one wasn't fitted in the first place? Way cheaper than the Logitech site (even though they show zero stock) so definitely worth buying if you want to detach the radio from the mains power once in a while.", 'Awesome radio with a stereo sound. Simple but yet classy look. the lcd viewer shows all you need to know from the actual music album cover to the artist who sang the music. I use this all night long to make me sleep.', 'First, I love that this battery makes my Squeezebox Radio portable, and it's shameful that Logitech doesn't bundle a battery with radio to begin with. Second, after fully charging it, I was somewhat disappointed to find that the radio drained the battery after less than 3 hours. I used it to add some sound effects and spooky music for the Halloween trick-or-treaters, and was playing it at a modest volume level. It's hard to know how this duration really compares to one for the "official" battery that Logitech sells there is no guidance offered for this one (Logitech opaquely states a duration of "up to six hours" per charge for the one they sell). No indication of how many charging cycles I should expect, so the 12-month warranty may come in handy. Lastly, the battery is pretty heavy for its size, so once installed, it will add to the overall heft of the radio. I personally like the added weight, which I hope will help keep the radio from flying off my nightstand if I accidentally thwack it."]



## B002S5NJOE

["Stuck this on a glass sliding door.... And it works great for me. I hit the window a couple times, nothing... I then hit it a little harder, and the alarm went right off. If I had hit the window any harder, it would have broke for sure. So for me, it works exactly how I wanted it to... Where it won't set off for minimal vibration, but just at that point before the window could be smashed in. Be mindful that I also placed it in the middle of the glass sliding door. Another great addition to my professional home alarm system that's already in place!", 'Is sensitive enough for any intruder who smacks a window. Wont work if the person is extra-careful in opening the window but it is sensitive enough. Love it.', 'EXCELLENT PRODUCT, PRICE AND PACKAGING.SELLER HAS REDUCED THE PRICE.THIS IS A COMPLETE SECURITY PRODUCT WHICH CAN BE ATTACHED TO ANY GLASS PANEL OR DOOR', "So far, I think these are just great. They go on easy and I've test them to be effective. They are sensitive...even a hard tap on the window would most likely set these off but I'm okay with that.", "This has a good level of sensitivity. A decent pound on the window sets this off. Although it is loud, I wouldn't use this exclusively for home security, but more as a visual deterrent. I prefer this than the ones based on sound recognition since the Doberman may deter a thief from even attempting to break the window. I have these throughout the house as a supplement to an alarm system that has motion detectors, latch sensors, cameras etc.Also, Home Depot sells these a lot cheaper.", "The back sticker is a deterrent by itself. It makes noise when it should. Nuff said, it's simple and cheap. Loud enough to alert you throughout most of the house", 'This works as advertised. When the unit feels the slightest vibration, it sounds a very loud alarm. It works very well on windows. However, it is very sensitive. Sometimes, even the slightest vibration will set it off. I wish it had a sensitivity control.', 'I liked this product because it fits into the window and still allows me to open it. It seems fairly sensitive and gives me a little more protection.', "I put this on my daughter's window as she's terrified someone's going to break in her room. so far it's sticking fine. I cleaned the window with alcohol first. I tested it by turning it on and opening the window, and the alarm went off. I also shook the window and the alarm went off. it's a great price and I know it's easy to turn off, but if I hear that sound coming from my daughter room, I'll be in there in 10 seconds to see what the heck is going on!", "I have two of these on the windows in my basement. Don't get me wrong, they are loud but I'm not 100% positive I would wake up if they went off in the middle of the night. They are sensitive enough where they will most certainly go off if the window was broken but not so much with a thunderstorm or loud movie playing in the basement theater.", 'Using these on the back of paintings hanging in a public gallery to protect them from being vandalized or stolen. Nice. Not so sensitive that it will go off from a light touch, etc. but sensitive enough to "know" when someone is doing something they shouldn't be doing. Not water proof (for outdoor art) but could be mounted in a zip-lock baggie to make it waterproof. Easily damaged if the "culprit" has access to it they can smash it... or turn it off by the switch (that is normally on the inside of a window).Seems to be very energy efficient... no "ON" LED that stays lit and burns off the batteries over time. That is good.A small LED that flashes when the unit is turned on and it sets itself. These would be good to use to protect display items in a store -- paintings and such... anything in which movement is likely to cause vibration would set it off. I got mine for \$8 at Lowes Hardware store.', "I read an article recently that burglars are more likely to smash a window than try to pry it open because if a neighbor hears the noise, they'll stop and listen for the second noise. When none is forthcoming, they'll go on with what they're doing and someone is in your house.I have a couple of windows on the side of my house that aren't easily visible because of a privacy fence and I wanted to alarm them for broken glass (this device does NOT detect someone prying your window open - that's an entirely different alarm system). When my order for this product arrived I read through the instructions and it's quite easy to arm the device for placement - I'll just note that they didn't arm right away because the instructions didn't tell you to open the battery pack and remove a tab. I figured that out on my own and as expected, the LED on the unit flashed, and then beeped, and they were armed.You peel the sticker on the back and stick them on the window. I liked that the back of the device has a warning sticker stating that the window is alarmed - any bit of extra security is good. They adhered very well

to the window and as I have double-paned windows I put the alarm high on the lower pane, then gave a thump to the upper pane and the alarm went off. You really don't need to alarm both panes but if it makes you feel better go for it. I like that the LED doesn't stay on, which helps conserve battery power. For the price this is an excellent layer of security to have. It isn't so sensitive that it gives off false alarms in a heavy wind, but it definitely responds to a significant vibration to the glass. Very happy with the product.

UPDATE 6/1/13: In a recent hail storm, the vibration from the hail (not very large hail, perhaps nickel size) hitting the windows set off the alarms. My neighbor came running out on her front porch with her phone, ready to call the police. These things work.", 'I bought two of these, one for a window and the other for the sliding glass door. They are small and on the reverse side it has a red logo with a dog. I like that it shows people on the outside that I do have a security system. It is very easy to set up, you just peel off the sticker on the back and stick it on the window. You flick the switch to on and after a couple seconds it beeps to let you know it works. We have had a couple of windstorms the past few days and it never set off the alarm. If I bump the glass or open the door/window it will go off. It is very loud and exhibits a generic security alarm sound. I highly recommend for an added security.', "An inexpensive and effective way of keeping the burglars away. We used to have ADT security service. But ADT's system either malfunctioned or gave unnecessary alarms. It became a major hassle to deal with. So we cancelled ADT and got this Doberman device which serves the same purpose as ADT for us. The device also saved us a lot of money.", "neighborhood has deteriorated but like many folks can't afford to move right away. So we beefed up security with lights and bars but hard times make even good people desperate and we are surrounded by newly desperate. As costs go up and paychecks are stagnant criminal behavior can become a survival option. Unfortunately many of our neighbors are long term unemployed or never employed so survival instincts are kicking in much to our discomfort". We needed a bit more security especially at night and when we go out. Local security companies wanted a 3 year contract- we'll be gone before then. And judging from response time the perps around here will be in, out and long gone by the time help arrives. These tiny alarms are jolting and loud. So far they are a great deterrent, just a shake on the window to test if it is locked sets off an ear piercing siren that runs 30 seconds then resets. I have one on each window and sleep better nights, they were and are a good investment.", 'I am not sure why amazon only lets you buy 3. I need a few more to cover my home. I like the product a lot on top of my home security already.', "These work great, and give you a little extra peace of mind at night, knowing you have one more level of defense regarding break-ins. They are pretty sensitive to glass disturbance, but they don't go off if you are just closing the doors. Important: these are not designed to trigger for doors opening, or lock cracking, more like for window breaking. If someone tries to smash your window, these will sound, but not if someone manages to get your sliding door or window open. Another tip: make sure you mount them where they will not be disturbed by your sliding door movement. I mounted one on each pane of my sliding back door, but my sliding door does not clear over it, so if I open the door all the way and it bumps the alarm, it sounds. Make sure to check your door clearance! And they are decently loud, loud enough to alert those around you! That's about it. I put them on all my sliders, and my big bay windows, basically any large windows that can allow a human to fit through if broken. Hope this helps!", 'i really like this device, its good enough to be used to scared off intruders if they come to your home', 'Annoyingly loud for an alarm is good. Neighbor working in back yard heard it and liked idea. I initially got one for daughter's room. Am getting 4 more for downstairs. This alarm is perfect when used with a "magnetic contact type alarm" where breaking connection sets off alarm - that's the 4 I am getting. Burglars are burglars because they do not want attention, otherwise, they would be bank robbers. I do wish the on/off switch was not as easily accessible. Maybe put it behind a slide or something so that someone can not smash window and turn off within couple seconds. Do not think burglars will do that so no negative stars.', 'easy to install. works well. just peel and stick it on the window. Nice purchase and peace of mind for lil money.', 'These work as advertised. We installed a bunch of these as part of a mix of door, window, and other alarms and security devices. Provided that the door or window is secured anyway with locks and the typical dowel rod, or other such device, these will make plenty of noise if the glass is broken, or the window/sliding glass door is manhandled to gain entrance. The outward facing rear of

the disc makes it clear to a would-be burglar that some noise and notice upon his attempted entrance is likely. As part of a thought-out security plan on a budget, these could have a place.', "I use these on all my ground floor windows. If a fly lands on a pane and farts, these go off. You can't beat the value and the operation is dead simple. Buy yourself some time in case someone breaks in, it should give you enough time to get your gun and give them holy hell.", "I bought 3 of them. After a few months, I have had no false alarms. And all tests have worked. It is just a little on the sensitive side but that's probably a good thing.", "We received these and immediately tested and installed them on two sliding doors that are already secured, but we like the loud noise factor of these small alarms. Unlike others I don't think an intruder would need to crack the glass to set these off, even a good knocking or jostling on the window set them off when we tried them out. Which is exactly is what I expected and received. They set off a loud, shrill wail which we could easily hear from even two floors away. Combined with other security this will add peace of mind to the home. I suggest these if you have a door or window you rarely use, but want to keep in your homes security monitoring. If one has a pet that likes to jostle doors, or children that are prone to playfully bang against the door or window you install it on, make sure they are turned off until the kiddos or the fluffy ones are tucked away, then flip a switch and go about your business. These are small and indiscreet for the most part. Has a reverse side sticker that shows to the outside onlooker to notify them. Makes me think this would also be quite a nasty surprise for a teenager trying their hand sneaking out of the house... heh heh...", "Love the size. and the price. I put it on my front window. opened and closed the window 4 times before the alarm finally triggered on window opening #4. Probably works great if someone hits my window with a baseball bat. i think if they got the window open, they could move out all my furniture, out the window before the alarm finally triggered. i don't live in an earthquake area, but i imagine that it would have to be at least a 7.0 earthquake before the 'vibration' sets off the alarm. love the idea, just wish it worked more consistently.", 'For renters and those who cannot afford expensive security systems, devices like this can quickly and cheaply add a level of security. Often entrance into a home or apartment is by breaking a window which allows the criminal to unlock a door or window. Sticking one of these on the windows most likely to be broken will deter this. The biggest tool of these criminals is silence and surprise. These devices let out a loud shriek if they are jarred - loud enough to wake you if you are home, and potentially loud enough to alert neighbors if you are not, so for the price they can be a good deterrent.', "I got these today and they are WAY better than I dreamed they would be. They are perfect for a slight break-in deterrent, to warn you if you are home and someone is breaking in, or to possibly give a thief pause when breaking in. Is a neighbor going to hear or care about this? No. It's loud enough that it hurt my ears while standing in front of it and would definitely wake me up, but not so loud that the entire apartment building would hear. It is a lot smaller than I thought it would be. Less than an inch thick, and about the size of a shower curtain ring in circumference. It is sensitive, but not overly so. If I knock on the window, it goes off, but knocking on the frame around the window it didn't. It only sounds for 30 seconds, but it also has an off switch. Again, it could be easily turned off by a burglar, so it shouldn't be your only method of home protection, but it's definitely a good layer. I don't love the decal. I don't think it is threatening. It looks fake and lame. Also, since it gives the name of the product, it allows a potential burglar to look up the product and figure out ways around it. The label looks cheesy. I'd rather it say nothing, or else look more legit, yet not give the name of the product. Overall, EXCELLENT value for this product. WORTH the few bucks. Amazon would only allow me to buy three at a time, but I plan to buy more. Gives me plenty of peace of mind now. Again, don't let it give you a false sense of security, but it's a great product as part of your home security system, especially if you live in an apartment and are on a budget.", 'Using it on sliding glass door and the alarm sounds with a hard tap on the glass. We sleep better knowing that the alarm will warn us if the glass door is tampered with.']

B003NVLWN2

[It's hard to review this product. It really doesn't do anything until you have a lighting strike. I

assume its working because it has a green light. I still hope I dont ever need to know if it works :)', 'No circuit panel should be without one. When you think of all of the electronic devices that you have that could be destroyed by a power surge, why take the risk? This device is what you need to help tip the odds in your favor. I live in Southeast Florida which has been called the lightning capital of the world. I installed it and so did my neighbors all over my community.', 'Installation went quite quickly. Did have to buy a couple of breakers to connect this to. One of those devices that you cannot say if it works or not until needed.', 'These are excellent surge suppressors, and can be used indoors and also on a panel outdoors. I have used them in the past with absolutely no difficulties with this product.', "i installed this along with a lightening arrestor on my main panel. only problem is you don't really know if it's working other than not having surges that destroy things , so it's safe to say they/ this works , i had an older unit that had been installed for 16 years and never had anything damaged by a surge or lightening and i get lots of close strikes around my house . felt it was time to change it out with a new one , better safe than sorry and it's cheap insurance", 'Arrived promptly , the installation was super easy and clear , you need to have some basic electricity knowledge in order to make the installation properly and safely.As far as the protection it provides cant review that part at this moment , i had previously a cutler hammer in place which blew pretty quick ... well see how it goes. Like intermatic!', "This seems like a serious surge protector although (thankfully) I don't think it has been tested operationally yet - if it has, it did its job. I only wish it had more mounting options (e.g., wire lead locations - back, opposite side, etc.). Overall, it looks well made.", 'Intermatic replaced a unit that took a surge! Nothing in the house was damaged. This unit must be installed by someone familiar with household wiring rules.', "Seems to work. Ironically, if it does work, I won't ever know because nothing bad will happen. If it doesn't work, my electronics could suffer damage.", 'This is a great item. Not sure if I'll ever see it work, but it's good for piece of mind.Installation was easy. I moved a double pole breaker at the top of the panel to the bottom (just extended the wires with a twist connector). The warnings about not piggybacking off of high draw or sensitive circuits concerned me, so I added a double pole 20 amp breaker. I have plenty of extra room in my panel and a breaker is only about \$7, so I figured it was better to have the spd on its own circuit. I also had to buy a male and female PVC adapter along with 10ft of conduit (only needed about 8 inches of it). Because of other wires coming out of the panel knockouts, I had to extend the spd to about a foot out from the panel. Hooked all the wires up, trimmed the extra wire, and restored the power. Works great, green light is on.Update: After just over a year, the green "working" light went out for no reason. No surge, no tripped breakers. Contacted Intermatic and filled out a warranty claim. They promptly sent me a new one for free.Also, the wires appear to be aluminum; I was worried about them oxidizing. I contacted Intermatic and they said not to worry: the wires are tinned copper.', "And the peace of mind, having additional protection at the source of household power. LED's instantly/constantly show if a fault has occured, and if the unit is functioning.At critical equipment, it's a good idea to have supplementary-protection.", "Well, this is one of those unique items that one buys but hopes never gets used, like car or flood insurance. I read all the reviews, and went to the Intermatic website to research the differences between this and the other models before making the purchase. This is sort of a middle of the road model, with lesser priced ones offering only 3 way protection while this one is 6 way (protection between line 1 and line 2, line 1 to neutral, line 1 to ground, line 2 to neutral, line 2 to ground, and neutral to ground) and more expensive models providing phone and cable TV protection I don't need. I installed the unit through a 1/2" knockout on the underside of my outdoor panel, and wired the four wires as instructed to a new 20 amp double pole (\$7) breaker, the neutral buss, and the ground buss. Note that I am a facility engineer (35 years) so am experienced and VERY respectful of the power inside a panel. There are naked buss bars in there with 240 volts on them--this will kill a person before they hit the ground so if you are even the tiniest bit uncertain of what you're doing, please get a learned professional to do the deed. Do NOT wear rings, watches, or metal jewelry of any kind when messing with live electrical panels, and wrap the shaft of your screwdriver with a couple layers of electrical tape to help stay safe. Not trying to scare anyone but getting shocked or worse can ruin an otherwise very nice day. Anyway, the awesomely bright green LED came on once everything was buttoned up and I flipped the breaker on, so I must assume that I'm ready for the next lightning strike

that happens so often with our Phoenix AZ area summer monsoons. We'll see!", "After Hurricane Irene I had a 20KW Generac generator installed to protect me against power outages. When I later asked the electrician who installed that to put in a whole house surge protector, this is what he recommended and installed. This has a green light on the front to show that it is working. So far it hasn't been put to the test, but I feel more comfortable having it.", "I live off a lake in Orlando, FL, and get a lot of thunderstorms with lightning spikes during the summer. After several hits of my computer and finally damaging my A/C unit. I debated weather or not to purchase this out right or through the utility company for \$8 a month. Decided to buy it outright since it'll pay for itself in less than 2 years. The bright green light is very nice and noticeable letting me know it's working. It's been awhile now and again I've have had several storms with lightning. I'm so use of hearing the popping and snapping of my appliances, when lightning hits near buy. Their's absolutely none of that sound anymore, and none of my appliances have been damaged since. Very pleased with it! Wished I had installed this years ago!"]

## B003O9XTE8

["This is a great nav unit. Built in high and low filters. 7 band EQ. Many features and capabilities built in. HD radio and traffic updates. I would rate this 4 1/2 stars. Half star deduction only because of the resolution in nav mode, it's a little weak there. Otherwise there nothing lacking in this unit. It's super fast at recalculating and switching from different input modes. I also have this hooked up to a backup camera which works well. Detachable face is a huge plus and the only nav unit I could find with that feature. It's what made me decide on purchasing this. If not for that I may have went with a kenwood with built in garmin nav. After owning and using this unit I don't regret buying it. and with all the built in features and low price Im glad I didnt buy a kenwood. Make this purchase with confidence.", "I finally got off my hump and decide to change my factory radio in my 2008 Chevy Impala LT. I researched so many stereos and finally settled on the JVC KW-NT3HDT. I made a list of all the features I wanted in my new stereo, and the JVC KW-NT3HDT met each one. I was looking for a stereo that included built-in Bluetooth, HD radio, navigation, lifetime traffic updates, iPod/iPhone control, SD card slot, USB port, speed alerts, DVD player, and voice control. I was not interested in XM radio since I do not subscribe to the service. The only place where the unit fell short was that there wasn't any voice control. I went to a local installer and had the stereo installed along with a Boyo VTL420 backup camera. I had already read the online manual on JVC so I put it to the test. I read previous reviews where there were complaints about the start up time. I see no lag. I guess because as soon as I start up the car I am usually backing out of my garage or a parking space so the backup camera comes on immediately. There are options to adjust the display settings so I could tweak it where I was comfortable. The navigation is awesome. There are 3 map viewing options. I chose the 2D display. There are so many options including avoiding toll roads, ferries, and highways to the shortest and quickest course. You can add your own POIs from Google Maps using Street Assistant that can be downloaded from the JVC website, but the unit comes loaded with so many POIs like gas stations, restaurants, and department stores. You can also set up alerts for the POIs on your route. The traffic alerts come in handy. I love being able to get in the car and look at Traffic Incidents instead of waiting for a traffic update on the radio or trying to check it before I leave the house. It has real time traffic updates as well. The second day I had the stereo I was on the highway when an accident happened about 7 or 8 cars in front of me. About 5 minutes before that I had checked the traffic incidents, and there was were no incidents. I checked the traffic incidents 5 minutes later and confirmed the accident was listed and was able to select the option to detour the accident. I currently have the detour traffic incidents feature set to manual, but it can be set to automatically detour accidents. The unit displays the current speed limit for the road you're traveling on. I had the speed sensor that comes with the unit hooked up so I can get a voice alert letting me know if I am exceeding the speed limit by 3, 6, or 10 miles. The voice alert will speak over anything currently playing. It does come in handy for those speed traps. The HD radio is pretty awesome. I checked online to verify that there were HD stations in my area. I currently have my stereo set up to

change the audio to digital automatically. It can be manually set. The system does support multichannel stations. I know a lot of systems claim to and don't. The radio station name, song title, and artist info display when a song is playing. There is iTunes tagging available as well when you have an iPod or iPhone connected via USB. Besides providing traffic updates, the stereo also gives the latest sports scores, local, sports, and national news, and weather. My iPhone 3Gs paired with the stereo quickly, and downloading my phone book to the stereo took less than 3 minutes. I have only had to pair it once, and my iPhone is always connected. Pretty much everyone I have talked to using the Bluetooth tell me it sounds better than my normal phone. I have used the Bluetooth audio a few times. I don't really care for it because none of the album art displays. I did have the original iPod cable connected. Everything sounds so awesome, but video will not display with that cable. I decided to purchase the JVC cable to connect my iPod to the USB port and aux in port to display video and album art. The sound is wonderful. What's so incredible is the way my album art and artist information displays. The album art is sharp and clear. My podcast art displays splendidly as well. My playlists, videos, podcasts, and audio books all play smoothly, and the sound is so strong. My DVD player is awesome. I did purchase the bypass cable so I could play videos while I am driving. I made a DVD disc containing 3 AVI files, and the videos look better than they do on my iPod. I purchased a few DVDs as well that play well. I purchased an anti-glare screen protector as well. I wanted to test out how movies that are usually really dark display with the sun shining on the unit. I tested it using the movie Legion. Legion looked pretty incredible. I also made a MP3 DVD disc as well that displayed all the album art and artist info and sounded great. In addition to that, I also purchased a 16 GB SD card that I filled with music. The album art and artist info all displayed as well. The sound was incredible. I have yet to play anything on this stereo that doesn't sound incredible. I currently have the equalizer set to Natural. I set up greeting and goodbye messages. They play when I enter and exit my car. I was able to customizable my display colors to match my current interior display colors. It's no question that this stereo fulfills all my needs and wants. It's funny because one of my friends has the Ford Sync in his Fusion and was looking amazed at all my stereo does for such a good deal.", "This has been my favorite purchase in the last year. We installed this in our 2006 Chevy Equinox, and it has been great. The navigation is very quick and very accurate. Everything works as it should. Was able to ground out the parking break wire so we can watch dvds while moving. Also installed a backup cam and that works great. Just purchased a pair of video headrests for the backseat. Hopefully everything hooks up easily.", "This is pretty nice. It has everything built in except for satellite radio. The UI could use some work. There is nothing wrong with it, just a little plain, but functional. At first I didn't get what the big deal was with having the USB on front instead of the back, and after using it for a week I still don't. I could see why you would want to route it to the glove box, but it's a minor issue. I'm mainly using it as a mobile interface to my iPhone, and all the associated features work well. \*Sometimes\* I have to reconnect the iPhone to get volume, but it seems to be related to when you plug it in. Plug it in before you turn it on, and it seems fine. A while after, and it seems fine. While booting up, and no volume sometimes. Since the connection is on the front I just pull it out half way then put it in and I have sound. It's happened maybe 3 times since I've had it, so no big deal. I haven't done any of the firmware updates yet, and my iPhone is still on shipping OS, so maybe it's been addressed. The sound so far isn't as good, but that just might be tuning. This replaced the Rockford Fosgate head unit in my 2003 Nissan Xterra with RF system. I have kept the amp and the speakers, so there is probably just some tweaking to be done. I have ordered the PAC integration adapter with line level adjustment to replace the Metra 70-7551, so hopefully adjusting the levels will bring the sound on par with previous unit. It's hopefully just a 2.5v vs 4v thing. It's strange, but when you get something that does a lot of things well, you start to question why didn't they go farther. Like the boot up screen. You can customize it, but only between 4 default wallpapers. Why just those four, why not my own? The stereo can also do startup and shutdown messages. Type something in, and she says it to you at the appropriate time. But why not an audio clip? There are traffic, news, gas prices, etc, that are available. But apparently only if you are listening to HD radio. Why not with the other sources? Since the radio can talk, why doesn't she ask how I'm doing instead of always saying I'm going to fast, or I made the wrong turn...wait, never mind about that. This does as much or more than all the 2010/2011 high end

models, but for 70-80% of the price. Before adding modules like HD Radio. I haven't even read the manual yet, but I feel I got my money's worth. And oh yeah, detachable face! Seems like none of the high end models have this, so even if the price was equal with the more expensive models, I'd still most likely pick this.", 'Sound quality on this is sub-par. I've had alpine, kenwoods and clarions in the exact same setup I \*HAD\* this in and it was by far the worst sounding one. Everything sounded like a 128-160kbps MP3, even though all my mp3s are 320s... even the CD player sounds awful. The resolution is terrible, if you're used to using your smartphone or a decent standalone GPS, you won't be pleased. It's like you're using a gps from 2002. You're only allowed to have your MP3s in one level of a directory tree. which means you need to have each folder be "artist and album" it will take forever to scroll through them and it will take you even longer because it tries to resize the font width in the list which scanning quickly impossible.', 'I have had this unit for two months now and if I had it to do over again. I would not purchase this unit.

**Ergonomics:**1. the buttons are too small2. the on/off button should be on the volume control and should be an instant off (instead of hold for 3 seconds)3. The USB port is just below the volume control and blocks access to the knob.

**Navigation:**1. does not compare to the Garmin hand held that it replaced. The Garmin navigation is three times better than the JVC.2. When searching for stores it locates the ones furthest away. You then have to hunt for the one closest to your location (I fail to comprehend the logic in this)3. I do like the compass which always points to the north.4. It does not give you speed or elevation as the Garmin does.5. It won't go to navigation mode unless you press the disclaimer page each and every time. This gets very annoying very quickly. Again, my Garmin defaulted to "map" mode after a minute.

**Radio:**1. you can only do 6 presets in AM. Why? It's not like a knob, I am sure you could have more presets in a list.2. No Scan button.

**Sound:** Okay

**Bluetooth:** Haven't used this function yet except with phone

**Phone:** It won't download my phone book from my phone which my Garmin did with ease

quality of calls okay you have to be stopped to use the phone. No, really. Any other system allows you to dial while driving but not this baby. What, do they think we are idiots?

**DVD:** Okay, but with some DVDs it has to pause to catch up! This makes watching movies a pain.

The best navigation/DVD/satellite/radio system out there is the Ford Sync. It is by far the best but unfortunately it is rather expensive because you have to purchase the car to go with it. Nevertheless, my next car will be a Ford just so I can get the Sync.', 'What sold me on this unit was the detachable face, which to me was imperative since car stereos are known to get stolen in my area. The face itself is kinda heavy/clunky if you're used to detachable face single-DIN stereos, but it comes with a nice carrying case to protect it with. Still, it's not the kind of thing you're going to want to carry around with you. I usually just stick it in the trunk if I have nowhere else to put it. I'm impressed with the unit overall. While some complain about the screen resolution, which I know is somewhat low, but I don't really see it as an issue. It's a car stereo, not a 32" TV in your living room. In fact that only time I noticed the resolution was a little subpar is when I tried a DVD with (somewhat small) subtitles. The subtitles didn't look particularly sharp but were still readable. The interface however is very snappy with nearly no delay with most functions. The IPOD controls are quite nice and easy to navigate, but a text-based search would be nice to eliminate a lot of tedious scrolling.

One thing that should be noted is that unit does in fact display East-Asian characters (Chinese, Japanese, and I assume Korean as well). This is kind of a big deal for many of us since it seems NO other head unit does this, which is strange since they're all made by Japanese companies.

Built in HD radio is pretty awesome. It displays artist/song tag information and album artwork for stations that support it (only after updating to the latest software). It has 3 FM bands and 1 AM band. Truthfully I wish manufacturers would do away with having 3 FM "bands" and just make it 3 pages worth of presets. It's just an extra un-needed step to have to switch bands to see your next 6 presets.

**Sound controls** are somewhat basic. 5-band EQ and very effective and very adjustable HPF and LPF's, but that's about it. No "loudness" function, no individual source level adjustment. Pioneer is the class leader when it comes to things like this.

The Nav function however leaves a bit to be desired though. Previous to this unit, I was using a typical \$120 TomTom. The TomTom trumps the JVC unit when it comes to navigation functions. There have been several occasions where it couldn't find an address (saying that the house # was invalid) forcing me to look up the address on my iPhone to find out the cross streets and then input those

into the JVC. I've also had trouble finding certain POI's (like if I ask for the nearest McDonalds, it'll show me one 5 miles away when there's only one 1 block away). My main gripes with the NAV system are this: Firstly there is NO text based turns list. This is very important because I like to look over a route before heading off since GPS's have a tendency to do silly things... like send you 20 miles down a road, and then tell you to make a u-turn and go back. You can overview your entire route with a non-scrollable, non-zoomable map display, but that has limited usefulness. There's also a simulation mode, which takes you on visual tour of your entire route, but it takes forever. Of course without a text-based turns list, there's no ability to preemptively avoid certain maneuvers that you know are a stupid idea. The tomtom let you highlight any particular maneuver in the entire route and let you change it to an alternative. There is no way to do this nor any way to ask for an alternate route. Additionally, the colored markings for roads can be somewhat confusing. Your route is highlighted in green, yet there are other roads that are also highlighted in green so it can be quite confusing to look at. The traffic feature works as well as anyone else's. Meaning it only shows actual traffic jams 50% of the time. I've been stuck in very long traffic jams that aren't indicated at all. This was also the case with the Tomtom so I don't fault the unit, rather the data it's provided. The tomtom was nice in that it would tell you how many minutes a particular delay would cost you. This one doesn't do that, but it tells you the length of the delay in miles. I also had some reception issues with the unit that I'm not sure have been resolved yet. I originally had the antenna mounted on behind the rear window on the rear parcel shelf. I figured this should work fine since portable units have no problem being inside the car. What I noticed is that quite frequently the unit would have no idea where I am, showing me on different roads, usually the next street or two over. I remounted it on the roof, and there was little improvement. It would indicate that I was driving through buildings, parks, lakes, etc... At first I thought it was because of nearby buildings, but they weren't particularly tall buildings (only 4 stories). I've never had this problem with any NAV unit I've ever owned, so I thought it to be completely unacceptable. The unit is completely useless in any area with skyscrapers (like Manhattan, NYC) but even my tomtom had issues in those areas. I've even had this problem on elevated highways where there were no overhead obstructions. I called JVC and they suggested I upgrade to the latest firmware, even though the changelog only indicates that the "HD artist experience" feature was added, noting no GPS improvements. I upgraded the other day (I had to buy an SD card to do this), and so far it's been fine, but I haven't driven in the areas where I usually see these issues yet. JVC suggested that if there is no improvement after the firmware upgrade, that the antenna is most likely faulty and I'll be provided with a warranty replacement. I plan on making a video review of this unit, because I think it's overall a great unit, but prospective buyers should be given a tour of the NAV function to see if it will meet their needs. I'm very satisfied with the unit for the price I paid for it (\$599 refurbished), but at the full MSRP price of \$1200 it's somewhat unpolished.

1) "Have had this unit for almost a year now, and it has been great. Navigation is generally pretty good, although it has taken a slightly less convenient route on occasion. Bluetooth has been the defining feature for me. It is crystal clear and consistent. It was one of the main draws of the unit, including the Bluetooth streaming. Can't beat all the features for the bargain of a price."

2) "Before I rip into JVC, I have to say that this unit was NOT a BAD purchase- I don't really regret buying it. Mainly, because for what I paid for it and it's overall features, I'm happy. But after using it for almost a year, there are some glaring issues that make me want to almost start my OWN company and design car stereos!

3) Screen is HORRIBLY outdated. My phone, my iPad, my computer... everything I own has a much higher quality screen than on this. I think units that are cheaper have better screen resolutions! Although it's not a deal breaker, it makes you feel like you didn't just plop \$700+ for a 2011 receiver. I don't expect retina display, but I don't want to see everything pixelated.

4) Interface is clunky. Very unintuitive at times- and ugly. It works, don't get me wrong, but again, there's huge room for improvement.

5) Maps are outdated, and it looks like it won't be up dateable. Yep, you read that right. I asked JVC on options to update the unit's GPS maps- they directed me to Navteq, who apparently has no plans to release a new map DVD (at \$99+) for this unit. This might change, but I wouldn't hold my breath.

6) iPod integration is good but not perfect. You need a special cable to watch the video from a iPhone on it's screen- and that's if you want a worse quality experience. Also, it's constantly switching to BT while connected... means I



have do disconnect my iPhone and reconnect it to get it to work. Honestly, I would have rather had something that just mirrored my iPhone's screen somehow... but hey, maybe one day. In all, I think it's a good unit... but at \$700, I'd be expecting a really good unit (or even better, a great one!).", "This unit is great and packed with features. The GPS is always spot on and I get free updates for the life of the unit. HD Traffic is a must if you live in a big city or visit one regularly. It's true that the POI feature is a little skimpy but it can be updated with the JVC POI software you can run on your PC. Excellent sound quality with the factory speakers; it's a lot louder than the factory unit. Also this works great with my phone. Imports the phone numbers and then remembers them after that. Two things hold it back from getting 5 stars. The biggest one is that there is only a front side USB port, none in the back. If your iPod or music device supports Bluetooth stereo then you are fine but for the rest of us, you'll have a bulky cable sticking out the front of it. The other issue is the album art is really jagged due to the low rez display. Not quite a deal breaker but other units in the price range have better displays. My only other gripe is that music playlists and album art seem to only be supported on Apple devices. I tried putting a bunch of music and a playlist on the SD card and it wouldn't recognize the playlist nor would it display the album art. Hopefully this will be fixed in a firmware update. Might also be nice to have hardware transport buttons so I could skip, pause/play songs with tactile feedback instead of having to take my eyes off the road and hit the touchscreen. Overall very happy with this unit and it should get 5 stars but the display and lack of a rear USB port, hold it back.", "I put the JVC in my car to replace a Pioneer DEH-P9800BT. The sound was not close to Pioneer, especially at high volumes. The bass was muddy, and I have very good speakers and power amp. I returned the JVC and put in a Pioneer AVIC unit. Now I'm back to tight, solid bass. Secondly, the interface on the Pioneer is superior- cleaner and easier to use. And the NAV graphics are crisper with the Pioneer.", "I had high hopes for this unit as the pictures look nice but the screen gave off a lot of glare and everything was very pixelated like the images and interface were a lower res than the screen and it was doubled. I'd say it would be like running an old iPhone app on an iPad where you have to press the 2X button to fill out the screen. I ultimately returned this in favor of a Kenwood DNX6980 and I'm much happier."]

## B003XM3L0I

["Very easy to install and use after updating the code in my GPS. It doesn't always know about traffic before you get there, but overall it's worth the price considering it has no monthly fees.", 'Shipped quickly and worked as designed for a lot less than you would pay through Garmin. I have had no advertisements when using the traffic receiver.', 'I got a bad unit to start with from them. But they work it out with me ship me a new one right away got it with in the same week. Best customer service fast and responsive.', 'Great replacement for original charger that failed. Charges Garmin with no problem and is functionally identical to the one that came with my Garmin.', 'So worth the extra \$52 compared to getting the traffic bundle in with the Garmin Unit. Per tech support. The LMT models have preloaded software with ADS that pop up when stopping! No thank you! If you get this unit that has the Lifetime Traffic with it, you do not get those pesky ads. I could have gotten the LT included with the model of Garmin I purchased for \$52 cheaper, but my screen is never interrupted with those annoying pop up ads. Money well spent. So just get the Lifetime Map model and this Traffic receiver and be the happy camper I am. 6 stars! :-)', "I've purchased several Garmin GPS devices over the years, and have found that with each generation, the quality drops another notch. The customer service, which was second to none, has now become deplorable. This traffic receiver is also the main power cord for several Garmin GPS devices. When I purchased my 3590LMT last year, I noticed that I wasn't receiving any traffic information whatsoever. To resolve the issue, I contacted Garmin on several occasions by phone and was placed on hold for a minimum of 35 minutes each time before reaching a representative. On the latest call to the company, I was on hold for 1 hour 42 minutes (102 minutes), when the battery in my cordless phone died. You can imagine how I felt. I decided to send them an e-mail expressing my disgust and their reply was that there was a major snowstorm in Olathe KS on the day of my call. Olathe KS is the headquarters for

Garmin. I was told that my hold time was so long because they were severely short staffed due to the storm. Since meteorology is a passion of mine, I decided to look up the climatological data for Olathe KS on the day that I called. To my disbelief, there was absolutely no precipitation of any kind on that day. In other words, the representative downright lied to me. I wrote back and received another e-mail stating that I was correct and they apologized for the representative who misinformed(led to) me. At any rate, I'm diverting from a review of this item, so let me get back on track. Subsequent communication with Garmin got me nowhere, so I was told to send the traffic receiver back for a free replacement. As mentioned, the receiver also functions as the power cord, so I asked if they could mail me a replacement and I would send back the defective one as soon as it arrived. They agreed to do this, but informed me that I would have to pay a \$118 deposit prior to the replacement being sent. I explained that the cost for a new one was \$69.99, so I asked why they were charging me \$48 above the cost of a brand new receiver. I explained that even if I never returned the defective one, they had no right to charge me more than the cost of a new one. Their answer was that it was company policy. This was preposterous, but since I had no choice, I agreed. When the replacement arrived, I noticed that it was refurbished, not new. I plugged it into my car outlet, put the GPS on the windshield and drove all over the place seeing if it would work. Other than for a few brief moments of reception, I was still unable to receive traffic information. My next step was to contact Garmin again. At this point, I was becoming quite upset with the way I was being treated. In addition to being placed on hold for extremely long periods of time, the representatives seemed clueless as to how to solve the problem. They had tried every software update, etc., yet nothing worked. They explained that there was nothing wrong with the GPS unit itself. I don't know how they arrived at that conclusion, but they did. My final step was to purchase the antenna accessory which connects to the traffic receiver. Surely this would solve the problem. After waiting a week, the antenna arrived and I attached it to the receiver and mounted it onto the windshield using the 2 suction cups that were included in the package. You would think that Garmin would include the antenna as a standard accessory with the GPS device, especially since the 3590LMT was the top of the line device in 2012. At any rate, after installing the antenna, it helped to such a small degree that it was basically useless. On a drive to NYC and Boston, we encountered 3 traffic tie ups, yet the GPS traffic receiver was unable to notify us of any problems at all. When I monitored the reception strength, it ranged from nothing(no bars), to 3 bars. 90% of the time it received nothing at all, and the other 10% wavered between nothing and 3 out of 5 bars. Unfortunately, each time we were stuck in traffic, the receiver with antenna was incapable of working at all. To compound matters, regardless of how hard you push the suction cups on the windshield, and even if you put a drop of water under them, they fall off every 2 weeks. The bottom line is that this power cord/traffic receiver is designed so poorly, that it's incapable of receiving reliable traffic signals. Even with the additional antenna, the reception is spotty at best. For the price paid for the 3590LMT, I would have expected the traffic receiver to perform flawlessly. Such is not the case and thus this item is not recommended. I'm giving it 2 stars instead of 1, only because it also functions as a power cord which works flawlessly. Pros: Works as a power cord. Cons: Built-in antenna is insufficient to receive adequate traffic signals. Accessory antenna only improves reception a tiny, tiny bit. Accessory antenna suction cups fall off windshield every 2 weeks. Customer service hold times are inordinately long. Representatives have a lack of knowledge when it comes to their products. Would I recommend this item: No. Would I purchase this item again: No. Would I purchase any Garmin GPS device in the future: No. I recently purchased a Garmin Nuvi 2360LMT, which comes with lifetime traffic. That traffic subscription is "free" with the trade-off that you're shown advertisements every time the GPS thinks you aren't moving. That quickly became very annoying. I contacted Garmin and they informed me that the only way to make the ads go away was to purchase a new traffic receiver. This GTM 35 is the one compatible with my Nuvi. It would have been nice (and a bit cheaper) if I could have just purchased a replacement subscription for the hardware I already had, but nevertheless it was worth it to me to buy this to make the ads go away. It is otherwise seemingly identical to the receiver that came with my Nuvi. Got the delivery in time...rightly paired with my Garmin Nuvi 1350 LMT device and showing the traffic status...The Traffic update saved our time many times and is very useful....I am giving four stars

because of its price...it is a costly product. Garmin should consider reducing the price of the charger....', 'My unit came from merchant "GPS-FOR-YOU." It appeared to be brand new and unused when I unpacked it. When I started using this traffic adapter, it worked as I expected and did provide traffic information. However, ads began appearing soon after initial activation. I contacted Garmin directly -- they asked for the serial number, and responded that the unit I received was ad-supported. The good news is that I contacted the Marketplace vendor, and they gave me a refund without incident. As for the unit's performance (ads notwithstanding), I am a little disappointed with the traffic information that I receive. I will look at Google Maps first thing in the morning, and see that there are already traffic issues, so I plot a course to work with my nuvi and this traffic adapter. It fluctuates between saying there is no traffic delay, to telling me there is a 0:02 (2 minute) traffic delay. I live 25 miles from the office, so it has plenty of time to get updates (30 minutes on a good, no-traffic day, or up to an hour or more on bad traffic days). I am about 20 minutes into my commute when I hit traffic, yet the nuvi still says there is no traffic. Then, after sitting in traffic for a couple of minutes, it suddenly indicates I have a 0:25 delay. If it had given me this information 15 or 20 minutes earlier, or even 5 minutes earlier! then I would have been happy and in a more reasonable position to try to find an alternate route, but by the time I'm at this point, I don't have much choice other than to tough it out, which kind of defeats the purpose of having this traffic adapter. This happens to me consistently. It occasionally does a good job of letting me know of traffic ahead of time, and it is a life-saver when there is a major incident (such as a closed highway) to reroute you around it, but it can be very hit and miss on my daily commute.', "I have a Garmin 3760LMT. The traffic display stopped working last November. After doing some trouble-shooting, I decided the problem must be the power cable/traffic receiver. I ordered this cable from Amazon. It would be worth the \$75 if it was still working. On a 3-hour road trip yesterday, the traffic display stopped working again. I also have a Garmin 1450LMT, which has the GTM 25 cable. I plugged the GTM 25 into my 3760LMT and the traffic display started right up. So, it appears the GTM 35 has gone bad again. So, my recommendation is to buy the GTM 25 at half the price of the GTM 35. It's not likely that I'll spend another \$75 to replace this one."]

## B003Y2PKAQ

["Its a good copy and does fit the camera, but the seal is not as complete as a genuine body cap. The threads don't feel as true as on a real canon cap.", 'the product is functional and worth the money that you pay for it but you do get what you pay for and the quality in a sturdy plastic. for as much as i love my camera i would spend a little more and get a nice body cap', 'I drilled a hole through the center to make a pinhole lens for my 50D. Other than that, how do you / who the heck rates a camera body cap?', 'it was cheap and is just like my other one i bought this not for a spare but to do pinhole photography and what else can i say its a cap.', "Great product! I ordered it because I'm a cheapo, well not really but a cap is a cap I don't really care if it had the canon logo or not, BUT I was sent me a canon one, it was a nice little surprise and I received the order quickly, probably about 3-4 days after I ordered it. Great seller, no hassle, great prices, definitely will shop here again!", "I was ready to receive a dull piece of molded plastic, which I did get, but they even stamped the Canon logo on the dang thang. Get this one, you'll save money and maintain legitimacy ;)", 'Its cheap, its really cheap to be honest, but works as good that the original, looks the same too, I recommend to buy a few ones because the shipping its almost the same, I also use lens cap of this brand/seller and really nice and cheap, a real bargain these products!', 'Okay so this cap it super cheap compared to a certain brand name cap. The thing does exactly what a cap it supposed to do. If you really feel like you need to spend more just for a cap with a logo on it to feel better about yourself go ahead but this cap is perfect!', "great design, it feels like the real thing but it won't last like the real thing. the cap will start losing its grip more and more with every use. I would not recommend this guy.... don't get it", 'What a great deal! This is cheaper than buying a Canon body cap and fits perfectly! I would definitely buy this again!', 'Needed a body cap for my Canon 60D. Shopped around and found this cap. Fits my Canon and the cap seems well made. Would order

another if and when needed.', "Fits great. I ordered a bunch of these along with the rear lens caps. I never am able to find one when I need it, so it's nice to have a few spares. Can't beat the price and service of fotodiox. Much better then ordering off of eBay and waiting a month for questionable goods from china. Although, these are more then likely chinese, the quality is controlled by a US seller.", 'NOTE: All of my body caps have "Canon" molded into the plastic. Which as a Canon user is just fine by me, but it does make it a very teensy bit harder for me to make my pinhole hole (duh, I'll just make it from the other side of the lens cap). It's not losing a star for that, since it's advertised as a Canon one, but it's worth knowing that it isn't blank as in the product shot. It's solid, it has the dot for me to line up to put it on. It fits perfectly. I'm SO looking forward to destroying the three I bought by drilling holes in them. :D', 'I bought a variety of lens and camera caps for Panasonic Micro 4/3rds cameras and Cannon Lenses. All are high quality caps and do the job at an affordable price. I highly recommend Fotodiox for their lens caps and their lens adapters.', "Perfect fit on my XSI. Good quality plastic, and the threading fits nicely. The logo is a little bit crooked when it's completely tightened, but that's not a big deal to me.", "It's solid, fits perfect on my camera, nice design, good price and worth the money that you pay. Definitely recommended .", "I have been a professional photographer for 30 years. For years and years, if I lost a lens cap or needed something small like a step-up ring, I had few choices -- all expensive. A lens cap might cost \$15 at a local camera store. The local camera store may not even have something like a step-up ring (so I could use one large filter on multiple lenses that had different lens diameters). In the past year or so, I've placed a couple of orders through Amazon for these small items from Fotodiox. Their set of step-up rings solves all my problems for the foreseeable future since I now have a whole set of step-up rings at the cost of what one ring used to cost. Same with their lens and body caps. I ordered a bunch of these at once through Amazon's website, and as it should (which does not always happen) -- the shipping cost was reasonable and took into account that shipping one or ten lens caps should be about the same. The lens and body caps work just fine. I am a happy camper!", 'I have two Canon XTi/400D bodies but only one body cap. This Fotodiox Camera Body cap looks and feels just like the OEM Canon one. At this price I got two, just to have a spare.', 'Fit perfectly. Durable. Works very well.', "But it definitely doesn't cost the amount of money they charge you to make on of these. I do like the look.", 'Used these to manufacture my own macro and telescopic astronomy lenses, worked very well, sturdy, good fit, highly recommended, especially for the price.', 'way better than an OEM cap, works just as well and has a sweet design!! Thank you Fotodiox, much appreciated.', 'This was bought to replace a missing body cover for a Canon EOS 40D and although it appears to be the right size generally it has insufficient tabs to lock into place properly on the camera body, rendering it wholly worthless for the purpose it was purchased. Disappointing and problematic given I needed this part for a set date to ship the camera body.']

## B0042X8XOQ

["I bought this to replace the :12V 2A DC To Converter which recently failed. I had 2 of the the linked product, the first one lasted years wired first to power a MP3 player then later retasked as a computer muffin fan speed controller. I modified the dial to a thumb screw for easy turning. This Powerline model is slimmer, and required no modification for toolless voltage changes. I have no real use for the USB port as I have several in my vehicle, but it does work. The second switch visible in the photo is to reverse polarity on the plug. I've personally never seen any device where the outside of the barrell is (+) but this gives you the ability to switch it easily, perhaps too easily. I put a piece of tape over mine to prevent reverse polarity. While my previous Mp3 player wanted 5 volts, it seemed to charge properly on both the 4.5 and 6 volt setting on the linked product without damage. Those needing only one voltage, and never needing to adjust it, might want to tape over the voltage switch as one can easily, unintentionally, move the voltage selector. While this is a bonus for my usage as a fan speed control, it might fry some devices if fed a much higher voltage than it was designed for. Edit: I have twice experienced the shorting issue where it has blown my Ciggy plug receptacle fuse which is rated at 30 amps in my System. It fits too loose within the receptacle and

pushing/tweaking it to the side will allow the (+) to short to the (-). I will take steps to prevent this occurrence in the future as replacing the fuse is a bit of a PITA, and fuses are not cheap either. Other than this it has been working fine to power my Vantech tornado fan. It does not generate much heat at all, that I have noticed. I have ordered a PWM Dimmer for this application and might hardwire a fan for non portable requirements.", 'Only one of the tips fits my Philips DVD player. However, it needs to be jiggled several times before it starts charging. Because of unpredictable connectivity, the player exhausts its batteries and turns off - kids hate that since they need to watch the material all over again with lots of jiggling and praying. Complete waste of money.', 'I replaced an old Powerline that lasted me about 2 years with constant use. This new version is much smaller and built a little better. It worked right off the bat, just be sure you set the correct voltage on the unit. The included adapters were an exact match for my portable satellite radio. I like the USB charger included on the unit so I can charge my iPhone and not require a separate USB charger.', "I use this on my boat. My flat screen TV was not digital so I had to buy a tv converter box, well the converter box was 9 volt and my boat is 12 volt (didn't see that before I bought it). I bought this power adapter, added another power socket and plugged it in. It has a bunch of tips to match your equipment and several different voltage settings. It even has a polarity setting in case your item has a reverse polarity. This thing works great and now I can watch tv on my boat. Works so well I am here to buy two more for some other electronic items I use on my boat. Very Very happy with this! Update March 2013. If I could give this adapter 6 stars I would. I can't say enough about this product. I bought two more and use them on all kinds of DC equipment, TVs, radios, Ipod and Zune docking stations, charge phones with the usb outlet. Wow these are great. They work perfectly for us with no failures. Just love these things!", "THESE GADGETS ARE GREAT FOR SAVING MONEY ON BATTERIES FOR MP3 OR CD PLAYERS. COUNT THE BATTERIES IN THE PLAYER, MULTIPLY BATTERIES BY 1.5 TO GET THE VOLTAGE SWITCH SETTING ON THE POWER ADAPTER. 3, 4.5, 6, ... THEN FIND THE CIRCLE WITH A LINE TO THE CENTER ON THE AUDIO GADGET, IF THERE'S A + TO THE CENTER, THE THE CENTER IS POSITIVE, A MINUS - IT IS NEGATIVE. READ INSTRUCTIONS, BUT THE WHITE STRIPE IS THE NEGATIVE SIDE OF THE CORD, USUALLY. SO PLUG THE PLUG INTO THE JACK WITH THE NEGATIVE SIDE TO THE STRIPE, OR POSITIVE SIDE TO THE BLANK SIDE. SET YOUR SWITCH TO 3, 4.5 ETC LIKE I SAID BEFORE. MOST CARS THIS IS HOT WHEN THE CAR IS OFF, SO UNPLUG IT WHEN NOT IN USE FROMM CIGARETTE LIGHTER SLOT. VIDEOGAMENCOMPUTERGUT@YAHOO.COM", 'Needed an adapter for my boombox. This one works great. Easy to follow instructions. I would recommend this to anyone looking for a generic car adapter.', 'The charger works just fine, but you would think that with all those adaptors in the picture I would get one that fits my radio. You would be wrong. Good unit other than that.', '2 amp capacity (unusual for these small plug-ins) and a good selection of adapter tips makes this a worthwhile purchase. I used it for a trip from Colorado to North Carolina and it worked well.', 'i love the fact that i can actually charge my acer a500 and my acer a100 tablets with this charger. Good quality and you can also charge your phone using built in usb port.', 'Great for connecting may items in your car that need different voltages, Neat with sliding voltage setting to be used as needed', 'seems to blow my fuse alot and i have it on all the right settings. Maybe cause I blast the cd player?? IDK, but it has worked well for me and my cd player in the car so far.', 'I am pleased with this product. It was delivered in 2 days, and it works as advertised. I needed a 5 VDC source providing up to 1 Amp. This device gives me choices of 4.5 VDC and 6 VDC. Both work well.', "I like this product. I really like Isabelle's chemistry cake"; its a video found on youtube Also Connie Talbot from BGT and young voices, also on youtube.", 'I would recommend this product. Great, great and I like it. Works well for the intended project. I am happy.', "What can I say about this except that you get what you expect. I measured the voltages and they are right on target. The adapter plug can go in two different ways so you must check the polarity with a meter or you might fry your equipment. You need to match the polarity of what ever you are connecting it to. I don't know why polarity isn't standardized. Being able to change polarity is a good thing, but I think a recessed switch would be a better option than reversible plugs. The only negative, and this applies to all similar devices like this is that the adapter plugs don't lock into place. If you were disconnect it by accident you would have

to get your meter out to re-verify the polarity.", 'Initially I had trouble with this item. Was probably my bad. It charges my Acer A100 tablet just fine. Recommended for car charging on the go. The 12V output setting is just what my Acer wanted. Should get 5 stars! USB works well also.']

## B0045U9V5G

["Needed a new and faster router when I upgraded my internet speed. Purchased this router because of the price and the specs. The router worked really well - until...One day it just quit. Simple as that. It simply quit. I could not connect to the internet all - I had to unplug my Ethernet cord from the router directly to the computer. Hopped on the phone with Belkin (for over an hour) until it was determined that I needed a replacement. Received the replacement less than a week later and everything worked fine. Until...One day it just quit - AGAIN! Simply as that. It simply quit, AGAIN! The same issue as before, cannot connect to it or the internet. Having to connect directly to my modem to get internet access. Hopped on the phone AGAIN with Belkin and it has yet to be determined what the outcome will be. Regardless, I will not be using the replacement or this current one I have. I will be going to the nearest electronic store and purchasing ANYTHING other than Belkin. This particular product is NOT good. Do NOT waste your time or money. After two very similar incidents - I'm believing this brand is no longer as good as it once was.", 'I've had this for a month n it lost a connection once. I stream music n movies all day long with no problems. It was a 4minute setup n bam...away i went. I recommend this product to people with comcast cause my setup works great.', "I bought this router to replace an aging wired only router as I now require a wireless router, (I still required a 4-port wired switch built in too which this unit has so it seemed ideal.) The model I was shipped is the F7D6301 V1. There is a supplied CD containing a simple to follow wizard to install the router and easily change the most common settings, but instead I just set up the router through my web-browser, (the router defaulted to a local IP address of 192.168.2.1 when plugged in so could be easily administered through a web browser). After checking all the settings, (most were set to my requirements already, I just changed the SSID to something more specific to me to differentiate my network from a couple of Belkin wireless networks within range that had similar names, increased the amount of characters in the WPA/WPA2 key significantly for additional security, added a password to access the router configuration, and enabled MAC Address Filtering so as to further protect against any unauthorized attempts to log-on from machines not within my network.) I'm quite astounded by the quality of the wireless signal - even on different floors of the building the signal never drops below the maximum five bars, and the connectivity hasn't cut once - I have an XP Desktop PC, connected via the 4-port wired switch, an old laptop running Ubuntu 11.04 with a cheap USB1 wireless adapter, a Vista laptop and a Windows 7 laptop connected to the router via their built-in wireless capability as I write, (with the wireless secured using WPA/WPA2. A previous reviewer expressed problems setting up WPA2, I've no idea why, it works perfectly.) I am very impressed with the ease and flexibility in setting up this router. The speed, security options and reliability are all excellent too. I wouldn't hesitate to recommend it to people based on my experience, especially for the price.", 'A lot of people have complained about the Belkin Surf F7D230 - the older version of this router sold in a blue/white box. I got the revised version F7D6301, which seems to work just fine for me. I am replacing my good-ole Linksys WRT54G v1.0 with the Belkin Surf N300 F7D6301. Here are my comments:\* I bought it for \$29 at Walmart on Black Friday, otherwise it sells for about \$45.\* I did not use the Setup CD that would install a 95MB setup/monitoring program.\* If you have Windows 7, the setup is easy enough, just connect the power cable, hook up the router to the modem and you are set. The only other thing you need to do is to enter the preset password located on a small card on the side of the router. You can later access the router settings by entering [...] in your browser and set up a more convenient WPA/WPA2 under "Security" located in the left hand side navigation area.\* If you are not tech savvy, run the setup CD, it pretty much does it all for you. I then ran a network test on speedtest.net and Belkin Surf outperformed my old router in download speeds Linksys 12 Mbps vs. Belkin Surf 20 Mbps. Upload speeds were exactly the same 1.85 Mbps. Please note that speeds will vary due to

your provider and what type of plan you have. Then I tested the range performance. I walked outside with my laptop, about 150 feet and after connecting to one and the other, I noticed that the signal strength was "fair" for my old router and "good" for the Belkin. Also, the speeds have dropped significantly for both routers, but the Belkin still outperformed the old Linksys; 2-4 Mbps for the Linksys vs. 6-8 Mbps for the Belkin. Pros: + Over all, the router is a great choice for the \$price\$. + No dropped connection issues, signal strength is good all over the house. + I can surf the web even 150 ft. away from the router. + The internet speed is improved. Cons: - Not that it matters, but the router feels like it is made out of cheap plastic. For those who like good looking/feeling things, this is definitely not the best choice. However, if you don't care about visual appeal, tuck this thing away from the view and let it do its job. The rest is up to you...', "Picked up cheap on sale. Plugged it in and it started up by itself fine. Put in supplied password for WPA-2 and laptop w XP & N wireless hooked up right away. Seems to run fine without rebooting. Finally looked at interface. Lots of options. put in user password to keep the boogers out. Signal strength seems ok, but speed on my Magic Jack over wireless is a little slow and scratchy, even though showing 130 Mbps so just plugged the ethernet cable -100Mbps- in. Haven't looked at that problem in depth. Several in our area and one jams up. Must be from outside interference. Changed channels and see if that helps. Good price if it hangs together", '1. No Priority Settings 2. Universal Plug and Play Option is Useless Lets start with the positives. Setting up was pretty simple for me, took maybe 15 minutes. The signal WAS consistently strong for the first month or so. That's about it for the positive. Now the biggest problem I had with this router is its completely useless for gaming, worse, it prevents it. I hooked it up to my Xbox and tried to play some CoD. However I couldn't connect to any games because my NAT settings were automatically set to STRICT. I looked up the problem online and found that I need to change the NAT settings on the router. Attempt 1. The problem? This router doesn't have a NAT setting option. Attempt 2. I then saw that it had a Universal Plug and Play option. However, even enabling UPnP did NOTHING. Absolutely NOTHING to help with the NAT settings. Attempt 3. I saw that the router at least had an DMZ setting option. So I manually assigned the Xbox's IP address through the DMZ and finally the NAT setting changed from Strict to Moderate. Now I'm able to connect to games, however, it takes several time-consuming attempts on the Xbox's part. Now the NAT setting should not affect the quality of the game play, however, I get One Red Bar for my signal strength. (NOTE: No other computers are connected to the router at this time.) You gamers know what one bar means; it means you lag so bad by the time you see an enemy on the screen you've already been shot up and then respawned. This is a router problem and separate from the NAT settings. So I gave up, unplugged the Ethernet cable from the router and connected directly to the Xbox. Now I get the NAT settings to be OPEN and 4 Green Bars. Smooth play, with the Belkin Surf N300 out of the network. I actually wish this router did nothing, instead it destroys my Xbox connection. I have been getting so frustrated with this router that I'm going to buy a new router, of course from a different company. I lost the receipt so I can't return it and I was considering selling it online but I know it will just cause another person pain. Also this router doesn't have priority or the option of capping bandwidth. So one computer can hog the internet (sister streaming from Netflix) while you struggle to view your emails. Lately now its dropping connections, even as I type this review. So I'm copying this review and praying that when I press the "Preview your review" it will go through.', "I bought the Belkin router a couple months ago to go with my new iMac. The salesman picked it out for me with no discussion of other options. I play a lot of Facebook games and it constantly drops the internet connection. It went from not so good to worse where I couldn't stay on line for more than a few minutes. I called Belkin's customer service where I was transferred to another company that handles their tech support. I was on the phone for at least an hour to solve the problem when I was informed it would cost me 39 dollars. The problem was that a neighbor had a Belkin router too and it confused the signal to my computer. So the solution was to rename the Belkin. It worked as good as the router could but still bumping me off on occasion. I contacted the store that sold it to me and let them know my story. They are exchanging it for a different brand.", 'I never heard of a router which didn't allow you to "reserve" DHCP addresses by MAC address... but now I own one (for about one more day). Like other reviewers, I'm having horrid speeds and frequent disconnects on wireless. (Although I'm having them on day-1.) The

chip/transmitter/antenna combination acts like it's overheated, or out of memory... or broken. It so awful that I won't even sell it or give it away to anybody else: it's going straight to the busted-electronics-recycle trash bin. The ONLY good thing is: it was cheap enough that I'm not concerned about the wasted money. But my wasted time, and all those lost connections, those have been infuriating. STAY AWAY, IT'S TERRIBLE!', 'I bought this Router at Walmart, set it up and I'm very pleased with it so far. All I use it for is wireless internet and it works just fine for me. I can get all the internet content I had before without wireless, including streaming, YouTube, etc. If you don't expect a whole bunch of stuff out of it for \$40, it will probably make you feel warm and fuzzy inside. I think it looks nice in appearance even though it is made out of plastic. Reliability and dependability is what I'm most concerned about. Read the back of the box for the features vs price before deciding which one to buy. I'm not a "gamer" either.', 'I had this router for about six months. The first few months, it functioned ok, but within the last couple of months, the router would no longer connect after about 24 hours, requiring a reboot in order to connect to the internet. And even then, the speed was atrocious. Images on pages would not even load, java and flash based games would connect and then freeze. I have since replaced it with a Cisco-Linksys E2000 Advanced Wireless-N Router and, within the 24 hours since then, my internet browsing has dramatically increased. Definitely recommend staying away from Belkin and I now love Cisco.']

## B0045VXORG

[ 'I use it to watch youtube videos. It works great... Great value for money. Has good volume. I was worried if the volume would not be enough but it works great!', 'I bought these before I discovered blue tooth speakers. Since I got my blue tooth speaker I have never used them. Save yourself a few bucks by not making that mistake.', "Good speakers. A little talker than I expected. That's ok though. There are A/C powered. That is what I was looking for. For size they are a little taller than a mag light. Volume control is on the master speaker. Power cord is on the slave speaker. They fit exactly where I wanted to put them. They sound very good. A great value for the price. A bonus too. There is a head phone jack on the master speaker. You can't go wrong with these speakers.", 'Much better than the average computer speakers. Decent bass crisp sound decent frequency range, all at a great price. Word word word', 'We bought a small TV for the kitchen and put it on the bar between Kitchen & dining room. With the only speakers pointed out through the back of the set we could not increase the volume high enough. Plug these into the set - end of problem.', "I am not a sound guru, so all I needed is audio to listen to Christian radio or an occasional video...I'm good!", 'Sound quality is very poor, getting noise while listening music. First I received defective item and then it replaced with new one, Thanks for it.', 'if you use the kind of loud speakers that let you get the power from your laptop, it is not as loud. I love that I can get the power from the electrical outlet.', 'They are real tinny sounding, I knew they were cheap but I expected them to be a little better than this.', "I mean wow, everytime I turn these lil' suckers on they make noise! It's amazing. I turn them on via rubbing them aggressively, or sometimes I use the power switch - plug them into a device that's compatible - then play sound like normal - I can't believe it! It's like magic!", "I've realized that isn't working, So I returned it. I went to store and found the same speakers at Wal Mart and bought it. It's working. Thank you. Have a nice week. Vicki"]

## B004FLI3NQ

["This works as it should and the price is low. It attaches with the cord coming out towards the front of the Pentax K5 I use and it might be a little more weirdly the other way around, but I've had excellent results using it.", "I expected this to stretch a little easier and longer than it does. But, it's just long enough, so I'll keep it. The wire is a bit stiff though ... next time I'll get a longer cord that's a bit more flexible.", "I've used this flash cord now for several shoots and it's given me no problems. The shoes fit well in the camera and with the flash. Well worth the price.", 'This flash adaptor is



okay, it works with one flash but the other flash- same brand - it seemingly despises the other.', 'In order to control shadows with using on-camera flash, I had to use a camera bracket. So I needed this cable. It is soft and flexible, but little too long. Have to find a way to attache it (twist it)on the camera bracket.', 'I love my pentax k-7. took this cable with a cheaper flash off into huge sewers of huntsville, tx. It started to rain and we almost got flooded in. My pentax k-7 and this cable held up to the rain and runoff. If you like getting rough with your gear and still getting great shots then screw canon and nikon, pentax is a must.', 'Lacks a lock mechanism for where it attaches to bracket - sometimes comes loos if not careful even if your slide on fit is snug. Gets the job done well and a great price with quick delivery!', "I've only used it a couple of times so far, but it works perfectly and seems to be well made. I have no doubt that it will last a long time if not abused.", 'I have always wanted to have an extension cord to move the flash further away from the camera. However, I had no luck finding a cheap non OE. But that was many years ago. While surfing Amazon website, I ran into this and at a really good price, so I gave it a chance. It works exactly the way it is supposed to.', "I bought this cable to get my Pentax AF201Sa flash off my Pentax K-x camera. I use it with a DIY flash bracket and the whole package works great. I didn't lose any function of the flash and it works just like it did when it's mounted to the camera hot shoe. The cable is of high quality. Others have written the cord doesn't stretch too well and that's true. For now I'm not worried about that feature so not a big deal. The unit locks securely to the camera hot shoe and the other end mounts solid using the 1/4-20 tripod connection and the flash slides nicely and is secure. Love it. Arrived in just a few days to WA State in good shape. Follow-up - I've had the cable for a week or more and it's working out great. Initially the cable fit was a little tight on the camera hot shoe, but now it slides off much easier. The quality of the cable and it's plastic hot shoe pieces is top notch. I made a good choice buying this cable."]

## B004JO9AJK

["I'm using this adapter with my Raspberry Pi, as a homemade internet gateway / router / NAS server. With Raspbian it works flawlessly. EDIT: Bought another one for using on my MK802ii with Debian for A10 devices (<http://romanrm.ru/en/a10/debian>). Works great too.", 'Great device, it operated correctly without loading drivers on an Android MK802IIIS mini computer. I have not tried it on a Windows or Apple device.', 'SIIG has always been a reliable brand when it comes to adapters and this turned out to be no different. Works great.', 'Bought this to connect my Wii via a wired connection to the internet. Worked like a charm! Connected the adapter to the back of the Wii and plugged in the RJ45 cable and that was it!', 'works fine on my Dell XPs13, Windows 7. Looks good and seems sturdy enough. I had to download the latest driver from their site.', "Perfectly plug-and-play on my Samsung Chromebook. Worked on the first try with no need for any software installation. Compact, nicely designed, and fast. I get the full throughput of my internet connection (30 Mbps down) through this, equivalent to a standard Ethernet connection or a good WiFi connection. Basically, with standard cable-modem or DSL speeds, this dongle won't be a throughput bottleneck. Despite the small size, they've managed to squeeze in two indicator lights (presumably Link and Activity) on the jack. Really nice! This goes in my travel kit for use when my hotel room has bad WiFi but good Ethernet. Truly indispensable, and very fairly priced. (Compare this to the cheap blue-plastic generic adapters available from several other vendors, mostly shipped directly from China or Hong Kong. The blue ones are tempting at less than half the price of this item, but I got 1/30 of the speed from the blue one -- less than 1 Mbps despite a 30 Mbps WAN connection -- and it got frighteningly hot after extended use. Spend the extra ten bucks to get something that works. This one works, nicely!) Amazon shipping was incredibly fast, too! With super-saver (free) shipping, it arrived the morning after I placed the order -- on a Saturday, no less. Nice job, Amazon!", "This device works plug-n-play on all the Android 4.1 thru 4.3 devices I've tested. Simple to use, perfectly functional - definitely recommended.", 'No hassle, just worked the way it is supposed to work. The usb plug is a little loose compared to most others but i dont think it would come out.', 'There are other dongles like this out there that are either really spotty or don't

work at all because they're made of tinfoil. This device works well. It feels well built in terms of a solid frame and body and has a little weight to it. It's plastic but strong plastic. I prefer these types with the cable because they're far more versatile than the solid "stick" designs. The "sticks" are pretty rigid and you end up either having to buy an adapter for them or risk having their USB connector bent or broken. I'm currently using this with my MK908 [android stick minipc] because the wifi on that unit seems to cause it to reboot and crash [as of Aug.4.2013]. Before I used it on that device I tried it on my PC just to make sure it works and it does. It is completely plug n' play (for those intending to use it with Windows 7 or 8, I don't know about XP). Throughput is roughly 10MBps almost solid, which is pretty good. So far it has been very reliable on the MK908. I trust the brand as well. I've used their accessories before and will use their accessories again. (I have a floppy/card reader by SIIG that's still alive and well after 6 years). Pros: strong build/well built, lights!, good speed, ridiculous 5 year warranty. Cons: isn't Gigabit (jk). Recommendation: It's probably one of the better 100Mbps dongles at the price so I highly recommend it. I'm considering grabbing the gigabit version.', 'Cheap. Works. Using on an old asus eeepc netbook as my home router (pfsense). Detected and runs great. Comes up faster than the internal network adapter.', 'good product. it works fast to me. i do not have a Ethernet port on my net book so the adapter really helped.', 'Works with original Wii game console! The original Wii has built-in wireless, however it is 802.11b -- and as the only "b" device in my house, it was slowing down all the G/N devices on the same access point. Adding this adapter (and a patch cable to a wireless-N bridge) allowed turning off the wireless "b" and using the USB port instead. The Wii isn't any faster, as there are other internal bottlenecks that limit its effective network speed to about 2.5Mbps downlink and 0.75Mbps uplink. But getting the "b" wireless off my main access point allowed all the G/N devices to get better throughput. No drivers or extra install steps needed. Just plug it in and select "wired" connection on the Wii setup menus.', 'I use this adapter to connect my MK802 android stick to my network. The setup was plug-and-play, speeds are great, however, at 250mAh power consumption a powered hub is needed with the MK802 for this adapter to work properly.', 'Works great. Great quality at a great price. Using for putting Wii on the net. A great substitute for the built in wireless. Plug and play, as advertised. Works great. Great quality at a great price.', 'I bought this (after trying another one) to use with FreeBSD/pfSense firewall. Works great. Recognized by FreeBSD (and pfSense/m0n0wall) by default. In testing, I was able to push ~95Mbit/sec thru it which is pretty much "100% rated speed" in networking. It's working great as part of my home firewall, plugging into a mini-itx based low-power system. I'm considering picking up a couple more to have on-hand...', 'Not much more to say, fixed a desktop with a bad ethernet board. Of course you have to install the driver for Windows.']

## B004X8AKDM

["I really like this case! I returned the apple smart-case because the ipad didn't feel safe with just the thin smart-cover when tossing it in my bag. The case feels very sturdy and I like the extra features such as the prop stand, the stylus (rarely use but wanted one anyway) and a small cloth to wipe the screen. The cloth is especially useful with all the fingerprints on the touch screen. I took one star off because the ipad doesn't really align perfectly with the cut-outs. That doesn't affect the accessibility of the buttons, so it's not a big deal. The pink color was also very nice and the case fit very well.", 'I thought my iPad2 was a mistake. It was uncomfortable, too big and mostly it was gathering dust. Then I found this case. The built in easel/stand and the hand strap make it so much more comfortable to hold and use, even for extended periods of time. The cover fits perfectly and is quite attractive. Now I use my iPad2 every day. And, of course, I love the pink color.', 'I loved this case for the price! It came with a stylus and my iPad 2 fit perfect in here. Held up well, except for the stylus holder. Great buy for the money!', 'came very quickly. fits great. looks good . absolutely perfect. can't beat it for the price. highly recommended. very high quality', 'This is a great cover for my iPad! It securely holds my iPad. I ordered pink and I love the color!', 'It held the iPad in snugly, however, I returned it because I couldn't get it to stand up and that was the whole point in getting it.', 'Purchased for a child's iPad. "Leather?" Not like any leather I hve ever seen. If it is, i has been

processed to make it look like cheap plastic. There is no magnetic function as is to be expected on any adequate iPad cover and closing it requires placing an elastic around it. Certainly not as expected NOR as advertised. Although this is clearly an inexpensive case, inexpensive and cheap need not always be the same thing. Keep shopping.', 'good fit, I used it until I had to give my dad the iPad because his started acting up. so he immediately took off the pink one and we ordered one in blue for him nice job with all the color choices', 'The IPearl is just what I wanted. I am very pleased. Especially love the fact that it turns off the IPAD when it closes.', 'The pink color is very pretty. The magnetic cover puts the iPad to sleep when you close it. The stand works while I use my wireless keyboard to create documents. The cameras, volume button, power button and charging port all line up with the cover. So far no complaints. The stylus pen that comes with it works great. It works better than the \$20 pen I had previously bought. I would recommend this case and stylus pen to everyone.', "I paid \$40 for a similar product for my husband's iPad. He loves it but this one is pink and serves the same purpose at half the price. The cons: 1) This case doesn't protect the corners of my iPad. Since taking off my smart cover and clear back, the corners have become dented and scratched. However, when I dropped the iPad with only the smart cover, the screen cracked and then fell apart. This case protects the back and front well so it is a trade off. 2) When propping the iPad up on the side, the case does not hold it in place well. It does not fall out of the case, but there is no velcro helping to keep the iPad in place either so it does slide out of place a bit. This becomes problematic the most when I am using FaceTime. I often use FaceTime while doing dishes so the sideways position provides the best angle. But, when the iPad slides down, the case often gets in the way of the camera. It is also sometimes annoying when I am watching Netflix. Overall the case is good and I am not in a rush to find a new one.", "This item took its toll 2 months after purchase, also the pen that came with it was horrible and left scratch marks on my screen protector. I wouldn't really recommend this ....", 'This case is a very nice soft pink color. The extra space for credit cards, a small cloth to wipe the screen, a place for the stylus and the stand make this a very useful case. It is not leather, though. The case is made of a sturdy fabric looking material.', "I bought this based on the reviews and they were right. This is the 3rd case I've bought for my iPad 2 -- the others were too bulky and were not meant for grabbing and using in less than a second. Nice extra is the stylus that come with it which works great. Also appreciate the loop to carry it with.", "I love this case. It's perfect for when I travel and want to watch a movie on the plane. I travel to Germany often and this case makes it nice to sit on the lap table and read a book as well. I love the stylus for when I play games.", 'Well worth the money excellent case my wife loves finally a case that sashes like Colorado and how it works the perfect case.', 'I have had my iPad 2 in this cover for a year now. I rarely go back and do a second review, because most do not deserve it. However, I felt I should share how wonderfully this item has held up. My iPad has been kept safe from one of the boys dropping it off the couch (unfortunately, a couple of times). I accidentally knocked over a cup of coffee, got the iPad before it was soaked. Another one of the boys loves playing games on it and exploring Google.... So, needless to say, my iPad has been through it, two boys, used for my job and my college classes. This case has kept the iPad so safe and protected that when I pulled it out at the Mac store yesterday (remind you, I've had it in this case a year now), I was offered almost half price for the iPad from Mac (they figured "like new" condition), but another customer offered me \$450 for it (I paid \$500). Do I recommend this product? ABSOLUTELY!!!', "It's a very good case for my iPad, it matches the iPad perfectly, and I like the color as well, also there is a touch screen pen go with it, very useful and multifunction!", 'Purchased a green one earlier on and this time get a pink one. I was surprised (in a good way) that this is a new design. The cover now can be folded around half way which created a stand with great viewing angle (it also leave the back open for taking pictures. I also like the height when it last on the table for typing, much better than the old design.', 'Bought this for my daughter for Christmas for her iPad4. It arrived in plenty of time and she loves the color. This is a very nice case for a great price!', 'This is a very light weight case. My 3rd Generation iPad fits perfectly in it. The reason I give this a 3 star is because the inside material used is light colored and gets dirty really fast. Also when I received the product the outside had a couple marks on it similar to grease stain on clothing. I decided to keep it but now regret not exchanging it since I keep getting remarks that it looks like something stained it.', 'I bought this for my daughter. She likes it very

much, especially the color. Seems to provide the right amount of protection for her iPad.', 'good case. does its job. a little loose on iPad. and when you take a picture the pink shows up in the picture but overall it protects the iPad great!', "I bought this for my wife's iPad 2 and it is a great case. The iPad fits snugly inside and it offers stylish protection. The stylus pen provided was a bit of an issue. After only a few uses the rubber tip came loose and fell off. But that is a minor flaw since it is basically a throw in for the price, but it would have been nice to get a little more use out of it.", 'I just received my ipearl leather case and I am definitely pleased and Impressed. Hubby took it out the box for me and I said wow..., what a beautiful soft pink. Then I looked at it again I and thought,...Oh my, I don't remember it being described as cloth. So I had a little sad face for a minute thinking "how did I do that, I know not to order cloth in something like this" and that's going to be hard to keep clean. Oh my, and all of the reviewing I did and I ordered cloth. Hubby could see my little disappointment, but you know how men are. He didn't realize it was leather either even after he touched it and everything.Well,...krazy me forgot that I ordered a "LEATHER" case and if I may add, "Genuine Leather". So krazy me Smelled it to see if it was "real leather", because it really didn't appeal to be and woe..., the proof is in the smell. Sooo leathery smelly. Oh wow!!!... Impressed again. I honestly made my decision based on the customer's reviews. They were Impressive and so Positive and that's a plus. I put a lot of work in reviewing the reviews and it really paid off. I read a few too many reviews that mentioned some cases had an undesirable smell or dysfunctional keys, or the stand weakens after being up for a minute or so.Well, this case is really like perfect to me and it's really early to rate it, but my confidence is so strong right now, I feel like I made the right choice. Over all, I can not believe this case look as GOOD as it does! It's very durable and all the iPad features functions properly while in the case. Another Plus! It's nothing worst than paying for something that's not functional. And it has the pen and the little cloth to come with it. I'm still shocked to know the price of this case and the quality of it. UNBELIEVABLE AND DEFINITELY IMPRESSED!!', 'I bought this particular case after much research only because of how the upright position is in landscape mode. I looked at all the different angles of many similar products and I wanted something that would stand without the likeliness of toppling forward (screen side down -just like jelly on toast would) this one seemed to be the one I wanted. I have it now since Feb 2012. I will say, it did not offer iPad protection but (after dropping it in the case) I bought a shell back to cover the aluminum of the back of the iPad and slipped it back into this case. This has been great so far and actually seemed like a more snug fit. Really does seem to be leather, and as other reviewers have remarked, does slide a bit in the case. I did order another since this one is showing a bit of wear but it could go longer however, I am excited to order the newest model to see if the company has changed any part of the design for improvement. Also, I still prefer this model as it really is the best in angle if you watch a lot of videos. It will not be wind blown over with the wider base. Also, when my new one arrives, I will put it on and add another review too. Hope tis helps.', "If you are looking for a iPad case at a reasonable price, this is it. My wife loves the case, especially the ability to keep the stylus attached. You can't go wrong.Well packed and fast shipment.", 'I purchased a white one for myself and love the various features. When one of my friends saw my cover, she fell in love with it so I bought one for her in her favorite color. This cover is a soft pink, not a bright pink.', 'Very pretty pink. I do like it. There's an odd fold on the cover that, well you know how cardboard is -- once you bend it you can't straighten completely flat. I don't know why the fold. It doesn't fold all the way and it doesn't appear to be a fold for standing up the iPad. So you won't get completely turned off by the fold, it is covered on the inside with a soft velour and two credit card size pockets. The part where your supposed to hold the iPod securely with one hand is a little awkward and only really worthwhile if you like the "book" view rather than "landscape." Again, pretty pink. I like but I'm still in search of a more perfect cover.', "The fabric material is initially rigid, and the flexible band that holds the cover open is well-placed. However, within a few weeks, the front cover had been bent enough using it in tabletop mode that it no longer stayed flat when closed on the IPAD. The IPAD would remain on as a result, even turning back on as the cover slowly bent upwards over the course of a few hours.It's OKAY for the value."]

## B005EWB3YG

["Pros: Adjustable and almost all smartphones including your ipod touch will fit. It comes with rubber strips that you can use to make the phone snug to the dock. 2 USB outlets including one that 2.1A which should charge your tablets just fine including ipads. Also includes an AC outlet rated at 6A. No putting your hairdryer into this outlet.Cons: Not enough room for the charge cable. If you're charging an iphone(or ipod touch) and the plug goes from the bottom of the phone, this leaves no way for the phone to sit upright while charging. And with most android phones, the micro usb charge port is near the bottom as well and can cause your phone to tilt to the side.Conclusion: Look elsewhere for a dock or get a dedicated dock for your phone/mp3 products.", 'While the picture looks like there is a connector built into the device, that is not the case. You need a separate charging cable and basically just put your device upside down and plug it in on top. That was quite a disappointment, to tell the truth, since I got this for someone who wanted to have their own place to plug in their ipod.Still, we are using it for an ipod, and I have another charger plugged into the 3 prong plug on back, so I can use it to charge my tablet. But it is not what we thought it was. Caveat Emptor.', 'This looked like such a cool product -- until I got it.I found the RCA Charging Dock a bit frustrating when reviewing it, as it's got some cool features, they just don't seem to be well thought-out or as intuitively designed as they might be.While the charging dock is useful, the docking cradle itself is clumsily designed and doesn't function quite the way it may first appear. You can sit your phone in the cradle, and plug it in to charge via USB, but it's honestly not much of a "charging dock" so much as a USB hub with a place to sit your phone. The cradle itself also takes up a lot of desk space -- far more (honestly) than if I just did the usual thing when my phone was charging and set it aside above my keyboard.The cradle can be customized with small strips to hold phones of different widths, and those actually work pretty well. While the USB outlets (2.1A and 1.0A) are convenient, the real star of the RCA Charging Dock is its two-pronged AC power outlet, which, when the unit is plugged in, enables you to plug in a device or charger right at your elbow.This two-pronged outlet is the real selling point of the RCA Charging Dock. It means you have two different ways to charge your phone or device -- via USB or power cord, and enables you to daisy-chain the power off the outlet in the Charging Dock. This is a real plus when cord length is often such a pain with electronic and charging devices. This way, cord length is no longer an issue.I can especially see this being helpful and convenient for travelers, since there's nothing worse than trying to plug in a Kindle or phone charger from a low or inconveniently placed bedside outlet, and having it not reach (or barely reach) the bedside table itself! The RCA Charging Dock's power outlet makes this a non-issue.Ultimately, this is just one of those products that's a bit overpriced, and which looks cooler than it is. But it's definitely got some nice advantages, especially for travelers -- while I'm a bit "meh" on the USB aspects of the Charging Dock, and find the cradle a bit clumsy, I do love the convenience of the two-prong outlet, and for that reason it has already become a mainstay for me when charging not just my phone, but my Kindle as well.', 'Basically this is an extension cord with 2 USB ports and a regular outlet. The "cradle" is just odd because you can't use it while charging, unless you put your phone in upside down! The cradle comes with cushion strips to help make your phone snug if you were to use it, but I didn't bother with that because the cradle seems kind of flimsy and I'm afraid it might tilt forward with my phone in it. However I do use it everynight to charge my phone and I like that it has the USB ports because the only way I was able to charge something that required a USB was to use my PC, so this is pretty handy. I would have given it 5 stars if not for the "device cradle". The concept is good, but isn't that practical.', '\*\*\*\*WARNING\*\*\* The picture of this charging dock shows a connector where the phone/iPod would sit. There is no connector in the groove at the top of this device merely can hold and not charge your phone.I was under the impression that I would be able to charge my iPhone/iPod while it was sitting in this cradle as you can see from my warning above that is not the case. Really I don't see how this dock would get anything above two stars. I mean basically it's a glorified extension cord with two USB connectors. Now I can see wanting to have two USB connectors to charge devices on the living table and not having to go plug into the wall. Now with that in mind this device would work perfectly. But again my desire was to have a device that I could drop my phone into an charge it.In a

not quite sure about the AC adapter they have on the back of the unit I mean it's two prong most things I plug in nowadays are three prong adapters. So I'm not sure how useful that would be to somebody but it's there for you want it. I hope this helps & thanks for reading.", "I expected to place my iPhone in the cradle and have it charge. The cradle is just for convenience but it's still necessary to cable phone to device. Even though it charges two devices, I don't like it too much based on my not wanting to continue after the first few uses. After all, lots of devices can be used to charge my phone and I have several already.", "Like some of the other reviewers, I thought this charging station had a connection in the bottom that would mate with a phone while it was in the cradle. It does not and that is the reason for the one star deduction. Meanwhile, it does have two USB outlets and a standard plug on the back of the unit. I used it to charge both my Kindle Keyboard and my Galaxy Note phone at the same time - it works just fine and both units charged with no drama in a timely fashion. The standard plug worked fine with a pair of bluetooth headphones charging. We then tried the USB with a Blackberry Torch and Kindle Fire charging at the same time and all worked correctly. The Blackberry was able to rest in the cradle properly while it charged - the charger fits into the side of that phone. My Note charges from the bottom of the phone and had to be put in the cradle upside down while charging - not a great set up, but that is not the fault of the cradle, rather a design issue with the Samsung phone. (I cannot speak to the usefulness with regard to Apple products as we don't own any) For the price, this is a pretty good unit - eliminates the need for three units plugged into the wall or a floor strip and puts everything on the desktop.", 'First of all, the product description here seems to imply that of the two USB power output ports on this charging dock, one outputs 1.0A and the other 2.1A. On the product itself, the bottom USB port has a "2.1A" marking next to it. But when I checked the specs on the bottom, it clearly states that each USB outputs 1.05A. This makes sense because USB power output is specified to be between 0.5 and 1.05A, although I would have preferred a 2A output port for one or two of my power-hungry devices. I imagine if you use a Y USB cable, you can get the 2.1A total, but I have never seen a mobile device that requires or accommodates a Y USB cable. (A few years ago, many USB-powered portable hard disks came with a Y cable, but why would you connect a portable HD to this charging dock???) The power issue, which is not a big deal, aside, the biggest problem with this charging dock is the cradle well is too shallow. It's designed to hold a smartphone or phone-sized media device, but the well itself is shallow and has a very slippery surface. Some felt strips are provided to allow you to create a narrower slot to hold your devices, but obviously once the strips are taped to the well wall (using strong 3M adhesive backing), some devices you own may no longer fit in the cradle. And, still, the well is too shallow to hold any device securely. If you so much as to shake the table or stand where you have this cradle, your precious mobile device may simply fall out. I simply can't believe how poorly this was designed. BTW, you'll have to leave your device upside down in the cradle, because of the charging cable. The dock does not come with any cable; you'll have to supply your own, i.e., the one that's appropriate for the device you plan to charge. You do get a convenience 120V AC outlet, rated at 6 amps, but it's only two-pronged and does not accommodate the popular wide neutral prong, so its use is limited. (I'm able to plug my Sony Bluetooth speaker system into the convenience outlet.) In short, I cannot recommend this charging cradle because the cradle well is so poorly designed.', 'This doc is excellent. There is a space dock for smartphone which in my case is a blackberry, an on dock A/C outlet, USB port which I use for my iPod, and additional charging space. Its pretty straight forward and sits well on desk, table top, or in my case window sill or night stand. Simple gift idea and proves to be better than multi-outlets plug.', 'RCA has successfully made one of the most useless devices for charging your smartphone that I've ever had the misfortune to see. This "charging dock" would infer that there is a dock you can place your phone in and start charging it via the dock. There's some truth to that, admittedly, but only in a design and not in an execution sense. It has a cord for a standard wall outlet, and you can plug up to two different USB charging cables into it as well as another standard "female" plug for perhaps another appliance. The idea here is to give smartphone users (not iPhone users...) an iPhone-like dock for their phones. You get four pieces of foam (two thick, two thin) so that you can cradle your device as best as you can vertically. You then plug your USB charging cord into the back of this cradle and then plug that into the phone. Will it charge it? Yes. But what if you have an iPhone? Well, as I said, this is

marketed towards Android users like myself, so forget it, iPhone users. Since the charging port for the iPhone is at the bottom, you would have to put the phone in upside-down to get at the charger. The thing about this design is that while I appreciate it trying to be universal for smartphones, it doesn't work in execution. The foam with the stick-um on the back will do its best to cradle the phone, but I found that my Droid Bionic was too thin for the included foam and would rock back and forth. This is a cheap, VERY low-end alternative to the device-specific charging docks that are out there and frankly, you're better off spending the extra cash for those than wasting any of it on this.', 'This item is pretty useless as it takes up desk space. The "cradle space" on top is pretty useless as you cannot charge your device unless you drill a hole thru the bottom of the unit to put your charging cord through there to reach one of the USB slots as there are no charging pins as provided with the other RCA PCHSTAB1R 30-Pin Charging Dock with Device Cradle which has much more functionality but only 1 USB charging port in the back of that unit, but alas you can charge your iPod or iPhone as it comes w/a removeable cradle to support either application when you put either unit in that cradle with the 30 pin plug in that cradle. If I could have given this one zero stars I would have. I was very dissapointed in this. Even though they give you 4 or 5 foam strips to adjust your Galaxy III smartphone in the cradle it still won't allow for any room to allow for you to run your charging cable that plugs in the "bottom" of the phone to run along "outside" the cradle to plug along in the BACK of this charging dock. DO NOT WASTE YOUR MONEY ON THIS!', 'By "it's like the lamp in most hotel rooms these days" I mean it's there to give you somewhere to plug devices into. I actually like the concept. Basically you plug this device into the wall and put the block on your desk and in doing so you turned one outlet at the wall into an outlet on your desk, plus you now have 2 usb charging ports. First know that this picture, while "nice" is wrong. There is no actual 30 pin Apple device charger on the top as pictured. The only way I can see to make this happen... Drill a hole in the top of this, glue your own connector in place and runt the cord out the bottom then plug it in... Yeah, not build the way it's pictured. What you DO get is: 1. On the top is a slot, no charging ports, it's just a plastic place to put your device. 2. On the back you get 1 electrical outlet, not grounded it's only 2 prong. This is fine, it' works just fine with my wifes netbook charger. It does NOT however work with my standard size laptop charger as it requires 3 prong outlets. 3. 2 USB ports on the back, one is strong enough for an iPad, or any other USB device, the other is a standard lesser voltage USB that will will charge. In my application I found that I can put my android phone in upside down in the slot in the top, plug a usb cable into the usb slot on the back and into the phone and let it charge. Is this practical? Nope, because my android then is upside down and while the screen rotates, most apps including the clock app I use don't rotate 180 degrees... I sure wish they made an actual charging port on top. BUT for what I actually use it for it does work. And I like that I have outlets available to me. I was going to buy one of those outlets you install in your house that converts a 2 wall outlet into a one wall outlet with 2 usb ports, however I decided to go this route as I wanted the usb ports to be easier to get to, and I like the portability of this. I just wish the top of this had a more practical use. For that I give it 3 out of 5 stores. I don't hate it, but I don't love it.', 'The first thing I noticed when it arrived for review was the size - it's rather large. The second thing is the lack of short jumper USB cords for your devices. But aside from that it certainly works well: the appearance is nice and you can charge a couple devices while also plugging in a third. Pros- powers three devices- looks nice Cons- large size- no included short USB jumpers', 'Several other reviewers have covered this, but it's worth mentioning again. This "device cradle" is not a charging dock. That little metal bit in the picture that makes it look like you'd slip your iPhone right in there - it doesn't exist on the actual product. You get a plastic cradle with a crevice that can hold a phone...oh, and some foam sticker strips to make it fit snugly. You have to use your phone's existing USB cable to charge it, and if you have an iPhone that means it has to be docked upside-down. Aside from that glaring issue, this is functional in that it gives you a pair of USB docks (that are apparently optimized to quickly charge both a phone and a tablet) and an extra power outlet, but there are less bulky, less obtrusive ways to get that. The fact that it is capable of charging multiple devices and isn't expensive is the reason this thing gets two stars instead of one, but even that is pushing it.', 'When I received this and opened it up, I was baffled with the lack of instructions. It doesn't even have a pic with a real phone in it. I guess people wouldn't buy it if they saw how it

only helps to charge your phone. It's a dock, and you can charge your phone, but it's not a "charger." The docking station, simply put, is a place to dock your phone while your phone charges. The dock gets plugged in and that allows you to plug in to the rear of the dock two USB's and another "outlet." So you can have two other phones charging laying next to it?? Another downfall, my iPhone charges from the bottom, so my phone is now upside down in the charger. The only benefit is if you have one plug outlet available, you can then charge multiple phones. I see this as a dust collector. Nice idea, but it's functional design for my family phones doesn't work.', 'Five stars: This is kind of an odd little extension cord that combines two USB charging ports with one regular two-prong electrical outlet. This one device lets you charge an iPhone and an iPad at the same time. I didn't realize that the USB ports had enough juice (10w) to charge my iPad as well as my iPhone, so I had been plugging my iPad's adapter into the regular electrical outlet. Today, I just decided to see what would happen if I plugged in the cord hooked up to the USB port, fully expecting to get the "charging not supported with this device" message. Instead, the battery icon appeared and the iPad started charging. That completely changed my opinion of this device. It is not a true dock, but the fact that I can put my iPad adapter in another room and charge it directly from one of the USB ports here (and plug in yet another device to the outlet) makes this a useful thing to have on my desk.', "This charger does charge my USB devices well. I was able to charge my Samsung Galaxy S3 and Kindle fire at the same time. The devices charge just as fast as if they were plugged in using the OEM charger so it will definitely charge your devices. It would have been nice if they included a few short usb cables to connect from the cradle to your device. I had a few laying around so it wasn't a big deal but I think it would be nice to include them for those that don't. I wish the cradle was designed with a small hole/slot so I could slide the usb cable through it to charge my S3 while it sits in the cradle (the cradle does not have any pins to charge a device) since the plug is on the bottom. It does hold the S3 well and comes with some extra foam pieces to stick in there in case you have a smaller device. It is wide and deep enough for just about any phone.", 'This charging device wants to be a cradle/dock, but isn't. It provides a large, convenient amount of power, but could do it in a much smaller footprint. The "cradle" is the strangest part of this design. Since it's not open from the bottom, and there are no power connectors in the cradle, many devices would have to sit upside down in the cradle to charge (thus defeating the purpose of holding a phone upright). Even if your device's charge port is on the side, the cradle holds devices precariously at best. My Samsung Galaxy Nexus wobbles in the cradle even with the included filler pads applied. A USB cable running from the top of an upside-down phone barely held in place by the foam pads would be even less secure. So I don't use the cradle-- it's begging to have the cradled device knocked to the floor, even more likely if you have pets or kids. The current product image makes it look like the cradle has something like an Apple "dock connector"; there are \*no\* connectors in the cradle. This would be a nice design if the cradle were deeper and there was a passthrough for a charging cable, maybe even with a short captive charging cable in that space. As it is, the unit is much bulkier than three connections requires, with lots of dead plastic space for the cradle shape. Other than the size, this combo makes for a good travel unit-- handy to have on a hotel-room desk. The connectors themselves are well-powered. The two USBs are 1A and 2.1A (a lot better than my travel plug+charger combos that provide .5 to .7A per connection), which is sufficient for most current devices (the 2.1A is aimed at ipads). There's also a 2 prong AC connector (ie, wall-power) rated at 120V 6A, which should provide about 720W, enough power for most office devices short of a laser printer or space heater. I give this product 4 stars despite the awkward shape, since it has a useful amount of connectors and they are well-powered. But look elsewhere for a nicer-looking unit, or if you are space constrained.', 'This charging station is a useful addition to either the home office or the office office. I set mine up at my office and it sits beside my computer where I can plug in my phone charger, rest my phone in the cradle and recharge it out of the way of all my other stuff. That makes it useful. There is both a standard plug from the back of the cradle, as well as two usb ports. The fact that it still requires me to lug out and hook up my cell phone charger prompted me to give the product 4 instead of 5 stars. Ideally, I could just place the phone in the cradle and walk away while it charged. Regardless, this is quite a helpful device.', 'I'll be honest, when I first opened the package, I did think that I was able to put the iPhone into the cradle



and it would charge, like the picture on the main page seems to indicate (with the actual charger accessory in the cradle). That's not the case at all. The product allows for simultaneous charging of at least two products using existing USB cables, as long as the port is plugged in the wall, and a "wall outlet" in the back as well, so theoretically one could charge two devices and their computer in this as long as its plugged in the wall. Having the iPhone, and therefore needing it upside down in order to put it in the cradle, is odd, so what I just do is plug it in and don't bother with the cradle. My wife and I plug in our phones at the same time and we are pleased with how convenient it is. The most unfortunate part is that the cradle is essentially useless, and advertised incorrectly. Would I recommend this product to someone? Yes, because of the simultaneous charging, and if they have an android they would be able to conveniently use the cradle. It's not a bad product, but they clearly advertised it as something it (partially) wasn't (judging by the package and how it's designed)', "When I ordered this, I assumed that there was a 30 pin connector at the bottom of the well that is pictured at the top of this dock. Well, there is no connector inside. Basically, on the back of this unit, there are 2 usb slots and a regular outlet. Apparently, this device is supposed to hold your iphone in place when you plug a usb cord into the back. Of course, one's gotta wonder how this could possibly stand upright in the dock you plug your USB cord into the back of the device, unless your phone rests upside down. So, where is the value? I get an extra usb outlet and an extra outlet - big deal!! I fail to see how this made it beyond a concept phase and into production. It's big, clunky, and utterly useless", 'This RCA PCHSTAB2R USB Charging Dock with Device Cradle works the way you would expect it. The unit has two USB ports for recharging any item that recharges by plugging it into a USB port on a computer. It also has a standard two prong electrical outlet (ungrounded). When I opened the package, I was a little surprised by the empty docking cradle. I had been used to seeing them with some kind of electrical insert that goes into some kind of unit. But it is apparently just a place to hold a smart phone or ipod when it is recharging. I assume that the electrical socket is so that you can plug in a small electrical adapter to attach to the recharging device that is docking cradle (if it is not USB powered). The unit comes with some black foam inserts that are designed to put cushioning around the smart phone or ipod type unit, so that it is held more securely. The intention is to adapt to different sizes of units to be held in its cradle. I felt the cradle feature to be both interesting and a little awkward for two reasons. One is that, if you adapt it with the sticky foam pieces for a smaller unit, then it automatically becomes unadapted for a larger unit. There is an assumption that a person is only going to charge one unit in the cradle. If you have a thick ipod and a thin smart phone, the foam pieces are not going to help. You can still adapt them with some skillful use of cardboard pieces that are removable. I am not sure if the cradle is designed to hold some of the adapter pieces that come with some ipods (I do not, at this time, have an ipod). The instructions do not mention this design intention. The instructions, too, are minimal and loosely fit just one side of a sheet of regular 8.5x11 inch paper. The second reason the docking station is a little awkward is the implication that you are going to plug in the wall electrical adapter for the unit into the electrical plug that is on the unit. No matter how small the wall adapter is, it is going to make the unit look a little thick and unbalanced. If the wall adapter is big, given the angle of the base and the one inch clearance from the desktop, it may not fit and will require you to plug in the adapter on a separate power strip or extra wall outlet. The smart phone cradle also makes this unit about four times larger than my other two USB chargers (5Lx2Hx3W inches approximate). Having expressed some of the curious limitations of the docking cradle, I still give the unit 4 stars for a few reasons. One is that the unit is weighted and does have two USB ports and an extra electrical outlet. For my purposes, all these outlets are useful. The extra weight had a very useful side effect. I was able to plug in one of those USB LED lights into it and squiggle it over my computer keyboard. This allows me to type on it without turning on a lot of lights (useful late at night or when I am watching videos that look better in the dark). The recharger in this case acts like a power supply for this USB LED lights. I can also read fine print by putting it very near the LED light. The USB LED light was something I bought at the Dollar Store for just one buck. Because there are two USB ports, I can still recharge something while still using the charger as an LED lamp! Since I do not have any ipod like unit or a cell phone, the docking cradle makes a decent place to put a few USB thumb drives (or paper clips). The shiny black plastic unit looks elegant enough on my desktop

too. CONS: Unit is about 4x bigger than other USB rechargers. Smart phone docking cradle may need to be adapted to fit the smart phone using the foam inserts or even some cardboard pieces, and may not be able to fit two phones or ipod type devices of different thicknesses very easily. You may also have to put the smart phone in upside down in order to plug in the power adapter and it might look awkward with the wires attaching one to the other (I guess you could wrap them with a twisty to get rid of the slack). Electrical outlet is ungrounded, but most power adapters do not use a ground anyway. PROS: Has two USB ports to charge two units simultaneously (my other USB rechargers only do one at time). Has an extra standard electrical outlet to plug in a power adapter for a smart phone. The extra outlet is useful for other purposes. The heavier weight allows this to be a sturdy desktop item and can even hold a USB LED light (just for the record, those wires do have some trouble holding a shape, it might be good to get a block of wood to put into the cradle with a notch to hold the LED in place, I have mine held in place on top of a raised flat surface below the monitor being held down by a quartz crystal cluster, it works and I am happy with it). I gave the unit 4 stars because it does what it is supposed to do and looks elegant. I did not give it 5 stars because it seems there is a design element that still feels a little awkward and makes the unit take up more room than the other USB rechargers. I tried to give enough information in the review so that a person could determine if this unit would work for them or if they should get the smaller ones with only one USB port. All in all, I am happy with the unit and consider its weightedness and ability to hold a USB LED light to be a bonus. Update: This is a minor point, but I found that the dock of the iphone has the perfect dimensions for holding business cards. I put them into the slot and now the charger feels functional on the desk. Update 5/7/2013: A friend gave me a USB LED mini-lamp with an on/off switch. It is a simple device that has a USB plug on one side of a large thick cable about 1 foot long and an LED lamp with on/off on the other side. When I plugged it into one of the 2 USB recharging ports, I found that it would act as an elegant mini-lamp for my computer keyboard (so I could work late at night at the kitchen table without disturbing anyone in the household). The thickness was not enough to hold the lamp by itself, though. But I took my cue from a handmade musical device and got some thick wire from an electronics store and wrapped the colored wires about the USB plug and the whole wire (to reinforce it). It now holds its shape very well and makes an elegant LED lamp. I can leave it plugged in without draining the power supply thanks to the simple little on/off switch. The nice thing about this addition is that I can still use the remaining USB port to recharge items (I rarely charge more than one thing at a time) or I can unplug the LED lamp in a pinch and use both USB charging ports. The base is heavy enough to hold this new "lamp". So I now have something that holds business cards for me, has an on/off LED lamp overhanging my keyboard for night time computer work, can recharge USB port powered items (or just power them), and has an extra AC socket for regular electronics and power adapters. Having this LED lamp bonus justifies the space this takes up on my computer desk. I am very happy with this item.']

## B00667RK3Q

['Works great, and the fact that it is plugged in behind a dresser makes for less wires showing. Also it converts a regular duplex outlet to a triple.', "This is a great concept. I was simply looking for a surge protector and an extra wall adapter to charge my iPhone. Didn't realize I could get them both in one small device! However, neither USB port will charge my Blackberry Torch. I was a little disappointed about that. But it does charge my iPhone and all other outlets do work. So, I can only give it two stars because it doesn't support all the devices it claims. Oh well, still a good price.", 'This is the same as this

[http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B007N6N1NC/ref=oh\\_details\\_o00\\_s00\\_i00?ie=UTF8&psc;=1](http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B007N6N1NC/ref=oh_details_o00_s00_i00?ie=UTF8&psc;=1) which is discontinued due to a high failure rate of the USB ports. Good thing XTC provides two year warranty as Mediabridge only provided one year warranty.', "This outlet adapter is outstanding for several reasons. The first is that its pronged outlets allow most bulky plugs to fit. Currently I have an extension phone charger plugged in, a rechargeable radio with a bulky plug and my camera charger. All fit fine, and because I have this outlet in the top plug of my double wall socket, I also

have my Dyson cordless vac charger with its bulky plug in the bottom. I've used both USB sockets as well, one with my phone and one with my Kindle and both work fine. A green light shows in the small hole in the middle of the adapter to tell you it's getting power and best of all, the prongs on the back (all three) fold away in case you want to travel with it to expand your options away from home. The prongs are toward the bottom of the unit on the back so if you plug it into the top outlet, it's less likely to conflict with the lower outlet which allows some bulky chargers to fit there as well as standard plugs such as for a lamp. Many products these days have oversized plugs or large bulky chargers, but because of the outlet placements on this unit, more options are available to accommodate them. I have only the one receptacle handy in my home office for temporary use. My other outlets are under and behind furniture where a power strip works for things that are permanently plugged in, but for those items that need to be easily accessible this gadget has really helped me.", "USB puts out well over the 500ma standard USB current. I have a USB current measuring device and tested it. My phone drew 1 amp (that's all that the phone will draw) so I assume the 1.5 amp maximum is valid. It blocks both outlets where I have used it. That's the only drawback other than it's a little bulky. Overall I'm pleased with it.", 'I have a variety of products that charge via USB. E.g. iPhone5, iPod4, Kindle Fire, Kindle 3G, etc... The hotels and hostels I have stayed at often have insufficient plugs for running chargers, laptop, and other devices. This turns a 3 prong outlet into 3 with 2 USB chargers. Works great. Love it.', "I bought this to charge my phone and Nexus 7 and mouse. It works as it suppose to and i luv it. Hasn't died on my but if it does, i will update it. The price was cheap so even if it does, I will buy another one. (Except if it dies too soon of course)", "This works very well, I am more than pleased with it, it would be nice if it had a couple more usb slots, but over all it's a great product, love it for traveling.", 'so far so good. charged the iPod 5 very fast. Good design that does not cover one pin (for bigger plugs). But then, it loses in stability. Have to hold the charger with one hand while removing the plug with the other.', '==== Updated Comments ===== They contacted me based on following review and sent me a new unit free of charge. New unit works fine. Charges 2 iPhones. Thank you! ===== Original ===== USB ports did not work out of the box. It seems that the other regular electrical ports are fine. If you are looking for USB functionality, look somewhere else.', 'This is a very cool item that I have wished for in my head for some time now. I was shocked to see that it actually exists. With my Iphone, Kindle HD, Heating blanket, and bedside lamp, and alarm clock all competing for an outlet I was often left frustrated with my cherished items all charging in various rooms or dying due to the lack of outlet options. Well, hot damn - problem solved. I have everything plugged in and ready to go at an arms length without having to make the hard choice of cutting off a power supply to one of my beloved electronics.', "It stands off just a little too high from the plug, and in my case it's slightly unstable. However, I do like the overall size and number of plugs it offers.", 'I bought this for my cubicle since I had only one outlet available and always needed to switch chargers under my desk. Now I can leave both my phone chargers plugged in the USB slots and have 3 ADDITIONAL (regular) outlets at my disposal - more than I will ever need. The compact design and nifty location of the outlets does not interfere with any other plugs/outlets in the vicinity. Perfect for my purpose!']

## B006J420UE

[Pro: AMD's tech support is GREAT when you have problems or questions. Con: NOTE: These issues may be motherboard related and not APU related - I don't know - Had trouble running more than one program at a time. When running Alibre (SolidWorks type program), Photoshop, and Adobe PDF reader at the same time using the on board graphics (AMD Radeon HD 6550D) the cursor would "skip" or "Jump" about 0.5" at a time. Almost impossible to point it at any item on the screen. A CNC milling machine simulator that ran just fine on my 7 year old 1.5 Gb, AMD Athlon 64 (1 core) CPU, Abit motherboard with Nvidia graphics card would freeze the system. (yes, it is certified for Win 7 64 bit OS) Amazon shipped me a replacement processor (AMD's tech support suggested trying this) with no change in performance so I assume board is the problem. Add on

graphics card would probably fix the problem but that would defeat the reason to have chosen this system combo in the first place. System: Windows 7 64 bit OS ASUS F1A75-V Pro Motherboard AMD A8-3870K APU 8 Gb RAM - Kingston KHX1600C9D3K2/8GX Antec 520W Power Supply', "This is primarily made for gaming and it works very well with gaming, I can run Skyrim with this but it's running at low frames but playable. Recommended for gamers on a budget and well worth the money", "No cons about it except just one. I'm not sure if it is the board or the CPU. I didn't have time to troubleshoot it. I installed Kingston 1866MHz memory and it would not work on 1866. I had to bring it down to 1600MHz. Besides the Windows experience for memory performance was only 5.9 and I expected >7.0. My other computer is running 1066 DDR2 with Gigabyte MB and Athlon x2 64 CPU and the memory performance index is 7.1. Anyway, the overall performance is great, can't notice any lagging.", 'this processor has not so high price with a decent integrated graphic chip inside. I am able to play most games at medium setting with 720p. The only concern is that I am not able to overclock higher than 3300MHz, the computer would display an error saying overclocking failed.', "I bought this in 9/13 but did my first POST yesterday (10/23/13). CPU temperature was getting high (160 deg F and rising) after POST so I replaced the original 'Sticky Surface' on the heat sink with Thermal Jelly (Arctic Silver). I used paper towels to wipe the APU surface and the heat sink surface clean (Do Not use abrasives like steel wool). The CPU temperature is now pretty stable at around 134 deg F in a relatively warm home, using only two chassis fans in an ATX case. I backed up the system BIOS to a thumb drive and am now waiting until next month to order the OS DVD and an HDD. My Build: Case: Cooler Master Elite 431 Plus PSU: Cooler Master eXtreme Power Plus - 500W MB: ASUS F1A75-V Pro - F1 Socket - A75 - SATA 6Gbps and USB 3.0 FM1 APU: AMD A8-3870K Quad Core APU - Amazon # AD3870WNGXBOX RAM: Crucial Ballistix Sport 16gb kit (8gb x 2) 1600 MT/s (PC3-12800) CL9@1.5V UDIMM 240 pin, Amazon # BLS2C8GD3169DS3OD: ASUS 24x DVD-RW SATA Internal OEM drive. Amazon # DRW-24B1ST (Black) SSD: Kingston Digital 120gb SSD Now V300 SATA 2.5 inch SSD. Amazon # SV300S37A/120GB KB: Amazon Lighted Keyboard, KB505 UHDD: (Just Installed 12/3/13) Two 1 TB WD Red, NAS SATA III, set up in a RAID 1 configuration to use as the HDD. Amazon # WD10EFRX RamDisks: 3 SoftPerfect Ramdisks, 0.5 gb, 3 gb and 8 gb. ADDED 12/04/13 - Installed Win 7.1 Pro (Branded version 'Dell') ~ \$63. Recently Microsoft challenged whether the OS was genuine and asked me for the License Key again. I provided it and Windows is running well now. The CPU temperature has stabilized to well below 100 deg F., usually around 89 deg F. The entire system of components appear to be working perfectly now. Whenever I enter the BIOS, the temperatures there seem to be exaggerated compared to MB Sensor (ASUS AI Suite II), which seems more accurate. I have researched the Ramdisks that are available and chose SoftPerfect RamDisk. I have installed some pretty heavy 3d apps directly to an 8gb RamDisk and (with a lot of finagling) have achieved stable operation. Now I am acquiring an appetite for another 16gb for a total of 32gb Crucial Memory (for Christmas?). I learned to use winsat to measure the sequential read speeds of my disks: RAID 1 gets 120.07 MB/s SSD gets 237.98 MB/s RamDisk gets 1524.14 MB/s USB 2.0 gets 9.80 MB/s", "I'm using this as a media center and to run a Minecraft Tekkit server. That's pretty intensive especially when a large number of people are on. It works great and has no issues keeping up even on the base clock speed.", 'I loved this processor from my first PC build and now another build another processor and I'm still very pleased by it', "Pros: Great price Good Performance Easy to install Cons: None. I decided to boost the memory on my FreeNAS box since it service files and media to my home network. This Gigabyte A75M motherboard support this chip, so I tried it out. It's been running like a beast every since, handling request for files and video streams ( PLEX ) without complaining. I've had a great experience with this chip, and it's a good way to extend the life of your motherboard/system if you don't need a to intense graphics or other CPU work.", 'You can read very many reviews about this APU and its miracles, incredible overclocking capability. It is really a big deal. It works great with ASUS F1A75-M Pro in my HT PC. I have not overclocked the CPU, only the GPU is running @ 900 MHz (or similar) and is running, now it is almost 1 month without one crash. My HT PC is very happy with this APU.', 'Upgraded from a 2.1 GHz to this and was very happy I did,, the computer can now run applications faster and games with no lag.', "This is a very good and fast product used with Windows 7 64 bit operating system. I don't play a lot of fancy games so I don't test its graphics

capability to the max, but Windows 7 rates the graphics as only 5.9, the slow point in my system. Even so, I have no complaints and I'm not about to spend three figures on a fancy graphics board.", "Not as avid a gamer as I once was. So I can live without having the best vid card and fastest processor out. This is a great value and delivers enough performance to play just about any game with medium to high graphics settings (assuming you are playing 1920x1080). Runs very cool as well. The CPU to buy if you don't feel like breaking the bank on the top of the line CPU/Video Card combo.", "I had selected the low-power (65W) A8-3800 that AMD announced, but isn't producing in quantity sufficient for Amazon to fill my order. When I completed a new workstation build and still hadn't received the processor, I selected the high-power consuming (100 W) A8-3870. I have very happy with the processor and the whole set-up; however, I am disappointed in AMD and their ability to deal with their marketplace in a forth-right business manner. No notice about availability in over 4 months is unacceptable behavior for a worldwide presence.", 'I have used AMD cpu processors in all of my system builds and the APUs are a great product! I have three AMD systems, Two of which are APUs.', "This is a good solid APU. It does run a little warm when turbo clocked but I'd say, get a good cooler like a Zalman and problem solved.I'm running this chip on an ASUS F1A75-M motherboard combined with a relatively inexpensive Low profile Radeon 6570 GPU for dual graphics and it does everything I wanted my HTPC to do. Record and play movies, audio files and blast some sound. With my Asus board and the Zalman cooler, plus 16 megs of ram, It runs smooth as silk for movie recording and playback.", "Custom build, booted up first try and rated out 7.4 on the windows performance scale before any drivers were updated! What's not to like? Great buy for the money.", 'This apu works Great with my new gaming rig i have had it for a few weeks and no problems at all thanks AMD for a good product', 'Teamed with Windows 8 Pro, this is one fast processor. I cannot speak for the Radion Graphics as I am using an EVGA GTX650 instead; however, I am sure it works great too. AMD continues to make outstanding products.', "I ordered the AMD for a new build to mount to a Gigabyte MOBO. Fast. I'm not a gamer but I like the speed. Videos are clear and everything loads and runs like a amazingly fast. Money well spent in my opinion... and based on my needs.", 'At 139.99 its a little expensive vs the competition. But the performance/watt ratio is significantly high to offset the higher price. Especially considering the fact that the graphics performance is equal (mostly) to the low end discrete cards like the GT 240, Radeon 6450, Radeon 6570 etc.One con is that this CPU (or rather APU) does not have a turboboost. Something that I wish it had.Secondly this is a 100W APU. But it runs pretty cool. No heating issues for me.My only gripe is about the fan. The stock fan is a little too loud for my taste. I have the APU inside a LianLi PC-Q11 case. My intent was to build a HTPC. So quietness is a big factor here. The fan quietened a bit after I enabled CPU temperature based fan speeds. This brought down the fan speed from 3200 RPM when it was going full ON to about 2200 RPM. Still the whine is noticeable in a quiet room, but if the TV is playing or there is some background noise then its drowned out!I have overclocked it to 3.7 GHz on air and still stable. But the power consumption goes up significantly and so does the fan noise. So I am back to stock speeds.Overall, I highly recommend this APU. If you are looking for something that has good CPU performance plus good graphics performance then this is it. This does not give you the best CPU performance or the best graphics performance, but it gives you a good amount of both in one package.', "This quad-core 3.0GHz unlocked processor from AMD is all about excellent value, great everyday performance, and good gaming capabilities. So with that in mind, the A8-3870k is an all-around solid performer. The price of a system built around an AMD APU is going to be attractive to budget builders out there. The fact that I can play most games on moderate to high settings using the onboard Radeon HD6550d is amazing. The WEL scores for the CPU and GPU are 7.4 (processor) 6.7 (desktop) and 6.7 (gaming). That means that this APU can make Windows happy, your media will play fast, and you can do some gaming. Four cores means browsing the net, running a virus scan, editing video, and any other apps you use while switching back and forth at the same time will STILL be responsive.Most will buy this APU with SFF/micro atx in mind, so it's definitely going to show up in LAN fests LOL. But if you wanna push this APU a little (given the right board, case, and cooling solution) it can go higher thanks to an unlocked multiplier. I have it installed in an ASUS F1A75V-Pro (full ATX sized) motherboard and just using ASUS AI Suite it is OCd to 3.4 GHz, with the APU set to

Turbo which boosts it from 600MHz to 800MHz. I have 8GB (2x4GB) of Kingston HyperX T1 DDR3 XMP 1600. I also purchased a Sapphire Radeon 6670 1GB DDR3 graphics card to test out in conjunction with the 6550D (AMD's Dual Graphics tech). Everything works great!", "If your motherboard has an F1 socket, buy this CPU while you still can, it's becoming difficult to find. For those of us with F1 sockets, this is the highest end chip that it will take. I swapped out an AMD A4 for this a couple of weeks ago and the increase in performance is clear. This is an APU but I have the Radeon component disabled in BIOS in favor of using an Nvidia card. Switching to this quad core even while still using the same old video card resulted in an increase in 3d performance so great I did not expect it. Also, I run Linux and source code (in general) compiles at least twice as fast over my previous dual core A4.", 'This little beast certainly is worth ever penny. The processor is quite fast, and having 4 cores makes it a pretty good gaming processor. This processor would make a great HTPC. It stays cool, and the integrated graphics is great for movies. The only problem is that the integrated graphics are not really all that great for gaming. It can play low-intensity games well (like Minecraft, or older Windows 98 games), but modern games (Borderlands 2, specifically) only get about 20FPS on low settings. This is easily remedied by getting a PCIe video card, but then you may as well grab a better FX or Phenom CPU, too.']

## B007MH75J8

["This adapter was the replacement for the original equipment that came with my Playbook tablet and failed in a month. Although it has the same construction this one works fine, but I don't know for how long.", 'Amazon has a great selection of ac power adapters. Unfortunately I picked the wrong ac power adapter for my tablet.', 'I have been using a Vantec 2.5" hard drive enclosure with an 500GB hard drive and most times it would work with USB power cord but not reliably so I checked into getting an external power supply and this worked', "Like many hobbyists, I regularly use "wall warts" for DC power rather than adding transformers, etc., to every little project I build. I have quite a supply of used warts and will typically use a higher voltage one, regulating down to 5 volts. With these "so-called" 5VDC cheap warts now available, I thought I would just use these and skip adding a regulator. Dumb idea as the output of this wart is 6.1 VDC!! I started using this class of wart with my Arduino projects. It worked just fine. However, the Arduino Megas I use have on-board regulators so they can tolerate over-voltage on the 5 VDC input. When I tried to use them for other 5 VDC TTL projects, I was in for a surprise. Before inserting any chips, I usually "ring" out the wiring to make sure the wires go where expected. Then, I do a "hot check", applying voltage and verifying that it goes where expected. This step is where I found that this class of wart does NOT output 5VDC as expected and marked, but in fact in this case outputs 6.1 VDC!! I tested several that I had on hand and now this one. I found voltages ranging from 5.4 to 7.9 VDC! Surely, I would have fried my poor ICs had I plugged them in. There are several solutions. First, I could go back to using a 7805, or similar 5 VDC regulator to bring the voltage down. However, this class of regulator requires about 2 VDC of "headroom". That is, for correct regulation, the input must be at least 2 VDC above the expected output or, 7 VDC in this case. So, not all of the warts I tested would meet this requirement. Looking at a data sheet, it looks like the output voltage will more or less follow the input voltage less the 2 VDC headroom when the input voltage goes below the expected headroom. So, if the input is just over 5 VDC, the output will be maybe about 3 VDC, less than desirable for 5 volt logic. Another solution is to use a higher voltage wart, say 12 VDC. The regulated output would be okay but this is not very efficient. Generally, you want to keep the regulator input/output voltage difference as low as possible. My third strategy, not yet tested, is to switch from the very common 7805 regulator to something like a LM2940CT-5.0 regulator. This regulator has a much lower "headroom" of about 0.5 VDC. So, as long as the wart output is 5.5 VDC or higher, you should get 5 VDC on the output. Looking online, I found these for about \$ 0.50 each and they're on the way. Lastly, and this is my fault, I didn't read the description closely enough. The barrel diameter of these warts is 3.5 mm. The "standard" (what I typically use) is 5.5 mm. I could splice on a new barrel if I use this

wart.I'm not sending this wart back, but the message to anyone WHO USES WHAT THEY THINK IS A 5 VDC WART FROM ANY SUPPLIER NEEDS TO CHECK THE OUTPUT VOLTAGE BEFORE USING.", "I ordered this to power my Sabrent 2.5&#34; hard drive enclosure. It was difficult to find an enclosure that has an AC power port, and none included a cable. I took a chance with this one, not knowing the exact specs from the enclosure, other than 5V, and it works fine. The adapter plug is a little long for the port on the enclosure, but it stays in and does not seem to present any problems. This allows me to plug the drive enclosure into my router's USB port (I couldn't use both USB plugs on the enclosure to power it) and have it self-powered.", "all works no problems just right for what i need.using on 5 volt system for small led lamps that can b powered by battery's too", 'It gets the work done, doesnt feel cheap or fancy, i got exactly what ive paid for , but the cord its a little short, considering i want it for a small set of speakers, so its not so good .', 'This was purchased to power a 3 HDMI switch, worked as expected. Was a little at first when purchased as to whether it would fit buying two different products but everything worked out. Definitely recommend purchasing if needed.', 'It does put out current, hence 2 stars. Cord is so short that I had to get an extension cord to reach power strip less than 2 feet away. Only useful for counter top applications, not desk top.', 'This adapter works great. The only downfall is that the cord is not very long so it does restrict you on where you use it.', 'Bought this to power the Micro LED lights used to light the interior of a glass from cabinet. Works as advertised...', "Bought this to power a 7 usb port hub as I have limited usb ports on my laptop and multiple peripherals. The problem is the 7 port usb hub as it cannot run 2 portable hard drive simultaneously. The power adapter works, so that's the reason for the 4 stars.", 'It works not really much I can say about it. It still works after 2 years unlike some others I have had', "I bought these to power my USB Hub's. They worked just fine. Nice size too. The pin size on these was perfect.", "this is a nice item but the tip was the wrong size so it didn't work it got here fairly quickly and would have been really nice if i could have used it oh well my fault don't make the same mistake i did not sure how to tell what size tip you need but i will have to figure it out some how", 'A lot of devices use this type of a/c adapter. The one on my Logitech PS3 remote adapter is notorious for short circuiting so this replacement is great.']

## B0082IYQW0

["As others have said the cord is not the best but at this price it's pretty good. Again as others have said the tips are a little loose so you may need to crimp the outside edges to make a good contact. This is not an issue as I have had similar problems with betterAmerican made PC connectors.", 'if they last for a while and crap out, who cares? for 8 bucks, its hard to beat.I use these on my two recievers to set off my strobes and they work great!', 'these cables are all expencive but they are all the same price so what you want to expect is a snug fit and that they work and these do. Shipping was fast and in a small package so it could be put in the mailbox.', "These cables wont win any awards for build quality, but I've used them without issue for several shoots. If you need a short PC sync cable, this is a fine way to go.", "Cheap cords that get the job done, but I'd recommend getting a backup set. One of mine died after about a day of use , but the other is still fine.", 'The flash triggers cheap plastic mount that mounts to the cold shoe of the stand broke so I velcroed the triggers to the stand and got these to connect the flash to the trigger. Works great. Il do the same with the other trigger because now it puts the flash more centered to the umbrella.', 'I bought this cables to sync my flash with my wireless trigger, the result is that none of them work, if I move the cable a bit to the side like twisting it sometimes it works, but that is not what I need. I ended up fixing my old one until I buy more cables that work.', 'What can I say? Theyre sync cables... They work like theyre expected to and the price was right. I bought them to use with a vertical battery grip on my Rebel T3 and the only reason for it not working is the poor quality of the grip not the cables.', 'No issues here. The cables work as they are supposed to. Have no problem recommending. Nice to have these in your camera bag.', 'Use these with my CowboyStudio triggers for added reliability.On occasion the trigger seems to skip a flash, but when these are connected it rarely happens', 'Good basic quality sync cord. No complaints. Does its job and good connection', "Thought I might strike a

good deal with these but no luck. One had intermittent success (jiggling and bending the cable in certain directions would fire the flash maybe 10% of the time. The other was 100% non working. Don't waste your time. Look for a good locking sync for \$10 more. Mine went back in the mail the same day.", 'To be used with Flash PC Sync Socket Convert Adapter to sync the off camera Flash with the cameras shutter release. I use this setup on my Nikon D5100 DSLR camera with a ePhoto Small Triple Mount Hot Shoe V Mount Bracket. It works very nice and I would recommend it to anyone needing to sync a flash to a camera.', 'We cannot place enough emphasis on the idea. As anyone knows a good sync cord is an essential peace of photography as well.', "The wireless remotes and flashes that I've used these on so far all required a very firm push to get the cable on (better than sloppy/loose, of course). The short length limits their applications, but the price is reasonable, unlike a lot of PC Sync cables out there (and yes, it would be nice to move away from the obscure PC Sync form and simply use 1/8"/3.5mm audio cords.)", 'I needed a sync cable for my Pentax 6x7 and this works just as expected. I even got a spare to use with my other Pentax and Mamiya cameras.']

## B008I649P0

[ 'Most of their warranties are better than others. And they are also cheaper & better service than most others in my experience.', "I don't know how they can offer this coverage at this price.....almost too good to be true but it is and by all accounts it does what it says it will do if you need it.", 'Nice to know its there. I have only had to use Square Trade Warranty service on one occasion, on a camera. This is for a ROKU box. Havent had to use it but its nice to know its there in case I do. They keep all the records once they are provided with everything.....you dont have to worry about anything other than contacting them in the event you need to file a claim.....and that process is seamless!!', 'ITS THE 3RD OR 4TH INSURANCE I BUY THROUGH THEM. I HAVE NEVER HAD TO OPEN A CLAIM THROUGH THEM BUT YOU CANT BEAT THEIR PRICES! AT&T OFFERS THE SAME PRICE... BUT THEY ONLY ALLOW YOU 2 CLAIM... SQ. TR. ALLOWS YOU UP TO 4... HAD TO GO WITH SQ. TR. ONCE AGAIN!', "the paperwork process is ridiculous. On previous purchases using I have had a different company and didn't have to go through all of this. If another option is available in the future I would not use square trade. That said, I have not had to use the protection plan and can not speak to its effectiveness.", 'Never used this protection plan before so I hope they will honor their terms if and when I need to use it.', 'Have never had opportunity to use this protection plan. Assuming reputable. Cost is reasonable. Sometimes nice to have if covering an item of questionable reliability.', 'Squaretrade trade took care of me, Vizio gave me the run around when trying to get my Co-Star fixed, but SquareTrade came through at the end, I recently purchased a Vizio TV at Samsclub, I wish I would have purchased it here so I could have purchased Squaretrade.', 'These folks get great marks around the net. I had a couple items lost and stolen. It was just a couple clicks on their website and they issued me a refund of the remaining warranty purchase. So I got back half of the coverage cost for the items I no longer had. No hassle. Wish all vendors were so easy to do business with.', "I wouldn't get a warranty from anywhere else.Square Trade is the best in the business! Period!!!Can't say enough good things about Square Trade!"]

## B009A6P2VC

[ 'Purchased this to avoid a pc next to my tv. Great little thing its like having a Andriod phone on your TV, only drawback is the wifi. It constantly disconnects and reconnecting requires unplugging me unit, if it wasnt for that this thing would be amazing. It is so fast and it is easy to use, I would highly recommend it if the wifi was resolved.', 'great deal, works very fine, good performance, nice HD display, you can install apps from play store, i really like it', 'Gets very hot. Need additional stuff to get going, network, USB hub etc since Wifi connection is not the best. New ROM makes it worth it to play around with.', "Great device. When it works. First week the power unit went out. I was able to



replace the power pack but the unit just arbitrarily reboots when trying to work. Wifi isn't as stable as you would think. It does play movies from jump drive fine. Therefore, I decided to keep it & hoping software upgrades will improve its reliability. Wireless is terrible and the device is 20 feet from my router.", "First off, I'd rather give it like 3.5 stars but some of the cons aren't really that bad/permanent just need to work them out and you'll be golden. Pros:- Price. For around ~\$50 it's quite a powerful little unit.- Standard UI skin isn't terrible and to be honest very intuitive if you just want to turn something into a smartTV. And if you don't want it you can easily put something like Apex/Nova on it for a cleaner look. Cons:- Case is actually quite big and you may not be able to fit the HDMI port into something like a receiver or TV if you have other ports with cables already connected. I'd suggest getting a short HDMI Male-Female extension cable for a couple of dollars to save some headaches. It'll also let you store it off to the side instead of sticking directly out of a port where you might hit it and snap the connector off.- Play Store is loaded onto it but for some reason a lot of paid apps can't be searched. You can install them if you can find them (open a browser and find an app from there). I use mine to monitor my IP Cameras since I can PIP/POP it with whatever I'm actually watching on my TV and I couldn't download TinyCamm Pro initially. Also, you'll probably want something like Droidmote on it so you can control it with your phone or tablet. Again, you can't find the Droidmote Server app since it's a paid app so you need to get a link to it before you can install it. It's a minor nuisance but once you get the few apps you may want on it you'll be fine.", "Broke in two days, not as good as I thought it would be. I was hoping to replace my I phone with it.", "Cons:1. Wifi is too slow on the reads. Benchmarks indicate less than 1MBps download and 3MBps upload. You can temporarily increase the download speed to 2-3MBps by rebooting but the increase in speed is temporary and soon falls back to 1MBps. At such speeds, streaming from sites such as Netflix is barely possible. So if you can't run Netflix or Hulu it's most likely because of the Wifi2. You may be able to fix issue 1. above provided you have the latest drivers / ROM fixes from the manufacturer. However, as of 1/1/2013 no official website for such a device exists. The best I could do is to trace some unreliable information about driver updates from a chat site and from some unqualified people. Very unprofessional on the manufacturer's side to say the least...3. The device dimensions are awkward. It is small enough to cram the minimum ports required to operate but large enough not to comfortably fit in a standard HDMI multi-port hub. On my Samsung TV, it is wide enough to waste at least 2 HDMI slots and long enough not to fit comfortably in the socket compartment. As a result, you will most likely need an HDMI extension cable to hook up the device to the TV4. It only has 1 USB port, so you will need a USB hub to attach multiple external devices. You will also need a powered hub since there is not enough power to operate power hungry USB devices such as external hard-drives5. Due to its diminutive size, the USB and HDMI ports are delicately connected on the motherboard. As a result you risk breaking the device if you keep connecting and disconnecting cables to and from it or you apply too much force in doing so. Unfortunately this failure might show up long after you buy the device and you will be stuck with something that cannot be fixed or serviced6. There seems to be minimal grounding or noise isolation on the motherboard. That may be because components such as the wifi antenna may be too close to other electronic components that could physically touch and cause interference. Power line noise can also affect performance if the motherboard is not effectively grounded. As a result, you may get sporadic screen flickering and sound spikes, something that can be annoying. If the noise gets too much, expect the device to freeze. You can hook up the device to a line conditioner or use a power cable with that ugly ferrite barrel (aglet) and this will help stabilize things a bit. However, trying to keep vital components such as antennas from touching other electronic components is really beyond an average user's technical experience and such happenstance is definitely a sign of sloppy assembly line manufacturing.7. Manual / operating instructions for the device are scanty and badly written. There are a lot of spelling and syntax errors, something that makes me think the device was hurriedly done and supported. Lack of an official website as mentioned in 2. is another indication of bad supportPros:1. Low price2. Wifi slowness aside, the device can play HD movies (at least 720p) pretty well3. The display is crisp and can be comfortably used even for ebook reading if you wantAs of 1/1/2013, cons far outweigh the pros and for me this device is not ready for prime time. You may pay a low price for the unit but in the end you get what

you pay for...", 'Interesting device but not something to replace my HTPC. Video is choppy. Would reboot when I moved it sometimes, opened the case and found metallic tape for antenna touching on power port.', "This works fine but you can't personalize it. Downloaded live wallpapers but can't set them. Did have one problem with it - it would say that sights like Netflix and Amazon were not secure. Had to reset it to factory settings. other than that its worked fine. Well worth the 52.00 dollars.", "Tis unit works so well I bought two more. One for each of my TV's. I use them with an app to monitor my security cameras!", "This is the best solution I've found (so far) for displaying feeds from IP security cameras from the outside of my house on the kitchen TV (or any TV in the house for that matter). Using one of the many apps in the PlayStore I can now view all my cameras without being dependent on the computer that runs the camera server/recording software. I've had IP security cameras for a while now but the biggest issue has been finding an easy and relatively maintenance free way displaying the feeds on various TV's. Other than the Wifi issue described below, this device solves my problems.As you probably know it's got the latest dual core processor and quad core graphics chip (Rockchip 3066/Mali) and it seems to easily handle feeds from 8 IP camera's (non megapixel). The only problem I have with it (which is kind of a deal breaker for me) is that the Wifi is unstable (as others have also mentioned). I moved the router to provide a 'Good' signal strength but it drops out several times a day. I just ordered a USB to Ethernet adapter so hopefully that will work.All these devices seem to have a high number of reports of Wifi issues so if you can connect using an Ethernet cable I would recommend getting a USB/Ethernet adapter or maybe consider the G-Box Midnight Android device which has Ethernet built in. I will update tomorrow once I get the USB/Ethernet adapter.", "I got this nifty little mini PC and I simply love it. First i must clarify to all the people who are thinking about adopting this new android form factor and reading the negative reviews, be aware that this device is not for the weak hearted. \$43 does not break the bank but everyone wants to buy a product that actually works. This one works right out of the box but works way better when tweaked with proper tools.That being said, I got this device to tinker with a cheap mini PC (as advertised) new Android form factor. The device worked perfectly well right out of the box with the exception that the WiFi would work only if the device is used in the same room as my router. Installed Finless ROM 1.4 and WiFi worked in every room. Tried to upgrade to Finless ROM 1.6 for jelly bean support and bricked the device. No problems, opened the device with a small screw driver, reset the device and installed Finless ROM 1.7Have had no issues since the upgrade. Full 1080p HD support, Google play store, Netflix, HBO GO,(Hulu did not work)most all games & root access. GREAT device and would probably buy another one for a TV in the guest room. Will make it an electronic/science project for my son to modify/upgrade it before I put it to use. A very cheap solution to make any HDMI TV a Smart TV.Most negative reviews are pointing towards the WiFi issue which truly exists if you don't upgrade. So if you are willing to risk \$43 and enjoy pure android experience after making it a science project, buy it and make it work. For the price it won't break the bank and it WILL work. You just can't kill this thing unless you pour water on it.", 'It works great but you need to have a remote control or wireless mouse.Just one thing, it needs to be very close to the wifi router in order to detect your Wifi network.', "You must be careful during checkout, alot of vendors sell this under this product description. There are different ones out there. Some come with a retail box, some don't. Some are Android 4.0.4 and mine was 4.1.1. It's works great, but if you like to ROOT or flash custom firmware BE VERY careful as you have to really hunt down the ROM's for this and flashing it is not easy. The factories in China that make this also make changes to the chipsets without making model number changes and use the general UG802 designation for it, making it very easy to mess up the device when you root or flash it due to improper chipsets in it. But like I said it does what it's advertised to do and I like it just for the sake of running a decent Android on my TV. You get what you pay for.", "Wouldn't connect to wifi, powers off randomly. I had it connect to wifi 1 time when I plugged the USB power into the TV so it was like the TV was powering it. Then it worked for about 5 minutes and it started dropping again. No good.", 'if you want a quick option for android on your tv this is the way to go. the only drawback i found was with 5.1 surround sound. there are currently no drivers available for bitstreaming 5.1 surround audio through hdmi. however i did hear that 4.1 android is the first version to support surround sound so there very well may be drivers in the near future. but if you want to use this

device with a high end or surround sound system make sure all your audio is dolby surround or dolby pro-logic encoded into 2 channel stereo. that way an external dolby decoder can different the channels. if you try and feed it a video file with a 5.1 channel aac , ac3 , flac , dts, etc. you will be greatly dissapointed. however there is a great audio conversion program out there called &#34;Popcorn mkv audio converter&#34; that will onvert any of your mkv audio files to a stereo output.'

'Package arrived a day earlier than expected. Works great out of the box. No problems setting up since I have an android already. Pretty standard. Wifi seems to be normal. Have downloaded several apps without problems although the indicator shows 1 bar less than my phone which sits right next to it. Will update this review as I continue to use this item.'

'I finally got to try out a nice Android on a stick, the UG802. Its a Rockchip 3066 dual core equipped stick, with a strong quad core GPU that makes short work of almost all videos and music I played back. The interface is simple, but well done, with large tiles/icons that allowed for easy identification. I was afraid that the tiles would be too small, but they were just right. I hooked this up to my bedroom TV, a 26" LED LCD TV. It came with a nice HDMI extension cord that allowed for a better placement for ease of access. It has a full sized usb port and a micro usb port for the charging cable. The full sized port allowed me to hook up a wireless keyboard/mouse combo effortlessly. Unlike what I\ve read about the older A10 chipset based sticks, this one dosen\ t seem to get too hot, so I\m not too worried about leaving it plugged in all the time. So far none of the sticks have an on/off switch, leaving you no option but to unplug it to shut it off. At least I don\ t have to worry about that with the UG802 thanks to its cool running. So far, I haven\ t had a single disconnect from my router, which is in the next room over, around 6 feet away with a wall in the way. This is something I\ve been reading about, the poor wifi connectivity, and am thankful I\m not experiencing that. It should also be noted that Netflix and Crackle streamed movies very well, with the UI set to 1080p at 60hz. No stuttering or slowdown at all. Speaking of UI, instead of the advertised ICS 4.0.4, this unit had 4.1.1 Jellybean, a nice surprise. It runs fine, with few glitches at all so far. I love that I can now go online and use any browser I choose right from the comfort of my bed/couch, its much easier than having a hot laptop sitting on my lap in bed. I can also use just about any app I\ d ever want to see on a TV right out of the box, like the aforementioned Netflix and Crackle. I\ve also tried other TV based apps and all seem to work without a hitch. I can also stream music through Google Play and Pandora just as easily. This has really made my TV worth watching and listening to much, much more than before. There are a few custom firmwares for the 802, but all of them are based on Ice Cream Sandwich, so I\ve decided for the time being to wait until someone makes one for use with Jellybean. This isn\ t the smoothest UI out there, but it\ s perfectly acceptable for it\ s intended purpose, which is to put most of the Android experience on your TV set. Game playing is limited to ones you can use without a touchscreen or G-sensor, Angry birds and it\ s ilk work just fine. As for flaws, well I can see that most videos I watch on youtube seem scaled up a bit too much, making it look a little blocky. Some videos on Netflix do the same. It seems that some apps dont scale up too well on a big screen TV, but at least it\ s watchable. Also sometimes I find that the UI can\ t keep up with me, blurring a bit as I scroll too fast for it. Again, this doesn\ t hamper it\ s usefulness, its just an observation. Also keep in mind that there seems to be a movie syncing problem with the 3066 based sticks out there now, but I haven\ t tested that out, and probably never will. I bought this for streaming movies and music via apps, not playing back my converted movies off a microSD card. Just posting this as a heads up is all. **\*\*UPDATE\*\*** Do keep in mind that there is a fix for the syncing issue. Just download MXVideo player from Google Play(it\ s free) and use the setting for playing back using "software" decoding mode, not "hardware" decoding mode. It works for playing back encoded movies up to 720p from what I\ve seen so far. Hope this helps :-)

Summing up, I like this for what it is, an easy to use, very useful way to get the internet as well as most of my favorite apps on my TV with little or no effort at all. I used to hook up my tablets via their HDMI ports to my TV, but using it that way was a hassle, requiring too much work to enjoy the experience. Will this replace the likes of a ROKU box or Apple TV? Heck yes! And you get the bonus of a full fledged web browsing experience that the others can\ t do at all. Plus you can use a full sized keyboard and mouse, making the user experience that much better. I highly recommend this to anyone looking for a cheap and effective way to get real movie and music streaming on their TV\ s without having to shell out

the big bucks for cable or limited boxes like ROKU and Apple TV. Try it, you'll like it!!I've also done a VIDEO REVIEW of it in action on you tube...just search for "Michael Livote" and it will pop up for you :)', "There are so many variants of this product out there, that i'm not even sure you'll get the same product i did after you order it. I hope so because it's a good product for the money.This device has a wifi antenna built in along with a reset button. But because these cases are all generic, they cover up the reset button and the antenna. I pulled out the antenna and my bandwidth tripled. I also made a small hole for the reset button. Now it's a great product. Only knock was the generic case that hid a beautiful antenna and reset button i had to modify.", 'After using a tablet connected to my bedroom\'s tv, I decided to try one of these out as a PLEX, XBMC, PLAYON, and general media server. Not only do all of these work well in 1080p, but so do netflix, youtube, and DLNA direct from my media server. The only strange thing, is that this is a newer model I got, that has Android 4.1.1, so it took a while to get it rooted.For root, google "Has been released - JELLY BEAN x N90 II !!! Android 4.1.1", click the slatedroid link, and go to page 7. Install the chinese software, root it, Then install supersu or superuser from the play store after a reboot. Easy.I installed droidmote server and client, and use my Note2 as a remote, which works surprisingly well. I also have a rf keyboard/trackpad coming, but after using my phone, probably wont need it now!', 'Although this product did work, the wireless had to be so close to the router that I might as well have it wired. The video quality for Netflix was awful and so was the audio. Games like Angry Birds worked but it occassionally froze up. I do not think that these are ready for the public yet.', "To make the title perfectly clear, we are paying (twice, at least) for junk that barely or marginally works. I paid nearly \$50 for this POS and can find no legitimate reason to send it back for a refund, so I'm stuck with it. Yes, it runs Jellybean. No, even 4' from a wifi router, it can't maintain a network connection. A little detective work led me to the conclusion that it may be loaded with the SDK version of Jellybean, but that's probably not the actual flaw. Amazon should be embarrassed to sell untested or badly reviewed stuff, but, hey, caveat emptor. One might wonder how many people waste their time and money - their lives, actually - trying to make such things work as claimed.I spend hundreds of dollars through Amazon each year. In my estimation, ~20% of the products I have purchased have been misrepresented or defective in some way, but not sufficiently so to insist on a free return and refund. Do I fault Amazon for this? Yes, at least partially. Is there a way to give Amazon such feedback? Not really.Even Target and Walmart manage their offerings through feedback, but it seems that Amazon has virtually no quality control. It could insist on proper high-def pictures of items, standardized descriptions, and consideration of reviews in allowing a seller to list (or continue to list) their goods on Amazon.", "Plug this into a hdmi port on your TV and then plug in a wireless keyboard and mouse. Use your own wifi to cruise the internet or download apps for other things. Since your TV won't be a touch screen you really want a mouse with the scrolling roller.", "Not many WOW moments in tech these days - but these stick PCs are definitely a game-changer. Plenty of power to run any android app we've installed on a full 1080P display. Got a small usb wireless keyboard to go with it. Comes with everything you need."]

## B009GTV3S4

[ 'Good mouse with nice features.Pros: Adjustable height and angle, lots of programmable buttons, braided USB cable, High DPICons: The software is clunky and difficult to figure out, the buttons on the side are easy to accidentally press while moving the mouse', "Ok from a pure mechanical, feel, and build point, it is SOLID.It is built solid, the DPI is insane.The buttons and feel and placement all agree with my hand and the way i grip it.It looks like a BMW, feels like one and drives like one!!It comes with the pouch, gold plated usb, with a cap that covers the ned when not in use.A Hex bit screwdriver to adjust the height and tilt.All that is why I give it 5 stars.Now for the cons, added up i would detract 1 star. So reading ahead, I would consider it a 4 start product, but I like the feel and build and performance enough to keep the rating at 5.The only slight problem i have with the buttons, the D and C are a bit hard to press with your pinky.I will probably not be using them, see below for why.In a game, say Battlefield Bad Company 2, or Skyrim, you cant key bind the C and D

buttons. What's worse is the software for the mouse is clunky, and poorly designed. You cannot set program specific key binds, that is to say you cannot select say, Chrome, or Skyrim, or League of Legends, then select the key press to bind to say D or C. What's worse is you can't do that for the A or B buttons too! You only get to pick Back, forward, sensitivity up/down, ctrl, shift, click, double click. You can not pick any key bind! You can make a macro, say to press the R when you press on the C on the mouse, but this is stupid, and not program specific, also I have been having problems getting my macros to even load. I have to play with it some more, but this is disappointing, my previous mouse a Sidewinder had program bindings, I could set ANYTHING to any button, for ANY program! Last CON. Anytime you press the A or B, say in Chrome to go Forward or back, a huge red arrow displays on your screen, same for when you change profiles. P.S. I have a feeling Macros would fix the issue of keybindings, but it is complicated and stupid imho. Just give us a Single key option to choose any key on the keyboard, it can't be that hard.....", 'Great mouse when the two main buttons work. The side buttons are the best. I program the left and right side to work well in Killing Fields. Seamless playing.\*\* Big problem \*\* The LEFT and RIGHT buttons do not return as crisp as they should. Like they are stuck. Or have gunk preventing them to function as originally played. Total bummer. Don't want to hunt for another mouse. If only the mains lasted....', 'I can see the BMW design groups work on this mouse it's pretty sweet. the issues are all in the software. it's awful and buggy. I don't care though, the mouse is pretty killer. lots of different options and it can have multiple user settings. perfect', 'I only gave this 3 stars because they didn't follow the original BMW design (search for BMW Mouse and you'll find links ). And for some unknown reason they decided to put 3 buttons close together on the left side of the mouse. Which makes it difficult to grip in some circumstances... Sometimes &#34;simpler&#34; is better.', 'I use this mouse for everything. The response is so good. I turn down the mouse sensitivity down in the game all the way and use the DPI increase button to go from smooth slow precise snipping to crazy quick target to target for infantry kills. If you go into the software. you can program the mouse for different settings. each color the mouse pulses is a different setting. you change the color by pressing the little button with lightning bolt on it. in battle mode. the lights on the mouse go from dark blue to light blue depending how aggressiveness and how fast you press the buttons.', 'I have had many mice and trackballs, and this one definitely the best one ever, with its 8200 DPI and aluminum chassis it's perfect for gaming.', 'Got one of these with my Cyberpower PC, and although it looks great, it doesn't perform well at all. It's like holding a small tank in your hand. Trying to adjust the settings so that it doesn't react like a turtle when playing Call of Duty 2, but with this mouse I'm getting my butt kicked. Previous mouse, a ten dollar Microsoft, performs much better than this thing. It would help if the performance adjustments available for this mouse were explained in plain English and a manual was included to show how to adjust these settings for fast, slow, whatever. As is, I'm just guessing when I try to adjust the settings. Increased cursor speed, scrolling speed, etc., but it's like dragging a sack of bricks around when playing a game. If anyone knows how to get this thing up to speed .... Thermaltake has nothing on their website, let me know. Thanks.', 'It takes some getting used to because it is heavier than most mice, but it is very precise. I find it a little too easy to accidentally hit my right thumb on the side buttons. My son really likes his (he's much more coordinated than me), Not cheap, but really solid and well engineered.', 'The software, though quite flexible, does not allow swapping the two main buttons for left handed use. This is simply a stupid software design. The mouse is very nice, ruined by poor code design.', 'To preface the review know that I am 6 ft 6 in. tall and from the tip of my middle finger to my wrist measures approximately 9 in. I am currently using Logitech G5 mouse and keyboard for the past 6+ years. The Thermaltake mouse does not offer enough adjustment to get this thing anywhere near where I would like it to be. The tiny little adjustments they let you make make little to no difference to me. They all feel just OK at best. Nothing more comfortable or natural than my G5. Also know that the G5 is by no means a great fit for me. It is too small as well. If someone out there knows of a great mouse for someone with big hands let me know please!', 'Well this is a Nice mouse, really well constructed, like something from the Military. Great software with it also. Was Too Big for my hand, gave it to my son, he's been corn fed, big hands! I took one star down, I thought the edges of the mouse needed some milling or polishing, seemed rough. Great item, little pricey though.', 'I found the design to be a little awkward at

first. You do have to learn how to hold the mouse - but after that, and a decent mousepad (I use an allsop mousepad on my glass desktop) and its a good performer. I had a madkatz rat9 wireless and `DIDNT like its performance at all especially considering the money I spent buying it. The Tt mouse reads the mousepad much better and the software is more well-conceived. All around I give it 4 Stars considering the initial hand hold, which only bothered me in the begining -BTW - the all red LED profile and style look good with the corsair k70... had to toss that in there. Happy shopping', "This mouse take a little getting used to, and initially the side buttons did seem over-sensitive, but after using it for a while I can't complain, and the DPI settings a great feature to have.", "Overall I am extremely pleased with the quality and design of this mouse. I am personally a palm holder and find the buttons to be the perfect layout for mmo gaming. I am able to easily hit any of the buttons on the mouse with my thumb. Also the silver button shown on the side is more then just a button it is also a joystick giving you 4 more buttons. I really like that design because I am able to macro shift, ctrl, alt to that single key giving me a wider range of skills I can quickly switch to in MMO's.", 'Horrible gaming mouse. The metal parts dig into your right thumb as you hold the mouse. Do not waste your money just because it looks cool!', "My younger brother was crazy about this mouse, but I found it a bit hard to use and not bump into the extra buttons littered about the mouse's body. It certainly looks nice and feels high quality. I went back to my trusty famous ms wheel mouse optical.", "I liked it, but I didn't love it. Mostly I learned that I really am more of a claw style mouser, not the laid out palm style. This mouse is designed for folks who lay their fingers out flat. Thus after having unpacked the mouse and installed the software (which was decent as was the packaging) I played with the lighting (Very Cool), and tweaked the adjustments (tilt and height also cool), before I realized after just a little bit that this is not the mouse I am looking for. However, the feel and design of this mouse is awesome, feels so much better than just about EVERY Razor mouse and many others that are all plastic. It really was a solid, well designed mouse that had a lot of features and looked terrific. It just wasn't for me. After years with a G9, and having realized I'm more of a claw guy, I found myself returning this and getting the G502 that while not really a successor to the G9, it has a lot of the same feel and supports a more claw like grip so it's a win for me. TLDR It's a cool as heck mouse, buy one if you're thinking about it and are a Palm style mouser. Big hands will be happy, lights were cool.", 'Pros: Solid construction, excellent customization options, perfect performance, and outstanding design. Cons: Price is a little high, but not unwarranted. Thumb may unintentionally press left side mouse buttons. Overall: Easily the top gaming mouse on the market today. Looks fantastic and has performance to pack it up. Great even for those who do not plan to game. Well worth the price of admission.', "Ok. This thing is very nice looking. Matches my case very nicely. Thermaltake level 10 snow. I have to admit it is taking me a little to get used to the ergonomics of this mouse. I have mostly owned logitech mice. Higher on the arch I guess you could say. This lays flatter. I find it very sensitive too. The buttons on the sides, or I just may be clumsy. Not used to so many buttons guess I am just to damn old. It is on my project pc that I rarely get to use. I more or less keep adding to it but never actually play with it. Fathers time is never his own. It's kind of a thing where i know its there if I can get around to it thing.", 'I have owned different mice, with the exception of RAT 7, nothing came close to the unique design of this mouse. I rate this mouse 5 stars not based on practicality, or even customization or performance, but the design is so damn unique and cool to look at. If you want to very dependable gaming mice, you will be better off with a Razer, a Logitech, a Mionix, but this is not why you buy this mouse. I appreciate Thermal take and the BMW designers took a bold move and came up with this unique looking design. You may have to adjust your grip, as I have, to get around the accidental clicking of the buttons --- they are easy to click by accident. The Mac OS software is horrible in comparison with its competitors, but it works. Most of all, when my wife look at this mouse, she rolls her eyes, and that is worth the purchase.', "I really, really want to give this one 5 stars, but... The good: -design-build quality-somewhat adjustable with regards to height and tilt The bad: -Heavy and no way to adjust weight like the R.A.T. mice. -Ergonomics not very good, at least for me (however everyone's hands are different, of course). For me it feels too big for my hands -Almost impossible not to push one of the side buttons by accident - not a problem when doing web browsing, etc, but if you are gaming either use it as a regular mouse without the side keys or hold it exactly the right

way. Bottom line: style over substance. But it does look absolutely gorgeous next to my backlit Razer keyboard.", "The look is good but it's very difficult to use. The main issue is caused by the extra buttons on the sides; both sides. It's very hard to grab the mouse without touching one of the buttons on the side by accident. I paid extra attention when grab-and-move the mouse but still hit the side buttons too often.", "Pro: The build quality is really good. Quality components. Con: Software to customize the mouse is horrible, feature poor, hard to use, confusing, bad. The feel of the mouse in your hand is odd. The color choices for the LEDs are few. The height adjustment only makes it bigger - can't go smaller. (for those of us without giant hands, skip completely) The buttons on the right side of the mouse are useless. Don't fall for this high priced mouse. There are much better options out there.", "When they designed this mouse with BMW, it is clear that they were shooting for all aesthetics. This mouse has the worst button placement I have ever seen / used. It is awkwardly long and I have a hand size between average and large. even if you use full palm grip on this thing its still awkward to use, and when you want to grip the mouse with your fingers to do a quick turn in a first person shooter you wind up pressing one of the 5 awkwardly placed side buttons. I bought this mouse after the warnings from the other reviews because i thought I could get used to it, but after 29 days I could not so I sent it back and lost like 10 bucks for restock.", "this mouse is absolutely amazing. while yes most people say it is difficult to use or it's uncomfortable or heavy. They must be use to cheap mice because this mouse is very comfortable to use once you figure out where to put your hand on the mouse i prefer a claw grip and i can play shooters and or surf the web for hours with no pain. Is the mouse heavy? Maybe a little but what are you lifting your mouse? If you have to lift the mouse constantly to use it i would suggest raising the dpi it will take some getting use to but well worth it also the feet on the bottom of this mouse are very slippery so you cannot feel the weight while using it normally. now as far as being difficult to use. There are two buttons on the right side of this mouse one of which is very hard to reach and pretty much just sits there and does nothing for me because i cannot reach it with the claw grip i use the front one i can reach however and very easily. Lastly i have seen people say that the build quality of the mouse is bad..... do not listen to those reviews this mouse is a tank the base is 100% aluminium the top is i think a plastic but a very sturdy plastic the buttons are all of very high quality. the only part of this mouse that can be called bad quality is that little stand off with the logo on the front as normal use may break it mine is bent after a month or so of daily use but its just cosmetic so no big deal. All in all i am 100% satisfied with this mouse and i don't think i will ever need to buy a new one.", "This is a novelty mouse. I really like its unique style. It provides pretty good performance. I purchased this mouse because I like unique products. Aside from the unique styling this is just another garden variety high performance mouse.", "In My opinion this Mouse is Awesome, Its very well constructed from aluminum and other high quality materials, the pulsating light looks cool and you can change the colors of the lighting and other features with the software, you can use on Windows or Mac, I downloaded the software for my Mac Mini from Thermaltake's website although There is a Software Disk provided , Ive heard that the software is confusing and hard to use but i found it easy to use, You do not need the software to adjust all the features on the mouse because there are plenty of physical buttons, The DPI is easy to adjust with the toggle button, It also has a braided cord and gold plated USB plug (jack), Another great feature is when you adjust the DPI or the color Theme a you get an on screen display letting you know, I find this mouse A pleasure to use, strong, sturdy but also very beautiful and a Work of Art :)]

## B00BW6LZ5K

["I bought a very nice &#34;knock off&#34; version of this hood, that &#34;looked&#34; identical. Unfortunately for me, you need the Factory hood because it snaps on, and off, like butter (and it's coated with a flat velvet on the inside to remove glare). The &#34;knock off&#34; grabbed the lens CONSIDERABLY harder than I liked, no matter what I did. I now appreciate the factory hood, and I learned an important lesson. Swallow hard, and pay the man, your lens will last a LOT longer, and the matte coating will keep any reflections away.", "I'm not sure if this is a legit Canon brand, but it

does NOT fit snug on my lens. My Canon lens is a match for this yet it just keeps twisting off and I have to be careful otherwise it'll just fall off. There's also vignetting when I zoom all the way out which is a bummer. There are other lens hoods on Amazon for \$5 and below that work MUCH better than this (I purchased one for my telephoto lens and it's absolutely perfect).", "Haven't really found a use for this yet. Maybe as I have it longer it will prove of value. It does fit my lens.", 'Fits the EF-S 18-55mm f/3.5-5.6 IS STM kit lens. Well-finished. High impact plastic. Made in China. Pricey. Lens cap snaps on with a quirky fit as if it could fall off, does not feel secure. There's a red dot on the hood supposedly to line up to a red dot on the lens, but I don't have a red dot on my lens (!) Does not "screw on" like, match the dot and turn. It reverses for storage on the lens. Filters thread into lens with no problem.', "This fits NEITHER a Canon 50mm f1.4 (too big) nor a Canon 100mm f2.8 (too small). This is supposed to be a genuine Canon product, and, given the price, you'd think. But this is garbage. It is ONLY for the EF-S 18-55mm lens. Period. I shoot with Canon, but sometimes their marketing really ticks me off.", "Genuine Canon hood for the EF-S 18-55mm f/3.5-5.6 IS STM Lens. No frills, just does it's intended job as a lens hood. Fits the lens very well, and can be attached backwards for convenient portability when not in use.", "I just ordered and received the Lens Hood for my EF-S 18-55mm IS STM lens and it is marked as EW-63C but it just is so loose it won't stay on. So for some reason the required Lens Hood does not fit my camera lens even though Canon says it should and the lens hood I received does not fit the Canon lens on the camera. Back it goes and my quest for a lens hood continues.", "Fits well and works great! Good quality construction. What more can I say, it does its job well and doesn't cost much.", 'Works great! Glad I paid more as the fit is perfect! I gave this item 5 stars because of the excellent fit!', 'dont know why but this hood falls off kinda easy only used it on 2 occasions on back up camera at weddings but hood kept falling off at the slightest touch but works well otherwise', "We ordered this for its intended lens (18-55) We were gratified to see it fit perfectly. We were even happier when we discovered that it also fits the 55-250! We will order another ASAP (Since the one we ordered from someone else, that was supposed to fit, didn't)", 'I am glad to have gotten this hood for my Canon lenses. It is much better to shoot with them on. Good quality item.', 'perfect', 'Very suprising for a Canon product.It does fit kind of on my 18-55 IS STM, but not smooth and clunkly. Not acceptable for the price.Also-The box it came in was a plain white cardboard box that someone glued the Canon label on. Grey Market??? Product seems genuine, the Canon label is on the hood and it looks real I guess????', "Ideal Fit and Fit Finish as you would expect from a Canon Factory Product...It is both useful and adds a professional look to your camera & lens...don't leave home without it.", "This is the second hood I purchase from amazon, first one was the wrong size for my lens, so I sent it back and got this one, I double checked the description of the item to be sure this time would be the right one. Well, it did fit, but it's almost impossible to make it stay in place, there is no way to secure it, it just sits on top of the outer ring, If i leave it there, I am sure I will loose it. Since my wife tossed away the original pacakge, I am stuck with it. I don't think it is a good ifpdea to order this tyoe of accesories online, better bring your camera/lenses to a store and try the accesories there.", 'Received my lens cap faster than expected. It was exactly what I expected. I recommend to anyone that needs one.', "The Canon hood fits perfectly on my SL1 screwing perfectly to my lens and offering protection as well as limiting light/flare. It is sturdy and well made. It feels like it's a little heavier duty/thicker than some of the knock off non Canon brands. The Canon does cost a few dollars more, but it fits like it's supposed to and also looks good perfectly matching the camera lens and body. Couldn't be happier with the purchase.", "Don't waste any time or money getting the cheap knock-offs. They don't fit or work anything like this (trust me I tried others such as the Fotasy brand from amazon and returned them, they were so bad).This was designed and made by Canon for the 18-55 STM lens, it works exactly as it should.Worth every penny."]

B00CA370DA

["First, this screen is HUGE! I saw one image where you see a lady standing by it and how big it is and for some reason I ignored that one and saw others where it looked smaller. I knew how big a



120"; screen was, so I figured 24"; more diagonal is not that much bigger. To be fair, the screen itself when you include the black border and adjustable strap/hooks (which are unfortunately plastic but fairly durable they seem) while big, is still small enough alone to fit inside. The caveat I talk about is the size of the frame they give you. It's really tall.. like 10 feet high tall when all set up. While this is great for some situations, it's too big to use inside (the title after all is indoor/outdoor) unless you have very tall ceilings. So the "indoor" portion of the title I think refers to the screen itself. There are two problems with the frame, neither deal breakers for me. The first is that the height issue is really due to the left/right bottom corner portion of the frame. Instead of a small t-section where you then attach long legs and then the feet (hopefully you can imagine this in your head.. without a diagram it's the best I can do)... they give you a very long t-section and the feet with no T length to it at all. In other words, when you put the frame together, you have no ability to adjust the height. What would have been a much smarter design is to allow the metal tube frame left/right bottom corners to connect to either the feet, so that the bottom of the screen is a few inches off the ground, or add the extension poles to make it the size you see in the photo. As it stands now, I am going to cut and modify the tubes provided so that my frame does what I just described. The other problem with the frame is while it's made of thin metal poles that certainly keep the screen tensioned when all the snaps are on and adjusted right, the frame itself being so thin metal is somewhat flimsy. On the other hand if it used thicker heavier metal the size of this screen would probably cause it to weigh way too much to be moved around. But to be fair, given it's size, you pretty much need to assemble it near where you're going to have it standing anyway unless you have a 2nd person to help you move it. Anyway, the bigger issue is wind. I set this up, and in one location there was a slight breeze of about 5mph or less and the screen was just acting like a parachute, blowing backwards off the long feet. That a small breeze was blowing it back off the feet is less of a problem.. you can turn the feet around to make the longer side in the back behind the screen, although what really is needed is thicker/heavier feet and possibly weights. I put 25lb weights on both sides and that helped. The biggest problem is that the frame around the screen being so thin and flimsy is it starts to bend back even with the feet weighted down, or bends a bit. In other words, the joints where each tub connects because the metal is so thin, it's not strong enough to resist wind so the screen sways/flops/(not sure how to describe it) at the joint locations. What you really need to do is tether the top corners of the frame with some sort of wire or rope above it.. which means you'd need to place this in a location where it was under something that you could then tether it to above it to keep it from swaying. The picture of it in the back yard with a fence behind it.. it would most likely blow into the fence, possibly damaging the fence if any wind picked up. Let's be fair though..this isn't a single piece frame and one you'd typically hang in a stationary location. It's a portable indoor/outdoor screen and as such, you buy this expecting that you can set it up and tear it down fairly quickly, bring it with you to any outing, etc. Because of that, I rate it 5 stars and not like 3 or 4. Also, the screen material is great. We used a 720P projector and it looked really sharp and as good as any LED/Plasma TV (I have both) as I've seen.. except the 4K units. Give me a 4K projector and I have no doubt it would look better than 4K TVs on this screen. Even better is that you can peel off the back and use rear projection on this screen. That is fantastic if you have the room behind it to do so. I don't know if it darkens the image in any way, I'd imagine you'd need a few hundred more lumen on your projector to get similar results to front projection. Overall I'd buy this again and it's a great price for such a large portable good quality screen. I myself plan to see if I can build a much more durable frame and possibly replace the plastic snaps with something like velcro to fit around different sized framing if I end up building something out wood or heavier metal. If you can set it up against a wall, or a garage door, or tension the top to something above it to hold it in place and weight down the feet, you'll be just fine with it, otherwise you mainly have to make sure you're not putting it in a location that wind can pick up and blow it over.", "This screen goes up super quick. Total setup time by myself was less than ten minutes. Amazing picture quality. Withstood windy conditions with anchors in place.", "Great screen for my BenQ projector. Set up is a snap. I sawed off the legs and hang it inside the house from two permanent hooks on the ceiling. I haven't tried to set it up in the backyard yet for outdoor movie night, but so far in the livingroom it's AWESOME. Great price too.", "Go big or go home! This is only for outdoors unless you have vaulted ceilings. I

love the fact it's portable, already had the stand and is rear projectable. Great on superbowl Sunday", "THIS IS 1 HUGE SCREEN! Very easy to setup. It takes about 25 minutes for me to setup and breakdown. I snapped a photo of the posts inside of the storage bag with my smartphone so I can keep them in the correct place when it is broken down and put away. One of the buttons broke on the D,E,G, post and the rear projection material of the screen was quite dirty. After notifying Amazon they sent out a replacement (2 day shipment) and now I am very satisfied. The replacement screen that was sent to me was also dirty. There is just a little bit of dirt located near the bottom of the screen but it doesn't distract from the overall experience. I am really happy with this screen. Much props to CAMP CHEF for making this thing!!", 'We have used this twice so far and are very happy with the screen. Able to set it up in about 10 min. Very happy with the purchase.', 'I have used this once so far due to winter setting in but it was easy to assemble and fairly wrinkle free, a quick Passover with a portable steamer fixes even the minor ones. Update FEB 16, 2014 I used the screen this weekend for a indoor movie night in my churches youth worship center. We watched a movie using the rear projection method with great results I use a Epson EX6220 which is a business class projector that has 3000 lumens so it is very bright, for outdoor / indoor use this is a great screen and every one who attends is amazed so be prepared to answer a lot of questions.', 'We knew it was going to be big but we were surprised to discover just how big it actually is. It can be assembled in less than 30 minutes and the image is nice and bright. The screen fabric is very well made and can be used for front or rear projection. Well worth the money.', 'Finally got to use this for a party and it is great. Nice storage case, easy assembly (though it goes nicer with two people) and great screen with on marks, ripples or wrinkles. We staked the front and bungeed the back to a fence and there was no moving problems and the screen was great. Used with our Epson projector the quality of the movie was amazing, no pixilation or issues at all. I would TOTALLY recommend this product, and this is a great size for outdoor movies to really FEEL like you are at a drive in or such.', 'There is no comparison! You just cannot compare the feeling of watching your favorite movie, TV show, or sport game on the giant screen. The whole experience and feeling is just wow! This is the 3rd screen I am purchasing and there is every likelihood of buying more. I gifted this (144" to my church while the other two (132" went to another branch of the church and our worship service has been transformed literally.', 'We purchased the portable movie screen for our church. We needed something large, yet portable so we could use it in the parish hall, in the nave, or perhaps outside during the summer. Assembly is as stated: it is best that two people do it. The instructions are on durable material that is sewn into the tote bag; they are clear and easy to follow. We (easily) put the screen on two tables to provide extra height for ease of viewing. The enclosed tote bag is well made and permits convenient storage when not in use. The reflective element on the screen itself could be more intense. As it is, the image is a bit washed out unless the viewing area is fully dark.', "Bought this screen to use for an indoor event. Looked great. I wasn't able to get the creases out from shipping on the screen but the reality is you don't see them when something is being projected on it. Took about 20 min to set up with 2 people. Comes with a nice case. It says the screen is white - it isn't. It is a silver screen which depending on your light situation can be better. Worked fine for us. Careful snapping the screen on and off the frame. It can pinch your fingers.", 'This is one of the best purchases that I have ever made for my back yard. The quality of the screen is top notch, and I love the fact that you can watch it from either the front or the back. I have set it up several times between our house and our pool and rolled the black backing down, so that way you can watch the movie whether you're on the patio or floating on a raft in the pool! Very smart thinking on their part! It all comes in a very nice portable case, and I can see us getting many years of enjoyment out of this both in our backyard as well as on family camping trips. I paired it up with a portable 720p 2400 lumens projector that I got on a previous deal for just \$300, with the HDMI video signal coming from my laptop or tablet, and for the audio I use thrlON Tailgater Bluetooth Portable Speaker which provides plenty of sound to the entire yard. So for under \$600 (\$160 for the screen + \$300 for the projector + \$125 for the speaker) I have a portable high definition movie theater! How can you beat that!? As for its performance, first let me say this: I am somewhat of a videophile who has a home theater with about \$10K worth of A/V equipment, and I am quite picky about audio & video quality. And I am actually quite impressed with the picture quality

of this screen. I was expecting some low-quality budget screen based on the price, but it's actually a very nice material and produces a very nice picture from both sides. I was also impressed that there were no visible creases in the screen after setting it up, since I assumed it would maybe need a few hours to stretch out before the fold lines went away. If you get up close while the picture is off you can see very faint fold lines, but once you are a few feet away and there is a picture on the screen they become completely invisible. I was also surprised at how easy it is to set up. I was expecting it to take a good 30 minutes to set it up for the first time, and then maybe I could get it down to 10-15 minutes after getting the hang of it. But I honestly had this thing fully assembled and ready to watch a movie in no more than 15 minutes from when I opened the box. After doing it a few times it now takes me less than 10 minutes, maybe even closer to 5 if I'm in a hurry. It does still take some time to put it all away (probably 15-20 mins) because I am very careful to fold the screen back up along the original fold lines to prevent any hard creases from developing which could leave a permanent lines in the screen. As long as you just follow the original fold marks then you will be just fine. If you can't tell, I would highly recommend buying this screen! I purchased mine from Amazon Warehouse in "Like New" condition, and what I got was a brand-new never-opened screen which just had some cosmetic damage to the packaging - and it saved me about \$20! But even if they don't have any of those available and you have to pay full price, I still think it's a great deal.', "Very good product. I'm new at the outdoor theatre thing and this product is made well and perfect for outdoor theater. I now want a larger screen. Go for a 20 ft screen.", "I had a smaller camp chef screen I had used for 3 years and wanted to upgrade to a larger screen. This fits the bill, is so easy to setup and is very sturdy. I have yet to use the guide lines (only use the four stakes on the legs) and because I'm lazy I have left this up for 3 weeks straight. So far no problems, it has been through several storms and is still standing. This thing is very large, the projector shows up very well, almost like watching a led or plasma tv.", 'Great screen but the metal buttons on the poles came off on two poles within 2 weeks of having it. Only used it twice and now I have to duct tape certain connections.']

## B00EE18LRU

["I am trying to uncover everything that is NOT superlative about Onkyo's Bar and this is what I'm coming up with:- it COULD be a little louder- USB playback is limited (no big deal because it's unlikely to ever be used)Now, for everything elseSETUPThe bar doesn't have to be mounted as it could lay nicely on a TV stand but, if you must, it comes with everything needed to mount it on the wall from screws to a wall mounting template and even suggestions on good placements.Getting things connected is quite obvious. It helps that the subwoofer is wireless. There are inputs for optical (5 ft. cable provided), coax (bring your own cable) or analog stereo (3.5 mm stereo mini plug provided).The unit is operated either through on-bar controls or via the supplied remote control or you can set the TV remote controller to work with it and the manual is good at explaining what you need to do to make it work.OPERATIONBy default, the sound bar will go in standby mode if it receives no input for about 5 minutes so you don't need to worry about turning it off.The supplied remote controls volume on both the bar and the subwoofer, can mute them if needed and can switch input between TV, USB and Bluetooth. It also allows for switching the sound mode between 'music', 'news' and a more 3D-surround-like 'movie' mode. All remote-supported functions can be performed by pressing buttons on the sound bar itself.One of this bar's great features is Bluetooth integration. It only takes seconds to pair it with anything Bluetooth and there you have it, near-perfect rendition of whatever your tablet or phone can get out of your cloud or locally-stored music collection, Pandora or whatever service for as long as you can play it on your device. It's sweet.USB flash drive playback is also supported but you have little control beyond skipping to the next song or stop/start. It only plays MP3 files that reside at your flash drive's 'root' which is NOT where my music is because files tend to be placed in folders and organized by artists and albums. The USB feature is limited but it's also largely not needed. It won't be missed because you can always play your flash drive-stored music off your laptop, tablet or phone via Bluetooth and nearly all laptops and even

some tablets will allow you to play off flash drives.

### THE LISTENING EXPERIENCE

Yes, sound bars aren't quite as good as properly placed speakers in a 7.2 surround setup but this Onkyo bar comes pretty, pretty close and you don't need to worry about a dedicated receiver and wiring. I am not going to replace what I already have wired in the living room but there is a sitting room/gaming room for which this sound bar would be quite the ideal solution, sacrificing a little bit of surround purity for a lot less setup headaches. I should state that what's inside seems to be great quality speakers and the 3D surround simulation in movie mode is quite amazing and you don't have to be in some precise spot in front to experience it or most of it.

### RATING

It's a five star for value and quality, the great sound rendering and the nice movie mode 3D surround simulation, simple setup and ease of operation.", "I'm a long-time Onkyo owner and have owned at least 3 of their AVRs and home theater speaker systems. This sound bar packs multiple speakers into a horizontal bar that sits underneath the TV. I love the wireless subwoofer, which lets me locate the unit anywhere in my room. Currently, I have this in my bedroom and it's perfect, as my apartment is small and I don't want to have wires running all over the place for a 5.1 system. The feature that I like the most is Bluetooth. I consider this non-negotiable on all modern sound systems. I don't like the fact that there is a limited option for sound inputs, particularly, the lack of an HDMI interface.", "I've been on a speaker and soundbar kick lately. It all started when I upgraded my receiver/amp to the Harman Kardon AVR 2700 from my one-year old Yamaha receiver. First, I was lucky enough to grab a Klipsch Gallery G-42 Soundbar for half off its 700 dollar MSRP. That was the one I had been eying, and finally got it. After that, I went to the Yamaha YSP1400BL Digital Sound Projector that has a couple built in subwoofers. Those are in addition to the stand-alone speakers I already had. Now, before I get started on this Onkyo sound bar package... I've actually given each of the soundbars the same 4 stars, because I believe they're all awesome, depending on their use, your needs...and how much you end up spending on them. Also keep in mind (for comparison sake) that the Yamaha and this Onkyo are self-powered - they do not need to be hooked up to a receiver/amp; they plug into power themselves. The Klipsch is powered only from the amp in your receiver. Upon taking this Onkyo out of the box, I saw that as far as looks of the bar and subwoofer, they are very sleek. Shiny gloss on the sub...just looks good all around. As for sound - WAY above what I expected. I'm not sure why, but I expected something a bit tinny with overpowering bass. With all the defaults on, the sub was a fantastic compliment to the amazing highs and mids from the soundbars. Very, very balanced. While this has three modes: music, movies, and news (I think "news" is the last one...but who cares about how the news sounds? You could get that from a built-in speaker from the 1980's.) For movies, this did an excellent job separating the lows and highs so the dialog was very crisp, and the ambient noises were still audible. While the Yamaha was also very good, I feel that that Yamaha either put extra amplification on the dialogs in the center or otherwise made them stand out a bit more than this Onkyo. But it could be that I ended my testing with the Yamaha and that was the last thing in my mind...either way, both did an excellent job. (I would say the Klipsch is a small step ahead for movie/dialog - but it could be because it has 3 separate channels (left/right/center) as inputs, and it just plays whatever the AV receivers tells it to, so your mile may vary depending on your receiver. When listening to music, this also performed very well. Given a wide variety of music, this was able to stand up on its own regardless of sound levels. Now, the Klipsch is hooked up to my main system (including a pretty powerful sub), so it's my favorite because it can push out a LOT of volume, but in an approx. 15x13 living space, this soundbar was able to get loud enough to where I didn't want to keep pressing the volume UP button. Very loud, and nice, tight bass. But, before praising this Onkyo for their near perfection, I did find a major problem. No, not with the somewhat wonky remote controls or anything... With the actual audio. When listening to Sweet Dreams (Are Made Of This), the song starts with pretty heavy instrumentals that provide the lows, while the singing aren't exactly high notes. The first several lines of the sound are there, but only if you really pay attention, as they're either being drowned out by the lows/bass and/or the audio processor decided the singing was part of the lows and routed it over the sub. In my version of the song, at about 45 seconds in ("some of them want to use you, some of them want to get used by you..."), everything becomes clear again. But quite frankly, I have some Altec Lansing computer speakers that set me back about 50 bucks that do a better job. Hate to end on a negative note, but really,

overall, this is an excellent soundbar. For me, I have my Klipsch + sub hooked up in my main living area for movies and music. This Onkyo got promoted to the family room where it's used mostly for music with an occasional movie, and the Yamaha was placed in a bedroom mostly due to space considerations - the built in subs mean no extra box to plug in and find a place for. I'd certainly recommend this soundbar highly, just make sure that if you have one purpose for it, and that purpose is music...and a single genre of music, that the vocals and the instrumentals aren't too close to the same frequency. Great product. (Yes, I know...way too long of a review, but hopefully it helps somebody decide which package to buy!)', 'First I am not an audiophile, so all I can say is something sounds good or bad. This sound bar system in my opinion is OUTSTANDING, even though with the rather stiff price. I have an old Sony Bravia, and have to practice active listening for years. I tried other sound bar (Sony), but never been really satisfied unless I turned the volume really high. This sound bar, right of the box, make my living room feels like a movie theater. Some video from my media player I could hardly heard the dialog, now clearer almost 100%. Turn up the bass volume and everything in the room vibrates with it. So awesome I spent the entire afternoon watching old movies! 3-D sound just like watching a movie in a theater. I am not sure what other audio connection sounds like, but I am lucky my TV has an optical audio port. So it is just simple a simple task to connect the provided optical cable, plug in power for the sound bar and sub woofer, then start enjoying. The Onkyo sound bar came with a nifty feature, Bluetooth!! I now can connect my iPhone to the sound bar via Bluetooth and listen via the sound bar. Just imagine, watching a movie on your iPad and have the the sound comes from this awesome sound bar! A whole new experience!! This is obviously the very high end of sound bar. Expensive, but if you can afford it or settle for nothing less than the best, this sound bar is for you.', "This Onkyo 6.1 3D sound bar offers great sound, the wireless subwoofer offers surprising deep base given its size. I really like the wireless idea but it does have one weakness, when turned down low the signal cuts in and out, I don't like this but rarely do I have it that low so most won't notice this. The sound bar sounds crisp and clear. The system works with most remotes but also comes with a small one. Bluetooth works very well so if you want to link your ipod or any bluetooth device like I do, you can listen and enjoy great sound anytime. Included is a fiber optic cable to make a direct digital link between your TV, Most newer TV's have this digital output for a one line easy connection. Over all I find this to be well made with great sound!", "This is a very nice sound bar and wireless subwoofer, yet is grossly overpriced for what's essentially just a wireless bluetooth speaker. For starters, I am never a fan of misleading gimmicks. Yes, this is a 6.1 channel speaker, but that's not even remotely the same as a true surround sound system. The operative word there is 'surround' and unless you have speakers all around you, then it's not surround sound, no matter how slick the ad copy reads. The facts are what they are, and there is nothing about this that makes it 3D, HD or whatever else you wanna call it. It's a sound bar, with 6 speakers, all located at your television, with a wireless sub. That's it. And no fancy keywords will make it be any more than that. The best movie theaters in the country still have speakers spread throughout the room, because that's the one and only way to achieve surround sound. Period. Having said that, this speaker is decent enough. The sound coming outta this in no way competes with a true sound system. So if you're an audiophile, bear that in mind. Yes, this is far better than most any stock speakers built into the most expensive of HD TVs, but its not some magical 3D wonderbox. I cranked these up to full blast, and the sound remained relatively clean. It suffers greatly at the high and low ends, but the mid-range is decent, and will outdo most built in TV speakers. The subwoofer is ok, but is heavily distorted the louder it goes. It in no way can match the clarity of the sound bar itself. I had the sound bar cranked to the loudest, but needed to cut the subwoofer to nearly 1/4 of it's potential just to keep the acoustics. After that, it's just a vibrating and blundered mess. The wireless connection is great, no issues there. But the sound from the sub just doesn't measure up to the sound bar. Not even close. It sounds like bad vibrating car speakers, not true thumping bass. Bluetooth connections are simple and solid. The remote, however, is a little wonky. The IR extender doesn't actually control the sound bar itself, but rather, is just a pass-through to your TV's controls, though I could never get it to work right. So the sound bar itself definitely needs to be in line of sight with the remote. And frankly, that all just makes for a cumbersome experience. For me, a sound bar just isn't important enough to have its own remote.

I'd much rather it just turned on and off with my entire system, and never needed a second thought. Sure, I could program my Harmony remote to control the sound bar, but again, it just makes for a cumbersome setup and needless complications, just for a sound bar. I'd much rather just plug good ol' speaker wires into the back and be done with it. At least for my setup anyway. For a 2nd TV, this would definitely be an improvement over a tinny TV speaker. But for quality sound and acoustics, this ain't it. Especially at this price. As it is, I think this is worth about half of Onkyo's current 6 Benjamin price tag, not a penny more. It sounds good, but not great. I'll probably use it as a killer bluetooth speaker for my tablet. But in no way would I consider integrating this into my home theater setup. Just know what you're getting going in, use it appropriately, and you won't be disappointed. Though I seriously question why anyone would drop this kinda coin on this when there's so much better out there for this kinda money.", 'Listen to speaker in Best Buy and was impressed vs Yamaha. Cannot compare to 5 speaker systems, but for soundbars and space savings, a better improvement to flat screen enclosed speakers.', "Sound bars have become a rather well established niche, and most offer a significant upgrade over the speakers in most TVs (this one certainly does). That being said there's still a wide variety of performers in terms of sound quality and usability. This bar exceeds (relatively speaking) in one regard and falls a bit short in another. The sound quality is very good. It's not nearly as immersive as a true 5.1 (or 7.1) setup, and it's also not up to par with the best unamplified sound bars paired with a quality receiver, but this unit is smaller, cheaper, and simpler. In that vein, spoken words and vocal clarity are excellent, as is overall ambiance. The sub does equip itself rather despite it's modest size, and it never gets boomy. There really isn't a true surround feel, and at best this system offers a broadened sound stage. That being said, it's a huge upgrade over a standard TV's speakers and satisfies that itch for "more"; without upsetting the budget, decor, and possibly the spouse. All are positives. The unit mounts easy enough and the wireless sub is a plus, as is the ability to replicate most functionality with any TV remote. The Bluetooth works great (though it requires the unit's remote or changing the mode on the unit to operate). What's lacking are inputs. It has an optical, coax, analog RCA (limited use), and bluetooth (USB too, but I don't see much use there). These simply don't get it done. HDMI should be a pre-requisite. That being said, many TVs have optical out, and as mine does I went that route. Fortunately my Panasonic TC-p65s2 not only has an optical out, but it also supports Dolby Digital passthrough. That's a huge plus, as my old Panasonic only had 2.0 optical out. Now my Uverse box, XBMC PC, 360, PS3, etc... sounds great. Lastly, the placement of the USB makes it all but useless. Why not 5 stars? Well it sounds like a \$400 setup, but the inputs are lacking, seriously so. That said, if the inputs work for you, it's a 5star box.", "Onkyo's LS-B50 is a near-premium priced sound bar with sound quality worthy of its pricing but comes with a few minor quirks that holds it back from achieving bona fide acclaim. LIKED: + Sound quality is excellent. The speaker bar is plenty loud and performs an opulent and crisp delivery across all ranges. There is a big difference in sound quality with this bar versus other products in the sub 300 dollar range. + The physical design is impressive. Onkyo goes with a clean, minimalist design and delivers a classy, elegant piece with understated refinement. Sure, the housing is mostly black plastic but it doesn't look/feel cheap. + The bar is tuned with 3 preset sound settings (Music - News - Movie). While they all deliver what you'd expect the 'music' mode is particularly impressive and concert films or bluetooth streamed audio sounds really, really good. + Setup is super easy. No manual remote pairing (with your tv's remote) is necessary if you're using a Top 10 brand TV (should cover just about everyone). If the speaker is placed on a stand in front of your TV it will stand about 3.5 inches high and will likely block your TV's IR remote control sensor but this product comes with an IR blaster that works extremely well in allowing you to point your TV's remote at the speaker and getting the desired functionality. In the past I've had issues with other IR blasters but after a month of heavy use I've encountered no issues with this one. + Comes with all the standard features you'd expect of a soundbar set in this day and age = Wireless subwoofer; bluetooth receiver; remote control NOT SO LIKED: - Because Onkyo opted for a minimalist design on its bar there is no visual display on the front of the bar. This is somewhat of a minor irritant when you want to see what level the volume or subwoofer level is at or what input (TV, bluetooth, USB) is being utilized. - There are small white LED indicators on the top of the bar to indicate current input

and sound mode. While this is appreciated this placement eliminates installation options, specifically if you prefer to install the bar above your TV and above eye level.- This soundbar is not a receiver and thus does not have HDMI inputs. You'll have to use your tv's audio optical or coaxial outputs to input into this bar. Sure, it makes for simpler setup but I prefer having the soundbar function as a receiver thus giving me expanded HDMI inputs and delivering better optical quality particularly if you are using an older TV.- The soundbar is preset to shut off after 5 minutes of inactivity. This is too short of a window particularly for people who like to pause their viewing. Thankfully, this feature can be turned off.- The remote control is one of those tiny designs at a quarter of an inch thick and about 2/3's the length/width of a credit card. These are very easy to lose in the depths of your couch or if you have kids around.TIPS:\* The documentation doesn't mention burn-in but in my experience the sound quality does improve after 20+ hours of normal use.\* This system is definitely tuned on the bass-heavy side. The sub has 30 levels (+20 and -10) of adjustment and physical placement will affect the audible bass level so some fiddling will be necessary to find the sweet spot in your environment.", 'EDIT 2/24/14 - As of writing this, the subwoofer for this product no longer works. Something to keep in mind, spending your money.I have to start off by saying the packaging for the device was a bit awkward. It's due to the fact the unit is already assembled. Since the unit is already assembled unlike thePanasonic SCHTB370 2.1-Channel 240-Watt Soundbar with Wireless SubwooferI have its rather easy to setup. Unlike the Panasonic, Onkyo was kind enough to provide you with an optical cable and 3.5mm audio jack.The sound is fairly good, but for the price I feel it could be better. Sometimes I had issues with the subwoofer just overpowering the whole thing, killing some of the range. However, it's still a much better range of audio compared to the default TV speakers. There are settings to change the sound per "experience" ie News, Movie, Music...but I'll be honest that I find pre-set ranges to be rather gimmicky.It has an auto shutoff when the device isn't in use with your TV or Bluetooth and pairing with the Bluetooth is easy enough. USB playback is rather limited when you organize music by artist and use folders so it's not something I feel I'll get much of, especially since I can stream my music through my router.I think between the Panasonic soundbar and this unit, I'll go back to the Panasonic because of the ability to configure my speakers when I decide to do a layout change. I am not going to deny that the Onkyo does have a leg up with the speakers being able to respond to your own TV remote, whereas my Panasonic I have to use yet another remote to get it to operate.I just am not sure whether to recommend it for its asking price because there are alternatives out there with a better deal.', "The LS-B50 is an innovative solution for the modern home theater. The days of using a full blown home theater receiver in many homes are coming to an end when many simply want surround sound audio for their TV and Game console (XBox, PlayStation, Nintendo). The built-in bluetooth makes it easy to play music straight from your smartphone or Tablet.A few years ago when I set up my bedroom home receiver I ran separate audio inputs from all my devices. When I got a new LCD TV it came with 3 HDMI ports I simplified my setup by just running HDMI from the Blu-Ray, XBox and HTPC to the TV and a single optical audio cable to my receiver. Now I always have the correct audio playing and I don't need a separate remote for the receiver. Plus no speaker cables to hide.The LS-B50 is a perfect solution for a bedroom, den or open living room. I don't think any soundbar can completely match the audio performance of a dedicated 6.1 speaker setup and receiver but this system comes close. The audio output from this box is very nice for the size of the speakers. The wireless subwoofer makes installation super easy. I'm a huge fan of Onkyo and I appreciate their quality, great sounding home theater electronics.[====Features====][+] 6.1 audio[+] 6-6.5"; Full-Range Cone Drivers Speakers[+] Wireless Subwoofer[+] 2- Ring Tweeters[+] IR Remote[+] Dolby Audio Decoder[+] 3D DSP[+] 3 Modes (Movie/Music/News)[+] Controllable from Standard Remotes[+] 2 Year Warranty (register at onkyousa.com/Support/productregistration.php)[====Inputs:====][+] Bluetooth (smartphone, tablet, notebook, etc)[+] Optical digital audio (TV, Blu-Ray, etc)[+] Analog Audio (TV, Blu-Ray, etc)[+] USB (to play MP3 files)"]

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["It would be easy to give this receiver five stars. It is nicely constructed, feature rich, and reasonably priced for its class. However, some of its features are not as straightforward as expected. As far as sound, this is an excellent receiver. It puts out plenty of sound for our family room. I recently wired up the room for 5.1 sound and am pleased with how it drives the speakers and subwoofer. The included mic is useful for equalizing the room, although additional tone controls would be useful. Many receivers have multiple equalization options and I'm surprised this one does not allow more customization. The room is not too large so we have not run the volume up very high. At moderate sound levels, the receiver does not overheat. The menus and remote are not as well polished. I found it somewhat confusing when trying to navigate the network and even USB drives. There should be a menu return selection for each menu. I often wonder how to get back to the previous menu. The remote layout could also be arranged a little more intuitively. I have to consciously select which button to press by looking at the labels and trying to remember what button does what function. Grouping them together would be easier. Of course, I am going to end up programming a universal remote and store this one away. In summary, I really like this receiver, but don't love it.", "Many years ago I used to be interested in hi-fi. The magazines in Britain at the time had to pick out equipment that sounded good, as opposed to having the highest number of watts. Along with brands like NAD, Wharfedale, and Shure, there was a fairly constant recommendation for the sound of Onkyo receivers. I never owned an Onkyo, but looking at this home theater receiver, I can see why it got so much praise. Something that maybe you don't understand is that Onkyo still uses a discrete layout (that's discrete meaning separate, rather than discreet meaning keeping secrets). What that means is instead of buying an integrated amplifier chip, Onkyo designs and makes their own. What this means in terms of sound is that an Onkyo sounds better than the competition. But that's only one benefit. This home theater receiver can sit between your TV and your speakers (Monoprice makes two good 5.1 sets for around \$120, and around \$260 for the other set: Monoprice 108247 5.1-Channel Home Theater Speaker System, Six and for \$260, Monoprice Premium 5.1-Ch. Home Theater System with Subwoofer) and will give you everything you need. There are sockets galore and a Dolby decoding circuit to change your stereo sound into 5.1 audio. This receiver connects to almost everything. It has wireless Ethernet and Bluetooth, and there is an included application that enables you to connect to a large range of online music streaming sites. You can also listen to music from your iPhone or Android device. In fact, you can download a free application from Amazon to make most gadgets (including the Kindle Fire) act as a remote for the receiver Onkyo Remote, although Onkyo supplies their own remote as well. Still not enough? When you set the receiver up you can place a device on your listening chair. This device listens to test signals from the receiver and automatically adjusts for room acoustics. Once this is done your receiver will sound more natural, and you can put the device away. If you're a serious user of home entertainment systems you may well be thinking of getting a 4K TV. The Onkyo will work with that standard. When I first looked at the specifications for the Onkyo I thought it would cost well over \$500. In fact it's less than that, and is a great value. It will let you set up pretty much any system you want and sound good doing it.", "I had to look up what made this model any different than the previous one and the only major difference I can see is the 4k 60hz support! (Also saw that supposedly Onkyo is the FIRST to feature a receiver with full 4k HD passthrough) Now I don't actually own a 4k TV yet - but I do hope to in a couple of years after prices have dropped. And if you are lucky to own a 4k TV now, then there's no reason you shouldn't get the only receiver that supports the 4k passthrough - this one (and it's bigger 7.2ch brother) and both are available right now. This NR535 replaces a nice Yamaha receiver that had Bluetooth support, but didn't have Spotify, Pandora, XM, etc built into the receiver. Nor did my old receiver have built-in WIFI. With 90w per channel, this is an excellent and modern receiver. It's about as easy to setup as any other receiver and produces wonderful sound (okay, so that's really my speakers...) but all of the nice things built in make this a perfect addition to a man cave or media room alongside the finest in speakers, projectors, HDTVs, etc. (Yamaha....uhm, not so much) No complaints or gripes thus far! (Will update if I do)", "The TX-NR535 is Onkyo's new 2014 entry level A/V receiver, and is the successor to the popular TX-NR525. New this year is the addition of support for HDMI specified 4K/60 Hz video. Out of the



box, the TX-NR535 is noticeably well built. It's a clean design, and all the inputs/outputs are well laid out. For testing, I replaced my already setup Denon AVR-E300 with the TX-NR535. I'm using the Klipsch HD300 Speaker System. Getting setup was quick and painless. The menu system on the TX-NR535 is pretty basic and easy to navigate. The GUI looks like something from the 80's, but it's not a big deal. I chose the settings for my speakers manually, and did not use the "AccuEQ Room Calibration". I found a minor issue setting up a Verizon FiOS 4 device remote. There is no code for turning the receiver both on and off. One code will work for turning it on, and another will turn it off. I did a quick Google search and found that this seems to be an issue with many Onkyo receivers. It's not a big deal to me though. The TX-NR535 has built-in WiFi and BT support, which is great. My Denon AVR-E300 required a wireless adapter. Once connected to my network, I had access to my Sirius/XM account, along with several other music services. I was able to listen to music stored on my PC via DLNA streaming. There is one thing that the TX-NR535 doesn't have which to me is a disappointment. It is built-in Apple "AirPlay" support. I store my entire music library on my iPods, and I love using AirPlay to connect them to my system. My Denon AVR-E300 Receiver which is older and costs about half of what the TX-NR535 costs, has AirPlay built-in. There is an Onkyo iPad/iPod app which allows connecting and streaming from your Apple device. It is a little slow and buggy, but it does work. There is a similar app for Android too. My other minor disappointment is that the TX-NR535 doesn't have a built-in graphic equalizer. All you have are basic tone controls, "optimization", and bass boosting options. Once everything was hooked up and tested, I got down to listening to some music. Overall I was pretty impressed. Despite not being able to tailor the sound with an equalizer, everything I listened to sounded great. I started by watching Led Zeppelin's "Celebration Day" Blu-ray. I was impressed by the highs and lows. I then listened to some New Age music by Kitaro, and some EDM by Deadmau5. I can't complain about anything I heard, and I missed the equalizer much less than I expected. All in all, I'm very happy with the Onkyo TX-NR535. I'm disappointed that some features are missing, but it's still a high quality A/V receiver for the price.

Pros: Well designed and built. Easy to setup. Built-in WiFi and BT. Built-in Internet Radio, Sirius/XM, and Streaming. Nice sound. UltraHD 4K/60Hz support. Good value. Plenty of HDMI Inputs.

Cons: 5 channel instead of 7 channel. No built-in AirPlay support. No built-in graphic equalizer. Archaic GUI.

'Before I start, a disclaimer. I'm a novice when it comes to audio. My ear is tin, the best and worst music boxes sound almost identical to me and it doesn't take a whole lot to impress me. I was quite impressed with this receiver but if you are looking for a professional level review written by someone with tens of thousands of dollars in equipment to complement the receiver, I'm not that person. But I like the unit and plan on using it everyday. That said, here's the review:

Today, I unboxed my new Onkyo receiver. Onkyo is a Japanese company founded after World War II specializing in home cinema and audio equipment including receivers and surround sound speakers. The 535 is a new product, retailing for around \$500 and it simply does it all. I don't have enough equipment to really put it through its paces (HD 3D! HDMI 2! Internet Radio Stream (which I probably could try to figure out, but am unlikely to use)) but I did hook it up to two gaming systems, a home theater system, a Verizon FiOS cable box and a Blu-ray player and it performed like a champ. Setup was easy (once I figured out how to get the cables loose enough to fit into where I put the receiver), the menu system was a little bland but very functional and the sounds were crystal clear. There are color tags in the box for you to be able to label your cables (what a nifty idea!) permanently so you always know which one leads to where. I don't have an expensive TV. It is HD but just barely so (it can eke out 1020 but not progressive). But running through the receiver, the picture was sharp and the audio seemed perfect (to me, a true audiophile might not agree, but it certainly was much better than the stereo I was using before. Running through the receiver, I tested both game units and they seemed to run perfectly (which is good, I had to degrade the picture before to get the games to run well in response time, now I don't have to). The actual physical box that is the receiver is well built, solid and attractive. It is also a little intimidating looking; lots of plug sockets of a dozen different kinds, some of which I did not recognize. There are physical controls on the front of the unit (master volume, manual switches between functions, but once I set the volume I have only really used the remote and found it intuitive and responsive. I am not quite good enough to think I can manually setup the sound but there is an optimizer function that seemed

to even the levels out whether on a video game, music, television (or music television!) The blue tooth functionality paired up with my headphones without a fuss. There is a mike included for balancing the room but I didn't bother to use it. Unlike other receivers, this one remained warm but not hot with use. To be fair, I read the minimal manual that came with the unit (to say I was underwhelmed would do a disservice to things that underwhelm) but I managed to figure most of it out on my own. I understand there is a better manual online (couldn't have been worse unless it was just the same, there is QR grid on the front of the manual with the words Advanced Manual Found Here just above it) and when I try some of the other features one day when I upgrade my electronics, I'm certain that manual will be a big help. All in, great receiver, very happy with it. I had it rolling in something less than an hour and I've been enjoying it ever since. If you are shopping for a solid performer, this is a very good unit and I recommend it wholeheartedly. There was NOTHING to complain about/improve or wish for!", "Onkyo's new TX-NR535 is a competent receiver with decent, modern (2014) features for its price range. New for 2014 is the 4k/60Hz compatibility. Like most people, I don't own a 4k television...yet - I expect this future-proof feature will eventually come in handy. Some other notable features are: wifi, bluetooth, auto-calibration (similar to Audyssey), internet radio / streaming music, and 2 zone output. I tested out the TX-NR535 with Definitive Technology Mythos 1 (L,R), Mythos 3 (C), Mythos gem (2x Rear) and an Epik Sentinel Subwoofer in both 5.1 and 2.1 configurations. I also own two slightly more expensive, but older receivers: an Onkyo RC180 and a Denon 2310CI. The first thing I noticed compared to my other receivers is the lack of weight and inputs/outputs. The weight is obviously from a cheaper amp given the 65W /channel 2 channel output. This is actually plenty for me for a 2.1 setup (how I will be using it) and even a 5.1 setup as I usually listen around 60 to 75 dB. If you love to blast your speakers like you are at a movie theater though, you would probably avoid a 5.1 setup with this receiver. I didn't want to potentially damage my speakers, so I didn't test for clipping or distortion. The inputs and outputs should be more than acceptable for the target audience and delivers what I need for my 2.1 setup, but not my main room. I have some older equipment that I hook up with component, optical audio and even S-Video. This receiver has 1 each component and optical audio input and no S-Video (plus only 3 composite video in). However, there are plenty of HDMI inputs (6). The 2nd zone output is only LR rca, but I think most people (like myself) don't bother with a 2nd zone. I also appreciated the Ethernet port, even with the built-in wifi. I don't expect most users in this price range to have 2 subs, but it's a nice addition. One thing I liked about this receiver better than my others is the remote. The Onkyo TX-NR636 offers a decent amount more power, 7.2, and hdcp 2.2 for a bit more money, but I think this is a great choice for a modern entry level setup.", "Where to begin.. ive used other receivers but onkyo is the one for me. Everything from the UI to the remote to the menu layout... those incidentles are great but the actual quality of the audio output and processing is above WAY above par. An old onkyo i had, had issues and the warranty process was pretty smooth..Week 2 of this up and running and so far so good. I wanted to let it run for a good bit and THAN tweak and calibrate the settings. I wanna let things heat up together for the first time to meld correctly. Will reply in a few weeks after calibrated and etc.', "This is a great little receiver for a small home theater. I use this receiver in my Master bedroom, which is wired for 5.1 surround sound. The high points of this receiver:- HDMI 2.0 support, giving you 4K video at 60Hz- Six HDMI inputs- Nice speaker output posts that are banana plug friendly- Wi-fi and bluetooth built-in- Spotify and Pandora!- 65 watts per channel @ 8Ohms- AccuEQ will calibrate your surround sound automatically If there's a drawback to this receiver it's the power... you're not going to get the full theater feel with 90 watts per channel. This is exactly why I put it in my bedroom, I rarely run the volume high enough to warrant any more power. No doubt this receiver will generate a great sound in home theater, but keep in mind it will have it's limitations in terms of volume. Other Onkyo receivers, what you get, and how much you pay... again, the higher points:- TX-NR636 - 115 watts per channel and 7.2 surround, \$549- TX-NR737 - 110 watts per channel, 7.2 surround, and THX Select2 plus certification, \$788- TX-NR838 - This is in a different class at \$999. Enough said.- TX-NR929 - Also in a different class. However, I own this receiver - it is a monster with tons of power. It doesn't have some of the newer features like HDMI 2.0, HDCP 2.2, etc. \$999 Onkyo prices these things just close enough to make it tough to decide. If you don't need lots of power (read: lots),

and you're okay with 5.2 surround (two front, one center, two rear, up to two subs) then go with this receiver and look no more. If you think you might want to upgrade speakers and look for more power in the future - and possibly add two additional surround speakers, then splurge and go for the NR636. If you want something that is THX certified, go with the 737. Keep in mind that having a THX receiver doesn't make your whole theater THX... the other components need to be THX certified as well. If you don't know what I'm talking about, keep it to the 535 or 636.", "I bought this on the recommendation of my best friend of 15 years and an absolute audiophile. I was in the neighborhood of looking for a new receiver after the purchase of a new television. I bought a LG 60" plasma and the rca out audio, seemingly, has become obsolete. I had a technical pro 1000w receiver that did not have a digital in. I have two bic towers and since adding this to the arsenal I've completed the surround system. My setup now is as follows: 2x BIC America Venturi DV64 2-Way 2x BIC Acoustech PL-66 Surround Speakers 1x BIC Acoustech PL-28II Center Speaker All around, I couldn't have asked for a better buy and I haven't even tried all the bells and whistles. -wifi-bluetooth-lan port-4k upscaling (future proofing) I was pretty blown away as to how much technology is going into modern receivers. When all the setup is complete, there is a microphone that comes with the receiver that will automatically dial in all the speakers so that the full effect of the receivers power can be completely utilized.", "My husband has been lamenting the state of our home theater, and general stereo situation for a while now. When this came up on Vine, I grabbed it up. Then when I thought about having to review this item, I got nervous. I take this whole review thing very seriously, and like I said, I know NOTHING about audio systems. There are several really in depth, thorough, technically explicit reviews of this product. Please allow me to give you the "I know nothing about audio components" review. This is not me being lazy, I just do not have enough technical savvy to "go there". I pulled it out of the box. This thing is large, and has an intimidating number of ports. I studiously read the instructions, and while I got lost a few times, the instructions were helpful enough to make me feel semi-confident. I plugged in all of our components - there are 6 HDMI ports-plugged in the speakers, and set up the music optimizer. I turned it on, tuned into my Pandora account, which was easy. The music optimizer did its thing, and wow... Let me tell you, I was skeptical when my husband insisted that a receiver could make that big a difference. I hate to admit it, but he was right. The sound is just amazing. The receiver is also Bluetooth enabled, so I can listen to music from my Kindle and phone easily. Bottom line - The Onkyo Receiver is terrific. If you are a technophobe like me, don't be intimidated. It was easy to get set up, and get going. My husband is very happy with this product!", "I have purchased three Onkyo receivers and am sold on them. This was a gift to my sister sent directly to them. Her husband set it up easily even having not owned a receiver before. It was working in about an hour. The reason I ordered the receiver for them was they mentioned while I was visiting that they could no longer hear dialog on TV very well anymore. They had tried a well advertised, expensive, sound bar and sent it back dissatisfied. We also ordered a center speaker at the same time and this is all they used until I came again for a visit with some older front speakers. I received a call from them the day after he set up the center speaker only and they said that they had not been able to hear some of their favorite shows for a long time, until now. They indicated that even with just the center speaker (polk) they went back to some of their recorded shows and watched them again, since now they could actually hear all of the dialog. Since I am very hard of hearing, I got them the receiver with zone 2 so that I could plug in my wireless headphones when I came for a visit and hear without affecting the speakers. (just plugging in headphones to the front headphone jack turns off the main speakers. If they ever need the headphones they can just purchase the phones and they will have all else ready. After adding the front speakers to their system, with this great receiver, music sounded great and dialog became easy to hear even for me. I highly recommend the Onkyo receivers. If you are looking for a review of all of the fine points and functions, I'm sure you will easily find a good reviewer for them.", "Coming from a 2002 AVR320 HK to a 2013 TX-NR535 Onkyo. 1. Finally HDMI2. It has power. (I tried a Yamaha RX-V373 and it sucked) 3. Network Receiver - yes. You can stream straight from Pandora etc. Also Mobile App Control. Simple setup 4. This receiver has all banana plug inputs. (I hate the push tabs) 5. Bluetooth - Cool No password and anyone can connect. 6. Plenty of settings and custom controls. 7. Remote will let you control your tv / other

devices. (Hold TV and DISPLAY. Look up codes here: [...])8. Dual Subs option9. Optical but HDMI is better!10. 2 year warrantyI didn't like the results of the AccuEQ Room Calibration. After I ran it, I was like ugh what happened? It didnt sound as good as my own personal speaker configuration. I made some adjusts to the calibration and it's better. Possibly because I have screwed up speaker placement due to a weird living room. Front speakers on the ground surround on the ceiling. I bumped up the surrounds power a few.", 'I continue to be amazed at how technology rapidly marches on with regards to home audio and visual technology. Way back in the day, I used to impress my friends with my Technics receiver, all tricked out with things like a graphic equalizer, dynamic range expander, tuner, dual cassette deck, and a fairly high end turntable, among other things. Since those heady days, I haven't stayed at the cutting edge of electronics, but I've generally remained in the game, incrementally improving my equipment over time. So, this review is written from the point of view of a casual user, rather than a technophile. I was happy to be offered this new Onkyo TX-NR535 5.2-Channel Network A/V Receiver to review, as it is past time for me to replace my A/V receiver. This receiver is replacing the one that I use for my existing 2.1 set-up in my basement, where I work out while listening to some music, and occasionally watch some movies and TV, so I don't need a high-end 7.2 unit. I'm considering going to a 5.1 setup in the near future, though, so it's good that this receiver can handle it. If you're not familiar with the terminology, the front number in "2.1" generally refers to the number of speakers you have set up, and the number after the period refers to the number of subwoofers. For a good surround sound in a home theater, you should have at least a 5.1 setup. From a cost perspective, the Onkyo is an entry-level receiver, but it has a lot of features that you used to only see on higher-end units. One nice feature is compatibility with 4k displays incorporating HDMI version 2.0 inputs, so it should be able to seamlessly handle that 4k signal, unlike older receivers with HDMI 1.4. I don't personally own a 4k display yet, but it's nice to know that when I eventually take the plunge, my receiver will work with it. Other interesting inclusions are both a built-in wireless wi-fi connection \*and\* a wired Ethernet connection port, and DNLA 1.5 certification with a number of streaming services supported. Setup was fairly easy, and the inputs/outputs for various devices were pretty much standard for the receivers being built today. There were also plenty of HDMI inputs and a specifiable HDMI output (although no S-Video). The unit and the remote worked well. One of the more interesting features for this receiver is the "Exclusive AccuEQ Room Calibration", where you plug in an included microphone, turn your system on, and then the unit "balances" your surround sound to the specifics of your room. I didn't see much of a change when I tried this, but I suspect that's because I just have a minimal 2.1 setup in a small room. I would expect to see more sound improvements if I were running a 5.1 or 5.2 setup in a larger area. Overall, I found this to be a great receiver, especially for features included compared to the price. The only thing it didn't have that I wanted was a dedicated phonograph input (hey, vinyl records are making a comeback!), but you'd have to step up to the TX-NR636 for that, at a cost of an additional two hundred dollars. But if you're in the market for an entry-level receiver with mid-level features, you should definitely consider this unit. Five stars.']

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["I bought this movie only for the actress who plays Beaver's mother, sight unseen, it makes for a good children's movie however", "Okay, YUP-it's corny. HELLO-its based on a very popular show from the 50s and 60s, which I happen to love. Forgive the cheese factor every once in awhile and enjoy this family film!", "This is so cool! I don't really know if it's anything like the original series Leave it to Beaver, but, it's pry even better! The young boy who plays beaver is so adorable! This is a great family film!", 'This is an awesome soundtrack. It is fun and enjoyable to listen to. The best songs on this soundtrack are all of them. if you have not listened to this soundtrack then i recommend you do', 'Not even close to the charm of the original. A complete waste of time. Hollywood was remaking a lot of TV series into films at this time and with mixed results. Mission:Impossible was one exception.', 'Leave It to Beaver is a 1997 re-make of the classic 1957-63 TV series. The story involves Beaver Cleaver getting into so much trouble, at the chagrin of

his parents June and Ward and the expense of his brother Wally. The cameo appearance of the late Barbara Billingsley was a gem. The *Leave It to Beaver* movie is perfect for any fan of the TV show.', 'This was a crummy remake of a bona fide classic television show, and might be considered okay if you never saw the real thing. For old Beaver fans, though, the film had its (rare) moments. Christopher McDonald's portrayal of Ward Cleaver was very close, and he truly shone a couple of times when expressing irritation -- he captured the exact tone we used to hear from Hugh Beaumont, when his "Ward" was upset or angry. The effect, though brief, was hilarious. And we realize from this film that Ken Osmond's "Eddie Haskell" was a superstar of a television character, an unforgettable icon of teenage obnoxiousness -- and no one in the universe could ever portray Eddie with the same gusto, spirit and benign teen sleaze as Ken Osmond did. It's time for the old Beaver episodes to be put on DVD, so new generations can enjoy them.', 'Thankfully, we only checked this out at the library. My wife thought it was from the original series. Whereas the original series is entertaining and thought provoking, with no embarrassing moments when viewing the show, this post-modern movie treats us with fart-language, Eddie boasting of a bedroom episode, and Eddie calling June a "babe" to her face and a few other unacceptable for family viewing scenes. Trash! Get the season series of the original show. We got season 2. A great value since there are 39 episodes in season 2. Season 1 is out too - another good one. Waiting for the other seasons.', 'This 1997 feature film take on the iconic 1950's television series reimagines the Cleaver family, Ward, June, Wally, and the Beaver, in a late '90's setting integrating such things as personal computers and "Home Improvement" episodes into the otherwise still very quaint Mayfield community. The plot is rather uncomplicated and nothing outstanding, bordering on episodic, but held together well enough with continuing issues that both Wally and the Beaver are dealing with throughout. As per Eddie Haskell's suggestion, the Beaver joins the football team to inspire Dad to buy him a bicycle which immediately gets stolen, while Wally enters into a romance with the girl his best-friend Eddie has been crushing on. Classic situations like the giant coffee cup incident are brought into play through the course of the story, while some are just hinted at (like the bad sweater). Overall, this is a pleasing, enjoyable, relaxing film to pop in for something family friendly. However, most of the appeal lies in the nostalgic value for fans of the classic show. It plays fine as a stand-alone family film, but in that respect the film probably seems rather odd and unremarkable. I'm not sure there'd be enough appeal here for those not familiar with the "Leave It To Beaver" characters already, though it probably still could be very entertaining to young children (I mean, the way I've seen kids sit through the awful *Little Rascals* movie, they should be really impressed by this). Then, of course, there are those many fans who just hate to see their childhood memories remade, especially from TV to big-screen film, but funny how they still choose to sit through the movies for some reason. If you don't have that preexisting prejudice and are an old fan of Wally and the Beaver, you should find a good, mellow time to be had here. The film is so well-cast that it has a similar feeling to watching the old show (granted, you can't match the originals), and the modern day setting, toned-down as it is, adds something new to make the film worthwhile. I can't say I'm a fan of storylines involving serious romances or making out between 12-year-olds, I don't think that's realistic or responsible to have in a family film, though I know it is frequently done because some folks think it's "cute" or sells better, but this is a minor quibble, as is my other one. That other quibble is that I don't think Wally's love-interest is meant to come off as a fickle young lady in the end, but in my opinion she still does. The DVD is sadly in full-screen format, but amazingly, it does come with bonus features. You get the theatrical trailer, text bios of the principal cast and director, and production notes that start off seeming like filler, but be sure to read on. You might pick up something new. For example, I was fascinated to learn that "Still the Beaver", the 1980's series that reunited the original cast of "Leave It To Beaver", had a life after its initial Disney Channel run and cancellation. Anyway, while the extras aren't outstanding, it's nice to get any on a DVD that I was expecting to be barebones. At the commonly found prices this movie is currently going for, I happily recommend "Leave It To Beaver" to fans of the original show who aren't dead-set against feature films based on old TV shows.', 'This is a good movie to see, especially after seeing the original *Leave it to Beaver* series that were made in the 1950s. But there were some things wrong like some of the girls were wearing miniskirts and nobody wore miniskirts until 1965 or in the late '60s. And

also in the movie, I saw Wally (Erik von Detten) was kissing his girlfriend Karen (Erika Christensen). And Wally wasn't kissing any of his girlfriends in the original Leave it to Beaver series except in this one episode that was made in February 28, 1963, "Box Office Attraction", Wally's girlfriend Marlene Holmes was kissing Wally. But anyway, this movie is 10x better than "The Sandlot." You can see my review on that movie too. So it is a great movie but I still like the original series of Leave it to Beaver that was made in the '50s.', "I loved this movie. I can watch it over and over again and not get bored of it. It's so funny and entertaining that how could anyone not like LEAVE IT TO BEAVER. It's one of the most cutest movies you'll ever see and based on an old TV show. Erik von Detten is the best (he's so hot!) as Wally Cleaver, Beav's perfect older brother. And the rest of the cast is great, too. I also love Eddie Haskell, who's a cleaver troublemaker. The kid who plays Beav is pretty adorable, too. A cut-clean movie about one perfect family and a son that causes so much trouble he doesn't seem to fit in the family. LEAVE IT TO BEAVER is one adoreable and excellent film with excellent acting from the cast that can be seen over and over again. You won't want to miss this!", 'Worth it', 'This was adorable, I loved it, and have no problem watching it with my kids, and I still mostly got the feeling I got from the original LitB. Of course, it was different actors, and they added some new tech and a little attitude, but for the most part, there weren't many changes. The casting was impeccable, especially Christopher MacDonald and Cameron Finley as Ward and Theodore "Beaver" Cleaver. And, Barbara Billingsly getting a cameo as everyone's love-to-hate maiden Auntie from the original series Aunt Martha was brilliant, though I had wished Tony Dow and Jerry Mathers would have had a cameo, or even Kallena Kiff, Kip (can't remember his last name) or John Snee, the kids from the 4-year late-1980s "The All New Adventures of Leave it to Beaver" (which had the original cast). And that Ken Osmond was Eddie Haskell Sr.--- brilliant as well. Nice touches there. However, while Wally and Beaver were fighting, could've done without him calling Beaver "fart breath", because... just... NO. I don't see Wally resorting to calling him worse than "twerp", even in an updated version. And, even though Wally had the temporary weird obsession with the girl, in the end he still protected his little brother when it counted, so that was in character. (But when Ward asked for a favor and he said, "Sure, I'll do my homework without you and Mom havin' to crawl up my a---" "Er, thanks, Wall; but we weren't going there...") Also, only my other quibble is Ward getting angry at them for Beaver having his bike stolen. It wasn't the kid's fault, it was the bully's, and I think Hugh Beaumont Ward would've realized that. (Though, he WAS right that Wally should've been watching his little brother-- the kid was eight, you don't leave an eight year old ALONE outside in town. Dangerous.),' "If you are wondering why I am giving this movie 4 stars, is the characters in this movie, for example, in the movie Eddie Haskell is shorter than he was in the tv show, Theodore Cleaver Aka Beaver's friend Gilbert is white in the tv show but is black in the movie, and more. As the movie opens, Beaver (Cameron Finley) wants a bike. And his brother Wally Cleaver's (Erik Von Detten) best friend Eddie Haskell (Adam Zolotin) tells him to do something to make his old man proud. Like play football and his dad will buy him the bike and then quit the team after he has it. Beaver does to that. And when Ward Cleaver (Christopher McDonald) gets home, Beaver helps him and Ward thinks Beaver has done something wrong, all Beaver wants is his father's hands free to sign his permission slip to play football.", "Leave it to Beaver. I think everyone has seen that television show at least once, and I know that I, for one, loved it... even though it was completely unrealistic. But who cares? It was a cute little show. The movie is the exact same way; don't expect something COMPLETELY lifelike... but DO expect something a bit different from the original show. The Cleavers have been updated... and I think my favorite part was when Mrs. Cleaver told Eddie Haskell off... that was great. The characters have a great performance, too... Adam Zolotin was a great Eddie Haskell, and Christopher McDonald was the perfect Ward. And watch out for cameo appearances from a couple of the original stars of the series. Those were great to see. All in all, if you want to see a movie that makes you think, don't get it. It isn't that kind of a thing... but for a family movie, I don't think that there's a better one."]

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[I don't know if Marty Scorsese teaches at New York University's Film School anymore. If he doesn't, it is a huge loss to the school. Here is a man, who if he weren't one of the world's top film directors, could have had an equally eminent career as one of the great film teachers of all time. Scorsese tells us that this is his highly personal collection of American film which had a profound influence upon him as a filmmaker. With this one qualifying statement, he then shows us film clip after film clip with his accompanying commentary about exactly what was so important to filmmakers about each film and how it influenced him. His delivery is casual, unpretentious, friendly and approachable. Hubby and I have watched this series several times and learned a great deal from it even though we thought we already knew a great deal. Since these are Scorsese's personal choices, naturally some films that we would have liked to have seen discussed aren't here. He's made it clear from the start though that you are sharing his journey; he is not sharing yours. Hard to see how you can go wrong with this series even if you disagree with every one of his choices since there is so much for the inquiring mind to discover from him.", "How much do I love Martin Scorsese ? more than any other director alive or dead. How objective am I when it comes to his work ? very !!! Therefore when I write that this is good, it is reaaaally good. Here we meet with Marty the film geek during a 4hours long walk down memory lane. This documentary is constructed as MS's introduction to American Cinema, but far from being dry it is a passionate presentation that opens many perspectives, both on the history of cinema and on Scorsese's own filmmaking. I recommend this documentary to anyone who calls himself a cinephile or anyone willing to do the work necessary to become a fully-fledged one. Yes, it is only US films but just give MS time enough and he might come up with an anthology of japanese cinema ;o) This works perfectly with his Journey in Italy that maps out the key moments of Italian cinema, and is therefore an even more personal insight into MS's influences (good to see with his documentary on his parents Italianamerican, a very moving film with the incredible Catherine Scorsese !). This documentary is a pure pleasure to watch, listening to MS talking about films is a delightful experience and will provide the attentive viewer with a better understanding of a bunch of cult/classic films. I would advise you to pay special attention to the part on The Searchers (in the westerns section), and then to screen Taxi Driver with this John Ford classic in mind, just to realize how influences and reinterpretation work in Scorsese's work. Some can complain that MS doesn't speak about recent films, nevertheless I don't think it is relevant. What the film is trying to do is to actually give us tools to read into recent movies, into our film viewing experience ... I would like to hear more of what Scorsese has to say about The Godfather for instance, and I would loove to hear him saying awfull (and deserved things) about films such as Lethal Weapon, but that's not what he's here for. Moreover, it's harder to determine which recent movies are worth talking about/most important. Let's leave time to history to make a selection and hope for some other cinephile to take a look at the nineties in 30 years for instance. Anyway, this DVD along with the one on the Italian cinema are true must have's or at least must see's (repeatedly!!!) for anyone who loves cinema / Scorsese.", "Martin Scorsese is the meaning of film...almost like a product name brand - there's a chance it's going to be moving experience. He can make a desperate situation for a character entertaining (sometimes funny) to the audience. Interesting to see the films that inspired him in order to become a director. This dvd is as good as 'AFI's top 100 list of' with more of a backstory of the filmmakers journey. No matter how many notes I take during each viewing I always have to watch this dvd just to get the feel of 'the time' along with Scorses' narration. Hopefully they will make a sequel with Scorsese or Spielberg.", "I'm so happy this title is finally coming out on DVD. When it was first released back in 1995 on VHS and laserdisc I never got around to seeing it. Then, it aired on the American Movie Classics channel. What a treat! It's so great to see one of America's finest Motion Picture directors, Martin Scorsese, talk lovingly about the films that influenced and inspired him. I've since seen most of the films he recommended and have to agree with him. I passed on the VHS because of quality. I passed on the laserdisc because it was too expensive. I won't pass up on the dvd. If you're a fan of Scorsese or just a fan of great American films then this is a must buy. Thanks, Marty!", "Martin Scorsese shows here why he is the master. Not only can he be recognized before the documentary begins as an accomplished craftsman of such works as Taxi Driver, Raging Bull, GoodFellas and The Last Waltz, but he also has an eye for film that matches (and dare I say tops) the knowledge

possessed by most film critics. If Scorsese hadn't chosen to be a film-maker, it's evident here in this 3-tape (or 2 DVD) set that he would've rivaled Ebert, especially considering he has a good friend and sometimes co-screenwriter who is a film critic named Jay Cocks. This is a long, boring (to those who aren't truly aren't interested) film that can at the least give some insight to famous movies from certain genres and times of film, and at the best, which is what I feel, give the best modern look at the films that shaped the industry and maybe some of society as well. It is a daring, informative film anywhich way you look at it. Also included are interviews with Clint Eastwood, Gregory Peck, Billy Wilder, Frank Capra, and even a frank look at John Ford by Peter Bogdanovich (Directed By John Ford).", 'Three discs for no reason, this is a tv series done with some good insights, but I feel the production was just okay. I feel like this should have been part of something bigger'but it is worth a watch.', "Settle back, relax, and let an expert filmmaker guide you through a visual tour of those American movies that had a particular impact on his perceptions and mastery of the medium. Scorsese proves to be an engaging and articulate narrator whose evident love of film is both infectious and informative. His verbal musings are supported by dozens and dozens of carefully chosen film clips that will inspire you to watch (or re-watch) the classic films in question, many of which comprise a worthy Want List for release in the DVD format: Gene Tierney in 'Leave Her to Heaven'; Bogart and Ida Lupino in 'High Sierra'; Cagney and the glorious Gladys George in 'The Roaring Twenties'; John Dall and Peggy Cummins in 'Gun Crazy'; James Murray in King Vidor's 'The Crowd'; Preminger's 'Advise & Consent'; and so many other better and lesser known screen gems. Literate, penetrating, yet never over-scholarly, 'A Personal Journey ...' is a joy ride for any viewer who appreciates the rich history of American movies during the mid-20th century.", "Scorsese is one of the few directors who understands where he came from. More significantly, he can make us understand why this is important. 'A Personal Journey' is the most concise, insightful, intelligent and informed appraisal of American Cinema I have ever seen. And I learn more with every viewing. What Scorsese does, with an awareness that eludes most 'professional' critics, is use himself as an example of the process: how did Scorsese get to where he is? He stood on the shoulders of giants. And with typical Scorsese modesty, he's happy to give them all the credit. But best of all, not only is this about great film making -- it IS great film making. This is great entertainment. Just make sure you have pen and paper handy so you can write down the names of the films he excerpts. I guarantee you'll be renting and buying within hours of seeing this series. All three parts total about 220 minutes -- a bargain at twice the price. But having seen it all four times by now, I wish it were longer.", "A personal journey with Martin Scorsese through American movies" (1995) is the kind of documentary I love, one that entertains but also manages to teach me something new at the same time. Scorsese, a great director, shows that he is also a good teacher, telling the spectator about American movies that made an impression on him when he was growing up. Martin Scorsese talks about classic American movies, but also about the directors that made them. He doesn't pretend to be objective, pointing out that "I can only talk about what has moved me or intrigued me". That is probably the reason why Scorsese talks not only about classics like "Stagecoach", but also about little known movies like "Cat people", highlighting the reason why each one is special. I can sincerely say that the only fault that I can find with this dvd is the fact that it doesn't include movies made after 1969, as I would love to know what Scorsese thinks about many of them. Highly recommended...Belen Alcat', "I remembered finding this quite interesting, like film class standard, back in the late 90s. However, now owing it, it's really only somewhat interesting, at best. Nothing new here if you know film, especially classic film. There are a few of Scorsese's anecdotes that are worth catching, but not the film class standard I'd recalled.", "This may be the single-best tool you could ever study to understand how one great cinematic mind realized its vision. Scorsese is selfless; he shows us how his vision came to be. Most directors would rather us not see how their illusions are created; Scorsese's purpose is the complete opposite. This set includes three video cassettes (75 minutes apiece). He begins by focusing on the American Western, an understandable starting place as the American Western is arguably the most indigenous genre Americans can lay claim to. The most enlightening section from this section was his analysis of three John Ford movies, starring John Wayne. Scorsese's purpose was to show how the Western,



along with Ford, grew more complex in three decades. As he says, "Same Director, Ford. Same star, John Wayne. Same setting, Monument Valley." However the image of the black-and-white cowboy-and-Indian hero of "Stagecoach" is a contrast between Ford's later "The Searchers," where Wayne's character Ethan Allen is "richer, more complex," Scorsese says. He is richer and more complex -- a frightening hero. Scorsese's point is made: that cinema is ever expanding, the palette becoming ever more complex, that filmmakers grow themselves. The second half of tape-1 focuses on gangster films; Scorsese was in territory he loved here. His study of the gangster film's development from "The Musketeers of Pig Alley" through Howard Hawks's "Scarface," to Francis Ford Coppola's "Godfather" epic is an education in the development of American cinema itself. The second tape is my favorite. Scorsese focuses on films you might not have heard of, but films that are achievements in American cinema: films that touched him. Jacques Tourneur's "Cat People" (I think that's the title) and "I Walked With A Zombie," movies that are truly rich films but that have sadly been forgotten or dubbed 'B'-class films, Scorsese says. And it's true. These films created techniques and philosophies that changed American cinema -- they enhanced and developed the techniques that are the "illusions" that we too often take for granted as being the modern movie. From watching this section I realized how a film like "Blair Witch" (whether you liked it or hated it) was influenced by guys working on shoe-string budgets (Tourneur) but with the love of cinema; in the case of Tourneur, of scaring the pants off an audience with a minimal budget. Likewise, it becomes clear to see how Film Noir was "a mood," Scorsese says. And it was a mood. It was cool. It was indifferent. It was Pulp Fiction. There are comments by the legendary Billy Wilder on film noir, his "Double Indemnity" epitomizing the style. Wilder's comments were insightful, and Wilder is a pleasure to see on camera. I love this guy. He's like a blend of Yoda and Robin Williams. The second half focuses on the "Director as Smuggler" and this blends into the third tape's "Director as Smuggler II." Comments by Douglas Sirk, Nicholas Ray -- eye-patch and all, insightful, insightful stuff. Ray says something that was kind a revelation to me. If you're hero isn't neurotic, or as neurotic as the audience, if he isn't as [messed] up then how can an audience identify with him, you know? Paint the hero flawed -- or at least as flawed as you and I -- and that way when they do something great, when they do something heroic, we can identify and say, "Man, I could have done that." The behind-the-scenes footage of Samuel Fuller was hilarious -- tragic, in its own way -- and yet funny. "Don't wave the GD flag at me!" And Hoover objected, Fuller said. I loved this! There are comments by more contemporary "smugglers" George Lucas, Francis Coppola -- on the digital age of American cinema. Coppola's advice is to embrace the new technology. Lucas's was less convincing, but not without point. "Why spend the money," Lucas says, "to transport hundreds of extras, to feed them, to clothe them, when they can be reproduced digitally." I listened to this skeptically -- thinking of film's like "Braveheart," where the director (Gibson) did haul all those extras out there and shoot those scenes. And then I thought of "Gladiator" -- Academy Awards or no -- it was easy to see that many of the epic shots were digitally reproduced. And I realized movies such as "Braveheart," "The Fall of the Roman Empire" (which Scorsese discusses) are sadly part of bygone era. It's simply too expensive to make those kinds of movies without digital "smuggling." So, I suppose Coppola's words ring true -- it's wise to embrace the new technology. The final part of the third tape focuses on "The Iconoclast" -- filmmaker's who went at the system head-on. Here you'll find more recognizable names and Scorsese's discussions on how their films engaged him personally: DW Griffith, Charlie Chaplin, Orson Welles, Stanley Kubrick, John Cassavetes. I've watched the section on Kubrick's "Barry Lyndon" several times just to realize exactly what Scorsese sees when he discusses individual scenes in the film. It's really a trip to see these movies through his eyes, while he discusses them. There's a discussion of "Citizen Kane" -- naturally -- not to be missed with comments by Orson Welles, years later, on what it was like to have that kind of personal freedom while making a movie; and what it's like to have it taken away. Chaplin's "The Great Dictator" is looked at -- funny, funny stuff. And not without more profound implications, too. Bottom line: this is an excellent journey

through American cinema, through the eyes of one of our most gifted artists. Scorsese, I hope, will be remembered for giving us a gift, his gift. He has done more to preserve film history -- films, directors, and these directors' personal visions of our world, all of which would otherwise be forgotten -- Scorsese's done more to preserve all of this than any other single human being. It is a selfless journey.", "I thought other reviewers had just had bad luck with this set. NOPE! My second disc (part 2) is screwed up in several places not the least of which is 5 missing minutes toward the end. If I return it, I'm sure the replacement will be the same. The thing that makes me most angry is that Amazon must know of this problem and continues to sell them.", 'This DVD was totally enjoyable. Martin Scorsese sharing his passion for movies and talking about the point that he felt it was time to jump in and start directing. I wished the DVD kept going on and on and Martin Scorsese points this out that there was not enough time to cover all the great directors.', 'This documentary of 225 minutes in length is presented by Martin Scorsese and produced by the British Film Institute. It was originally shown in three parts on Channel 4 in the UK in 1995, and the DVD preserves the 3 part structure. Part I \*The director's dilemma\* The director as storyteller \*\*The Western\*\* The Gangster film \*\*The Musical Part II \*The director as illusionist\* The director as smuggler I Part III \*The director as smuggler II \*The director as iconoclast It is not as successful as its sequel My Voyage to Italy, in my opinion, mainly because Scorsese tries to cover too much ground and in the process most films only get very short exposure (1-3 minutes) instead of 5-10 minutes in Voyage. Naturally, the list is much longer. However, this is still very much worth watching and Scorsese's love of these old films are palpable. (A personal account by a master is always an exceptional experience!) As in its sequel My Voyage to Italy, with few notable exceptions the list stops at 1960s when Scorsese started his own film making. ("I wouldn't be able to do justice to my contemporaries....") Without much ado, here is the list. N.B. Films followed by parenthesis with the year of release indicate that multiple films share identical names. --Part I-- The Bad and the Beautiful, 1952, directed by Vincente Minnelli Duel in the Sun, nicknamed "Lust in the Dust", 1946 Western film directed by King Vidor, William Dieterle and others The Girl Can't Help It, 1956 Musical film directed by Frank Tashlin Bigger Than Life, 1956 directed by Nicholas Ray Vertigo, 1958 psychological thriller film directed by Alfred Hitchcock The Naked Kiss, 1964 neo-noir film written and directed by Samuel Fuller Murder by Contract, 1958 film noir directed by Irving Lerner The Red House, 1947 psychological thriller directed by Delmer Daves The Phenix City Story, 1955 film noir directed by Phil Karlson Sullivan's Travels, 1941 comedy film written and directed by Preston Sturges The Crowd, 1928 silent film directed by King Vidor The Big Parade, 1925 silent film directed by King Vidor Shadow of a Doubt, 1943 thriller film directed by Alfred Hitchcock Mr. Smith Goes to Washington, 1939, directed by Frank Capra The Great Train Robbery, 1903 Western film written, produced, and directed by Edwin S. Porter The Musketeers of Pig Alley, 1912, directed by D. W. Griffith High Sierra, 1941, directed by Raoul Walsh Colorado Territory, 1949 western film directed by Raoul Walsh (a remake of the 1941 High Sierra) Stagecoach (1939), 1939 western film directed by John Ford She Wore a Yellow Ribbon, 1949 western film directed by John Ford The Searchers, 1956 western film directed by John Ford The Furies, 1950 American Western film directed by Anthony Mann The Naked Spur, 1953 American Western film directed by Anthony Mann The Tall T, 1957 Western film directed by Budd Boetticher The Left Handed Gun, 1958 American western film and the film directorial debut of Arthur Penn Unforgiven, 1992 American Western film produced and directed by Clint Eastwood Chesty: A Tribute to a Legend, 1971 documentary directed by John Ford The Public Enemy, 1931 American Pre-Code crime film directed by William A. Wellman The Regeneration, 1915, directed by Raoul Walsh Scarface (1932), 1932 American gangster film directed by Howard Hawks (and Richard Rosson) The Roaring Twenties, 1939 crime thriller directed by Raoul Walsh I Walk Alone, 1948 film noir directed by Byron Haskin Force of Evil, 1948 film noir directed by Abraham Polonsky Point Blank, 1967 American crime film directed by John Boorman Gold Diggers of 1935, 1935 musical film directed and choreographed by Busby Berkeley Gold Diggers of 1933, 1933 musical film directed by Mervyn LeRoy, staged and choreographed by Busby Berkeley 42nd Street, 1933 musical film directed by Lloyd Bacon with choreography by Busby Berkeley Footlight Parade, 1933 musical film directed by Lloyd Bacon with choreography by Busby Berkeley Meet Me in St. Louis, 1944 musical film directed by Vincente Minnelli My Dream Is Yours, 1949 musical and comedy film directed by

Michael Curtiz\*New York, New York, 1977 musical directed by Martin Scorsese (film mentioned in connection with My Dream Is Yours)The Band Wagon, 1953 musical film directed by Vincente MinnelliA Star Is Born (1954), 1954 musical film directed by George CukorAll That Jazz, 1979 musical film directed by Bob Fosse--Part II--The Cameraman, 1928 silent comedy directed by Edward SedgwickThe Birth of a Nation, 1915 silent film directed by D. W. GriffithDeath's Marathon, 1913 silent film directed by D. W. GriffithCabiria, 1914 Italian silent film directed by Giovanni PastroneIntolerance, 1916 silent film directed by D. W. GriffithThe Ten Commandments (1923 film), 1923 silent film directed by Cecil B. DeMilleSamson and Delilah (1949), 1949, directed by Cecil B. DeMilleThe Ten Commandments (1956 film), 1956, directed by Cecil B. DeMilleSunrise: A Song of Two Humans, 1927 silent film directed by F. W. MurnauSeventh Heaven (1927), 1927 silent film directed by Frank BorzageAnna Christie (1930), 1930, directed by Clarence BrownHer Man, 1930, directed by Tay GarnettThe Big House (1930), 1930, directed by George W. HillLeave Her to Heaven, 1945 film noir directed by John M. StahlJohnny Guitar, 1954 Western film directed by Nicholas RayThe Robe, 1953 Biblical epic film directed by Henry KosterEast of Eden, 1955, directed by Elia KazanSome Came Running , 1958, directed by Vincente MinnelliLand of the Pharaohs, 1955, directed and produced by Howard HawksThe Fall of the Roman Empire, 1964, directed by Anthony MannThe Young Indiana Jones Chronicles, American television series from 4 March 1992 to 24 July 1993, created and executively produced by George Lucas, directed by Steven Spielberg2001: A Space Odyssey, 1968 science fiction film produced and directed by Stanley KubrickCat People, 1942 horror film directed by Jacques TourneurI Walked with a Zombie, 1943 horror film directed by Jacques TourneurLetter from an Unknown Woman (1948), 1948 film directed by Max Ophüls, based on the novella written by Stefan ZweigScarlet Street, 1945 American film noir directed by Fritz LangDetour (1945), 1945, directed by Edgar G. UlmerDouble Indemnity, 1944 film noir directed by Billy WilderCrime Wave (1954), 1954 film noir directed by Andr  ; De TothOutrage (1950), 1950, directed by noted film noir actress and pioneering female director Ida LupinoGun Crazy, 1950 film noir directed by Joseph H. LewisT-Men, 1947 film noir directed by Anthony MannRaw Deal (1948), 1948 film noir directed by Anthony MannKiss Me Deadly, 1955 film noir directed by Robert Aldrich--Part III--Silver Lode, 1954, directed by Allan DwanAll That Heaven Allows, 1955, directed by Douglas SirkBigger Than Life, 1956, directed by Nicholas RayForty Guns, 1957 western film directed by Samuel FullerPickup on South Street, 1953 film noir directed by Samuel FullerShock Corridor, 1963, directed by Samuel FullerTwo Weeks in Another Town, 1962, directed by Vincente MinnelliBroken Blossoms, 1919 silent film directed by D. W. GriffithThe Wedding March (1928), 1928 silent film directed by Erich von StroheimI Am a Fugitive from a Chain Gang, 1932, directed by Mervyn LeRoyHell's Highway (1932), 1932, directed by Rowland BrownWild Boys of the Road, 1933, directed by William WellmanHeroes for Sale, 1933, directed by William WellmanThe Scarlet Empress, 1934, directed and produced by Josef von SternbergCitizen Kane, 1941, directed by and starring Orson WellesThe Magnificent Ambersons, 1942, directed and written by Orson WellesA Streetcar Named Desire (1951), 1951, directed by Elia KazanOn the Waterfront, 1954, directed by Elia KazanApache, 1954, directed by Robert AldrichBlackboard Jungle, 1955, directed by Richard BrooksThe Wild One, 1953, Directed by L  ;szl  ; BenedekAdvise & Consent, 1962, directed by Otto PremingerPaths of Glory, 1967, directed by Stanley KubrickI Want to Live!, 1958 film noir directed by Robert WiseThe Man with the Golden Arm, 1955, directed by Otto PremingerSweet Smell of Success, 1957 film noir directed by Alexander MackendrickOne, Two, Three, 1961 comedy directed by Billy WilderBonnie and Clyde, 1967, directed by Arthur PennLolita (1962), 1962, directed by Stanley KubrickBarry Lyndon, 1975, directed by Stanley KubrickFaces, 1968, directed by John CassavetesAmerica America, 1963, directed by Elia KazanThe Grapes of Wrath, 1940, directed by John FordP.S. I also edited the wiki entry of this documentary, so you can also find the same list there.']

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['Booty Call is one of the funniest urban films ever made. Jamie Foxx had his first starring role in this

film and he showed that he could carry a movie. Tommy Davidson plays second string to Foxx but the two make a great comic team and Vivica Fox is also very sexy in this movie. One has to wonder what would have happened if Chris Tucker would have taken this movie on instead of Rush Hour.', 'this was a cute date movie or a movie where you might want to invite a guy over to look at as you eat chinese food with some plum wine. As a Jamie Foxx lover this movie would have suffered if he was not in it. he made the movie. that is why i wanted to look at this movie. i would like to see him and Vivica Fox do another movie. actually, i can see them do a fun Doris Day/Rock Hudson remake, like "Pillow Talk" at least Jamie can use his musical skills in it. if a producer reads this, i hope they would really consider that because they make a nice acting pair and i would love to see them do more movies together. i truly enjoyed this movie. really cute.', "the acting in this one goes over the top, but i was just looking to laugh...what guys will go through to get their needs met. believe me, i can relate. the women are sexy and the condom buying scene itself is hysterical...don't be ashamed to rent it...", 'This movie makes me laugh every time I watch it. I enjoy having it in my collection and would recommend it to anyone.', "This movie is so corny it's hilarious! Jamie Foxx and Tommy Davidson set the scene for a crazy adventure that all starts from the simplest of tasks. I can't help but laugh every time I watch this movie, it brings back memories of them on In Living Color.", "Booty Call is one of the initial movie appearances of Jamie Foxx and Tommy Davidson after starring on Living Color. Don't expect high-brow comedy as this is a comedy that stretches the boundary of good taste and common sense, but it is funny nonetheless. Some of the scenes are destined to be classics, such as the 7-11 scenes, the plastic wrap, and the impressions scenes. If you are easily offended and easily embarrassed then this is not the movie for you. But if you take it for what it is, a silly comedy, then you will find yourself laughing out loud.", "A pair of stupid men are anxious to get laid. A pair of girls are willing enough, and surprisingly supportive considering how amazingly stupid the guys are. They wrap themselves in plastic wrap as a form of birth control. This made you laugh? It's so dumb. Does dumb mean funny? I guess so, to some people. The point seems to be that no matter how stupid a guy is, he is entitled to get serviced by girls he isn't marrying. Yeah, okay, but where are the laughs?", "Jamie Foxx has his moment or two same goes for Tommy Davidson. but overall this is a bad film. it lacks good humor overall. it's one of those after 1:am movies when you have nothing else better to do or watch.", "I'm not a huge Jamie Foxx fan but this was good. It is kinda hard to believe Jamie was in this. It's a keepsake.", "One of my all time favorite movies! BEFORE Jamie Fox was an Academy Award winner! I know this movie by heart! I don't care how many times I see it, I still laugh just as hard as I did the first time I saw it. I would recommend this to anyone who just wants to laugh like crazy & who is not easily offended", 'I love Jamie Foxx. He is so funny and this movie is one of the best one he has made yet.', "Jamie Lee Fox is so funny in this movie. Years ago I saw this movie. I loved it then and I still love it now. This is about that he is on a blind date that was set up by his friend. These two do some really funny things in this movie. They even wrap themselves up in saran wrap, because they didn't know to get a condom. Anyone that gets this movie will love it.", "This is got to be the stupidest film I've ever seen. I am surprised that Vivica Fox, who is a reputable actress, even consented to do this movie. The only good thing about it is the lengths these guys were going to to get condoms. Other than the safe sex message, this film is wack. They should have just called it BOOTY, 'cause that's what it is."]

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[I want to add my voice to the other reviews, slamming Lion's Gate for the decision to release this fine film in full-screen. I had been waiting for several years for a North American DVD release of "Soldier Blue," and now that it's here, I won't go anywhere near it. Get real!', "Graphic even by today's standards. With each of these movies about the American West, you see the cavalry and the established tribes, interact. Actually no good guys, no bad guys...just one group stronger at the scene at the time. Sure, there are good people on both sides but crowd mentality reigns when sabres are rattling, arrows are flying, tomahawks are threatening and gunpowder is exploding. A sobering movie about a different scenario but the violence is still existing today.", 'I have a copy of this same

cover, early VHS, version of *Soldier Blue*, which I bought 10 years ago in a video store after searching for it for years. Price sticker on the box: \$59.95 (I talked them down to \$25.) It was banned in most U.S. theaters and never publicized that I can remember. The movie even protects Gen Chivington's identity by calling him "Iverson" --were the producers afraid of a lawsuit or what? There is even a town named after him: Chivington, Colorado. Although it is a story done by Hollywood, the underlying sad truth is certainly told. Every U.S. citizen needs to see this and know the price Native Americans paid for us to live here in this country. Overall, it is a real downer. Have a "double feature" night: Watch *Soldier Blue*, cry your eyes out, and then watch *Last of the Dogmen* to give yourself some hope that just maybe some of these poor people survived. Even if it isn't true, you can at least try to sleep that night. P.S. My Great Great-Grandmother was a young woman in Denver (coming there by ox-cart from Tennessee in 1860). She saw Gen Chivington's "parade" of massacred Indian body parts that November day in 1864, and she never forgot it, re-telling the story to her descendants until her death in 1913. 'I liked the movie, though I did not like the ending. It was based on true events in our history. I would watch the movie again and recommend it to anyone. But be careful these events in our history are horrible.', "Soldier Blue was made as a biting allegory of the Vietnam war. It divided critics at the time of its release and indeed, continues to do so. It is extremely brutal but not gratuitously so. The appalling acts depicted are shown from the point of view that this actually happened, as opposed to well lets give the audience some gore. People seeing the film tend to be shocked from the former point of view as opposed to the latter. The film opens deceptively with a Cheyenne massacre of a US Cavalry troop guarding a pay chest. The survivors of the massacre are one naive boy soldier and a savvy, young frontier woman, played superbly by Peter Strauss, and Candice Bergen respectively. Their adventures and subsequent romance are then chronicled. Along the way they encounter Donald Pleasance's superbly sinister arms smuggler. The film's climax is a savage massacre of a Cheyenne village by the US Army - based on the real life events at Sand Creek, Colorado. In an orgy of blood lust, women and children are slaughtered and body parts are taken as trophies. By this time the film has swung 180 degrees from its opening, and has established the root cause of the suffering which is the white man's treatment of the native american. During all this, Strauss' character has changed from naive volunteer soldier to conscientious objector while the character of Candice Bergen remains the hope of reconciliation and co-existence. The film is brutally honest and makes its point more effectively than other bigger budget films of the same genre eg. *Dances With Wolves*. Sadly (until the Lions Gate release) the film was not readily available in the USA. I would hope that this re release of the film on dvd, is in its completely uncut version. The film is available on both dvd and vhs here in the UK but it is the cut version. In the current climate, this re release of a brutally honest recreation of a bloody piece of American history, is timely and should be well received. I strongly urge people to see this film and form their own conclusions, however. As a footnote, should the Lions Gate release turn out to be the cut version then be aware that the film was released on dvd, in its completely uncut version in Germany, as of July 2004. The film looks absolutely fantastic on dvd, picture and sound quality are incredible for a film of this age. Having seen this version, has made me realise that the 'uncut' version I saw in the UK years ago was in fact slightly cut. Therefore, be warned, this version is very strong viewing, indeed. Any previously 'uncut' version that you saw in the past probably was in fact censored to some degree. This version of the film is titled 'Das Wiegenlied Vom Totschlag' and is available from Amazon De, which is where I got my copy from. It is a Region 2/Pal dvd, so just be aware that your dvd player may not be able to play this format. Definitely a film worth upgrading to multi region play though. Fans of the film who would prefer to see the film in an Anamorphic 16.9 picture (as opposed to full screen on the Lions Gate dvd) will be delighted to know that this particular dvd is released in the 16.9 format. Technical details as follows:- Title is *Das Wiegenlied Vom Totschlag*- Sound is Dolby Digital mono.- Format is 16.9 anamorphic- Area is Region 2/Pal- Extras are a theatrical trailer- Running time is 110 mins.- Languages available are English, German, Italian, and Spanish", 'Simply put, this is the best western film that I've ever seen. Despite one or two historical inaccuracies and generally phony-looking costume design, "Soldier Blue" captures the complexities of the American expansion westward during the 1860s in a compelling, often unsettling, but never trite or boring way. All of the characters are idiosyncratic yet

highly believable: Bergen, Strauss, and, perhaps most of all, Pleasence as Isaac "Q. Cumber" all give unforgettable performances. "Soldier Blue" has been criticized for its graphic portrayal of the Sand Creek Massacre of 1864, which probably explains why it is not as widely known as other films of its period. Indeed, the reenactment of the massacre pulls no punches in showing rapes of Cheyenne women and brutal killings of young children. The way it captures the atrocity left me thinking, "That's how it must have really been." The whole mood of the film is strangely cartoonish at times, with a sense of humor as unique as the rest of it. Nonetheless, that only helps to make the art imitate life, as well as to avoid making "Soldier Blue" unpalatably grim. If you are wondering what I mean here, I can only recommend that you see "Soldier Blue" for yourself.', 'August 2, 2008: This will be my third attempt to update my review of this movie, based upon input from comments and responses to my comments on another review of "Soldier Blue." First off, let me state that I regret giving "Soldier Blue" a one star rating. My intellectual desire for "realism" and "factuality" lead me to this regrettable rating, and in hindsight should have rated it three or four stars. Readers of my review have given me plenty of negative feedback to let me know that they do not appreciate my one star review, apparently because they really like the movie--as do I (as stated in my review title and closing)--and do not like the fact that I have given in only one star. To all of you, I am sorry. Second, let me make it clear that I personally do not see this as an "anti-Vietnam war vehicle," and apologize for not making that clear. At the time "Soldier Blue" was released it was viewed and reviewed by the director, many critics, and others as such. Hence, I started my original review by stating: This anti-Vietnam war vehicle is fiction with tidbits of reality, wrapped in the disguise of a "love story" and the opening statement that it is based on "true events." From the above opening sentence, I continued on with the following revised comments. I first saw the "R-rated" movie when it came out and I was totally awestruck by what I believed to be a realistic visual representation of true events. Despite having read hundreds of books on Native Americans--including the Cheyenne--I had never heard of the Sand Creek (Colorado) Massacre. I left the theater thinking, "yes, they have finally made a movie portraying what really happened." But then I started reading the news/entertainment articles and reviews about how the movie was really a story about the My Lai massacre. Being a supporter of our military and their efforts in Vietnam, yet angry at the military for scapegoating Second Lieutenant William Calley, I became even angrier that people were trying to ignore the "truth" of the movie. Again, let me clarify my comments. When "Soldier Blue" was released, I was conservative youth preparing to enter the military ranks and believed (at that time; I have since changed that belief) that our countries involvement in Viet Nam was the right thing. However, I was--like most Americans--shocked and angered by My Lai. But, I was equally angry at the military for placing all the blame on just one person, Second Lieutenant William Calley. Hence, when I saw "news reports" that "Soldier Blue" was just an anti-Vietnam movie, "I became even angrier that people were trying to ignore the "truth" of the movie." Unfortunately, I did not make the focus of my anger clear in this statement. I did not become more angry about "Soldier Blue" being an anti-Vietnam movie, but rather I became more angry because I thought (and saw) that people were ignoring the "truth" about how the Cheyenne and other Native American peoples were really treated; that, to quote a subsequently "popular" review, "we're not as benevolent as we'd like to think." My anger was about other viewers missing the point portrayed in "Soldier Blue" that America was "settled" (aka, stolen) at a violent and deadly cost to the Native Americans who were living here way before America was even "known" about in Europe. Again, I agree with Timothy P. Scanlon when he states in his review, that "Soldier Blue" is "a view of how we really "moved West," and why the US is challenged as a purveyor of "democracy." Or, as I put it above: "yes, they have finally made a movie portraying what really happened." A few months after viewing the movie, as a freshman in college, I was able to conduct extensive research at the University of Utah library on the Sand Creek Massacre (also known as the Chivington massacre or the "Battle of Sand Creek"), which took place, as stated in the voice over at the end of the movie, on November 29, 1864. I gained access to rare documents and government documents, including Congressional and military hearings and investigations. I learned many important things that helped me better understand Hollywood's "Soldier Blue" and the reality of the Sand Creek Massacre. Most important for me was the fact that, unlike the events prior to the massacre depicted in the movie, the real Sand Creek

Massacre was well planned, deliberately executed, and NOT PROVOKED by the "enemy"/Cheyennes. Equally sad, the Sand Creek Massacre was considered at the time to be a major victory--and is still listed as one of the greatest victories of the Civil War at a memorial installed at the Colorado Capitol in Denver. [Hopefully, this edited paragraph has made my views clearer now]. "Soldier Blue" does an amazing job of describing the truth of how many "westerners" treated Native Nations when Candice Bergen's character asks Peter Strauss' character: (1) about who really started scalping (Europeans did, as a replacement to taking heads); (2) if Strauss' character had not seen tobacco pouches made from Native American Women's breasts (a common practice among whites in the west, especially by civilians; and, (3) if Strauss' character had seen whites dismember Native Americans (although the running wild with body parts on the "long knives" occurred, to the best of my knowledge, only at the Sand Creek massacre). Furthermore, Black Kettle (the real "chief" at Sand Creek) did ride out with an American Flag and a flag of truce in an attempt to tell the soldiers that they were peaceful; and, more importantly were encamped precisely where the government and military had ordered them to encamp. Interestingly, there actually may have been non-Native Americans living with the Cheyenne; George Bent, the son of the American William Bent and a Cheyenne mother, was at Black Kettle's village when Chivington's (the real commander of the Colorado Regiment) soldiers struck the Cheyenne encampment at Sand Creek, Colorado. [Hopefully, this is clearer now]. Little else in "Soldier Blue" is very accurate. For example, Black Kettle, unlike the fictitious Spotted Wolf, was a long standing Cheyenne leader that championed the cause of remaining peaceful with the whites--as were all the Cheyennes and Arapahos at Sand Creek. I doubt very many of the Cheyennes were played by actual Native Americans. The costumes, tepees, and other props are all completely non-Native American; and definitely not Cheyenne. During the scenes of the massacre they show soldiers cutting off a women's breast, which was done to over half the women (eventually) killed, but it could not show the soldiers (and civilians who were also involved) cutting out women's vaginæ (frequently used for saddle horn decorations), cutting off men's penises and testicles, or playing catch with babies. [I hope my revisions in this paragraph help readers to better understand what I was trying to tell about the sad reality of Sand Creek.] So why do I love this movie? Because Candace Bergen's performance is witty, charming, and so realistic. Because it is a film that is fun to watch. Because it does arouse outrage at how Native Americans--and, I might add, especially Cheyennes--were treated. And, because Buffy Sainte-Marie (a Cree Indian) contributed songs to the soundtrack. [I have left this paragraph unchanged.] Update--1 July 2008: If this review was not helpful to you, I would appreciate learning the reason(s) so I can improve my reviews. My goal is to provide help to potential buyers, not get into any arguments. So, if you only disagree with my opinion, could you please say so in the comments and not indicate that the review was not helpful. Thanks.', "NOTE: This review of SOLDIER BLUE applies to the uncut version released by Lionsgate in 2006 and not the 'PG' version that had been on video for years. Released in the late summer of 1970, SOLDIER BLUE concerns itself with a disenfranchised U.S. cavalry officer (Peter Strauss), one of only two survivors of a savage attack on an Army payroll train by Cheyenne Indians in Colorado, who falls in love with the other survivor, a white woman (Candace Bergen) who had been raised by the Cheyenne. Although cut off from his unit, Strauss refuses to believe that the U.S. Army is acting with undue harshness towards the Indians, until his experiences with Bergen show him otherwise. Making their way across hostile territory, and for a moment in the clutches of a deranged gun runner (Donald Pleasance), they reach an Army fort where they learn of a plan by a vengeance-minded general (John Anderson) to destroy the Cheyenne. Bergen and Strauss warn the Cheyenne villagers of this possibility. When Anderson's troop appears on the outskirts of the village, the Indians raise an American flag as if in supplication. Anderson, however, is unmoved; and all Bergen and Strauss can do is watch as the Cheyenne and their village are totally annihilated. SOLDIER BLUE, directed by Ralph Nelson (CHARLY, LILIES OF THE FIELD), is unique because it was the first western of its kind to really paint the Army as inherently evil. Given that it was based on the infamous 1864 Sand Creek massacre and that it equated mistreatment of the Cheyenne with the revelations of the My Lai massacre in Vietnam at the time of its release, this is not surprising--though contrary to what some might say, it is also not politically (let alone realistically) correct. Until Lionsgate, the studio

responsible for FAHRENHEIT 9/11, restored the and re-released the film on DVD last year, however SOLDIER BLUE could only be seen in a severely cut form, allowing for the 'PG' rating it had for so long. In reality, in its original form here, it was considerably notorious because of its extreme violence, particularly the horrific final massacre. As such, it exceeded even the levels of violence in THE WILD BUNCH and would almost certainly challenge the opening of SAVING PRIVATE RYAN for sheer war-related carnage. It nearly got an 'X' rating, but came away with an 'R'. It was then edited for re-release down to a 'PG', with much of the violence cut. That said, however, Bergen and Strauss, who were practically unknown at the time, deliver fairly good performances; and the on-location shooting in central Mexico is breathtakingly panoramic when it's not focusing in on the violence angle. Roy Budd's score is also appropriate, with noted folk singer Buffy Sainte-Marie (a Cree Indian) contributing songs to the soundtrack. Now that it is in its uncut form, it is up for the viewer to judge the merits of this, the FAHRENHEIT 9/11 of the Western genre. It still isn't an easy film to like, and almost certainly there will be those that loathe it not only for its violence but also its admittedly hyperbolic view of the Army. Nevertheless, it can and should be seen now in its original form so that people can come to terms with its painful message about our genocidal mistreatment of the Native American.", 'I take serious exception to what must be a very prejudiced individual, for their review saying that the Indians committed atrocities too. First of all, this was THEIR country and they did not even scalp people until taught this by the Europeans. The white man practiced "ethnic cleansing" way back then, under the guise of eminent domain. Soldier Blue is a brilliant piece of work, in that it puts your feet on the ground, right there in the movie and you have to be morally bankrupt not to recognize that this is the truth and we should be ashamed. Mena', "'Soldier Blue....Soldier Bluuuuuuue". Blimey, I haven't heard such a rousing opening song since Joan Amatrading in 'Wild Geese'. Anytime anyone threatens to nod off and annoy others with a bout of snoring in the stalls they can just blast it out and they'll hit the roof. "Soldier BLUUUEEEEE". One assumes he is called Soldier Blue because of his uniform and not his amorous encounter with the lovely Candice Bergen, which is sadly chaste. There's so much ketchup flying around shouldn't it have been called Soldier Red? If General Custard had turned up they could have called it Soldier Yellow. Yes, he was called Custard, I remember from Primary school. Nowadays, kids don't get taught any history in school so this film is vital, VITAL I tell you! It tells you the fact that although Indians were massacred, the film industry had also discovered that young people watch movies the most. Who would have thought it? So let's suck up to them as much as possible and poke fun at authority. Actually, the first 40 minutes of sparring between the two winning leads is the most enjoyable I've watched in a movie for quite a while. Unfortunately, they don't then cut to the chase. For some reason though, this film does hold together and works quite well when it really shouldn't. The violence might make you a bit Soldier Puce and then Strauss's covorting with Bergen a bit Soldier Green. Does anyone else like groovy Seventies title lettering? It's Blue. Don't miss a trick, do they?', "There was a massacre at Sand Creek Colorado on Nov. 29, 1864. That is about where this 'True story' ends. The Colorado volunteers was led by Colonel John Chivington, not a Col. Iverson. The Cheyenne chiefs included Black Kettle, White Antelope, Lean Bear, Little WOLF, and Tall Bear. There was not a Cheyenne called Spotted Wolf at the camp. Peter Strauss talks about his father being killed at the Little Big Horn. That would have been difficult since Custer was fighting in the Civil War at the time, and the Little Big Horn was not til 1876. If Hollywood is going to make a movie and call it a 'true story', why is it such a problem making it really a true story.", "Soldier Blue is in Widescreen and uncut as it should be. The transfer is perfect taking in account the movie was released in the 70's. Better than is was then in the movie theaters of the time.", 'After attempting to physically hold a copy of "Soldier Blue" in my hand to see what picture format it's in, I gave up trying to find a copy in three "box stores" local to my area. I was told by one store (after waiting three weeks for it to show up) that their distributor had run out of copies and it would be another 3 to 5 weeks before they could order anymore copies. So, I took a chance and ordered this DVD from Amazon. I ordered it Thursday and it came today. Here is what I found listed on the back of the DVD under "Special Features".. English and Spanish Subtitles. Closed Captioned. Scene Selection. Digitally Mastered. Dolby Monaural Audio and the final word on picture format: . 16 X 9 Widescreen!"Widescreen" is also shown on the front of the DVD at the very top. Thank you Lion's



Gate and thank you Amazon! Oh, yeah. Did I mention this DVD is shown in the Widescreen format rather than the Full Screen format? Well, it is! HJJ, 'I agree that the uncut version should be released in this country. I saw the original in England many years ago and have NEVER forgotten it. Most people in this Country have not seen this Movie as I believe it was banned for many years. A History lesson for one and all. Five stars to the uncut version.', 'Peter Fonda and Candice Bergen in their heyday, with a storyline to match. Donald Pleasance plays a most delightful demon and the natives all pay with their lives. Very anti government, one understands why Custer lost at the battle of the Little Big Horn... I am sure the anti race mixers would say I told you so...', "A good movie that shows the atrocities of the United States against the indigenous people. These were taken from real events. And, somebody decided to put it on film just in case there is someone in the audience who doesn't want to read about it. The storyline itself. A bit hammy.", "Soldier Blue" (1970) is a polemic film due to different readings of its contents and to the rough & gory pictures shown in the final assault. First I'll try to clarify some points before focusing on the story. The events shown in this movie are not historical facts, they taken from Theodore Olsen's fictional novel "Arrow in the Sun". The annihilation of the Cheyenne village is based on the real "Sand Creek massacre" occurred on November 29th 1864 when Colonel Chivington launched a devastating and unnecessary charge disregarding the white and American flag raised by the Cheyenne signifying peaceful intentions. There are some dramatic inconsistencies in the film. How is possible that Chief Spotted Wolf lead a destructive raid against the paymaster's custody and then plead he is "peaceful and friendly" to white people? Now to the film's story. A small detachment guarding the paymaster wagon and a white woman escaped from the Cheyenne is exterminated by a Cheyenne war party. The only survivors are Cresta Lee and Pvt. Honus Gent who will try to reach a military outpost thru wild country. Pending their odyssey Honus and Cresta will confront, get acknowledged to each other and finally fall in love. When they finally meet the army, Col. Iverson is in the eve of launching an assault on the unaware native village. Cresta get word to the village of the impending attack. Nevertheless tragedy is unstoppable. Candice Bergen is outstanding as the foul-mouthed experienced frontier woman, convincing and natural in her role. Peter Strauss who is at the very beginning of his actor career shows a believable and shrewd characterization of the green, almost nave soldier. Director Ralph Nelson delivers a shocking, hard and in some way testimonial film at par with his best films as "Lilies of the Fields" (1963) and "Requiem for a Heavyweight" (1962). Roy Budd responsible of the music score and Robert B. Hauser as director of photography greatly contribute to enhance the movie. Finally I give a personal reflection on the movie. It was a precursor film to expose the dark side of "civilizing" the west and the unjust treatment given to Native Americans. More recently "Into the West" (2005) and "Bury my Heart at Wounded Knee" (2007) will reassume the subject. The realism and gory of the whole film was unprecedented, up to my knowledge, at that time, giving a special connotation to it. It is a tough movie to watch, not commendable for young and/or impressionable audience. Nevertheless a "keeper" if you like "untamed realistic" Western! Reviewed by Max Yofre.', '...a grotesque, intellectually dishonest exercise in revisionist sadism.....the film makers ought to be ashamed of themselves for the outright lies and misinformation in this film...', 'Ralph Nelson, the director, began in television and much of "Soldier Blue" has a tv quality, e. g., the tight focus on the two leads, the adequate but relatively modest production values, even the annoying musical score that seeks to lead the viewer into a "certified" emotional response. That said, the film is quite striking nevertheless: the performances by Candice Bergen and Peter Strauss are probably the most memorable of their careers, with Bergen a delight as the profane, independent young woman. The characterizations actually reverse the expectations of the helpless lady from the East (Bergen's "Chresta Marybelle Lee" is from New York City but she is no "lady") and the trail-wise cavalryman (Strauss, also in a very fine performance, is naive, rather prissy and only accidentally adequate as a frontiersman) in that it is Bergen who understands the environment, evinces the most courage and Western savvy, and who is the most powerful voice of sanity and humane conscience -- despite her seeming "utilitarian" philosophy. The final section of the film is of course the most controversial but it is really (especially in the edited version) only a truncated look at the historical atrocity of the Sand Creek Massacre (only one among many by the way, and unfortunately not unusual), upon which it is based. With its contemporary, Arthur Penn's

more artistically accomplished "Little Big Man," "Soldier Blue" has attempted to show what the conventional celebrations of American military conquest rarely reveal, namely its base in racism, crude jingoism and gross brutality. The final scene of the braver-and-wiser (now "radicalized") "Honus Gant" (Strauss), chained behind a cargo wagon as a "traitor" (a charge with which he had formerly accused "Chresta"), while a deerskin-clothed Bergen, now moving off with the remnant of Cheyenne survivors, beams at him through tear-streaming eyes is reminiscent of the moving last meeting between Kirk Douglas as "Spartacus," crucified at a Roman gate, and Jean Simmons as his wife "Varinia," defiantly revealing to him their baby son who will now live in freedom in that 1960 epic. This movie, most will say I think, could have been better; yet it is, despite so many flaws, a true "minor masterpiece": it has something worthwhile to say and says it so that you will always remember. The lead actors (Donald Pleasence is also -- as always -- remarkable as a "prairie scum" worthy of the legendary Strother Martin and L. Q. Jones) create characters with strong human qualities, good and bad; you will like the two leads, identify with them, and I hope, become "better" as they become better in their understanding and their courage to dissent against unjust war. 'This is a good movie, mostly historical, and Candace Bergen was good in the role of a woman who understood what the Indians were going through, the indecent treatment of the Indians and of the folks who lived with them. Most people do not know or understand why many who were taken as captives preferred to stay with their adoptive tribes.', 'I sought out this movie based on a poster in a Quentin Tarantino film. I like things involving Native American culture and I like 70's flicks too, so I thought: "What a great combination?!" Unfortunately I got what I wished for. Don't get me wrong, this movie works in many ways for itself...I don't know really...I think what most got on my nerves was the campyness of it. Candice Bergen, although looking surprisingly sexy throughout, was REALLY annoying to me. -Her being so sassy for 90% of the film was one of the things that didn't work for me and the male lead was made to look like a complete pussy; another thing that didn't appeal to me. Anyway, let me get down to what I did like: the score, cinematography, the excessive violence, and again; just the idea of this movie was good I thought. Again, Candice was looking smoking throughout. Perfect if you wanted to do a tough chick cinema night w/ 'Coffy'. The picture and sound of the DVD was awesome. No extras from what I remember. Not worth buying in my opinion but if you can rent it, I'd say it's worth it.', 'Candice Bergen as a young babe and she is "hot", innocent, but this story is terrible and not worth having to struggle through to watch Candice. Not recommended.', 'All 3 showed up in perfect order. 2 were given as gifts, both people are very pleased with DVD and did not report any problems with them. Thanks!', "I seen this movie on netflix and needed to purchase it for myself. Some parts of the movie seemed to move slow but the fight scenes were all action. Donald Pleasance was an unexpected surprise. Young Candice Bergen wasn't too bad on the eyes either. The ending was disturbing", "With its stark re-creation of the massacre of Native Americans at the hands of a volunteer U.S. Army during the American Civil War, it's no surprise that "Soldier Blue" has been largely buried by cable and broadcast TV. When a local station was brave enough to air it--uncensored, no less--years ago, I was stunned at the depiction not only of sadistic violence, but overt racism and genocide that most westerns have chosen to whitewash or ignore to avoid offending mainstream audiences. That said, it's not easy to watch "Soldier Blue" without recoiling at the viciousness of so-called civilized people who defended their actions by labelling everyone else "savages." Peter Strauss plays a wayward cavalry soldier who teams up with a frontier-savvy immigrant (Candice Bergen) on the eve of a brutal attack by the army (based loosely on Chivington's massacre of the Cheyenne at Sand Creek) He quickly comes to realize who the real savages are but is nonetheless powerless to prevent the gleeful slaughter that includes rape and dismemberment. "Soldier Blue" may remind viewers of "Little Big Man" and "Dances with Wolves"--and there are striking similarities--but despite their higher production values, neither film seems to capture the sheer venom of actions and attitudes against Native Americans. (The film itself stops short of depicting the full range of brutality.) Still, "Soldier Blue" is far from a perfect film--the acting at times is over-the-top and the parallels to the Viet Nam War (think: My Lai Massacre) detract from the film's focus. Watch it not as great cinema but as a glimpse of an American West we usually don't get to see.", "But why, oh WHY is Lion's Gate submitting to the full screen stupidity

?????1970 Directed by Ralph Nelson and stars Candice Bergen, Peter Strauss and Donald Pleasence. The climatic slaughter at the end is pretty intense and the message not to be taken lightly. I enjoyed the interplay between Bergen and Strauss and these conversations between the two made the circumstances more personal but to bring together the message with such a bloody jolt at the end was truly disturbing. This movie was not well received in its day but personally I've always liked it and am glad it has finally come to DVD but at a price--NOT in panavision as it was filmed. What the heck is going on with this industry ?? I used to respect Lion's Gate and its ability to release such wonders of the past but with this in full screen ? C'mon....WAKE UP TO WHAT .....we...we...WE...WE...WE WANT !!!!!!! Stop with this full screen crap, All of You STOP WITH THIS FULL SCREEN CRAP !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! If a movie was released in full screen, then don't dupe the public and 'pretend' your releasing a widescreen version for the idiots out here and by the same token if a movie was released in widescreen why do you insult us by offering less than the artistic intention ??? I am so pissed off right now I can't say any more. OK, I'll say one more thing. What about ICEMAN in full screen too.???? Will some of you please join me in this protest of the wholesale RAPE of the ART OF MOVIE MAKING and what the DVD industry is attempting to pawn off on us ?????, 'I first saw this film while I was a college freshman, and at the time volunteering to tutor Indian kids in central Wisconsin. Another reviewer referred to it as an "anti-Vietnam War" film. It was that only in that it was timely, i.e., while we heard that the great US forces were freeing the Vietnamese peasants from commie tyranny, we were actually slaughtering them. The story is based on a novel. That, in fact, is why I can only give it four stars. It's about the Sand Creek massacre, one of many slaughters of the red man, that occurred in the 1860s. Many have challenged the historical accuracy of the story. I reiterate, it's based on a novel. But novels can be based predominantly on fact. "Conventional wisdom," a leading myth of the American mind, has been that everything we do is benevolent. We were making the lives better for the Indians when we took over their land, we did the same in Vietnam--that mythology extends to what we're doing in the Middle East today! But the reality is very different. Sure there are weaknesses of the story. If you're looking for historical accuracy, you'll find more in this than you will with most "war movies." Yet all leave something to be desired. At the risk of being labeled and "American hater," I'll point out that this film's story needed/needs to be told. That's why I recommend it so strongly. In short, we're not as benevolent as we'd like to think. The acting was great, the story not for the weak of stomach. But see it if you want the less conventional view of how we really "moved West," and why the US is challenged as a purveyor of "democracy.", "Take away the once-shocking finale and Soldier Blue isn't much of a movie. Much of it is a simple reversal of Western clichés, as Peter Strauss' unconvincingly naive cavalryman is saved by Candice Bergen's tough-talking former Cheyenne white hostage after a massacre. While it's understandable that at the time the producers would need to play relatively safe for most of the running time to avoid alienating an audience reared on more traditional western fare, the big problem is that we never really get much of a sense of the Cheyenne culture, with the tribe introduced far too late in the film to provide any real emotional outrage as the film takes a sudden left turn into Mai-Lai allegory complete with shockingly bad makeup effects. If the action cues in Roy Budd's score sound familiar, that's because he famously did the gig by playing several cues from Jerry Fielding's The Wild Bunch that he passed off on the unsuspecting producer as his own, though the rest of the score is a much more 70s concoction. And in the familiarity stakes it's truly weird to hear David de Keyser and Robert Rietty redubbing the Cheyenne dialogue! Lionsgate's DVD is the uncut 2.35:1 widescreen version.", 'A good (not excellent) rendition of a very sad day in Colorado history!!!', "I saw this shocker of a movie in its' ORIGINAL Theater Release. This version leaves out a few VERY GRAPHIC scenes of violence. I was hoping that the version offered here would be TOTALLY UNCUT, but alas it IS has been edited for some raw content. When will some company have the cajones to release the 100% UNEDITED VERSION at last ? Come on now. What's the problem. There are worse things being made TODAY as far as graphic violence is concerned." ]

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[Utopia, 1951 film] The opening music identifies the actors. The story starts in London where Stanley inherited property. It is in paper money: pounds, francs, and lira. Charges and taxes are deducted, the pile shrinks. There is a boat in Marseilles and an island in the South Seas. There are more fees and taxes for the boat. Some cats are aboard. There is a life raft too. "What about me?" Their supplies are carried aboard. A stateless man is on the dock, he is not allowed to land. They find a way to relocate him. [Do they repeat their old skits from the 1930s?] They brought along Antoine, a cook. Stan misses a piece of food. So does Ollie. "Here's how!" A hidden hand helps himself! Will the wrong man be blamed? Can Ollie fix the engine? The gas tank is empty! They find a stowaway on board. [Were some voices dubbed?] There is comic confusion. A life preserver sinks. An emergency sail works. But the weather changes as a storm arises. More comic gags below deck. The wind breaks the mast. [Note the use of models.] The sea tosses their boat upon an island. The cook gathers lobsters. They plant crops on land. Elsewhere a bride says she will continue her career. The groom disagrees and leaves. [Part of modern life?] A boat passes near the island. A girl lands to find a refuge. The men share a bedroom. "Goodnight Ollie." Ollie snores. But bats enter the bedroom for comedy. Stan finds a new use for sandpaper. Cherie's dinner causes the men to weep. The men build her a house. Can the Lieutenant rescue Cherie? "No." This island is loaded with uranium! What country will own this island? Whose citizen first landed on it? The stateless man landed first! An international commission will decide who owns this new island. Can they create their own country from Atoll K? Yes, and they write a constitution. Ollie is elected President. Stanley is "the people". They adopt a flag. Crusoeland has no immigration laws or taxes! People arrive by the hundreds. Mining operations begin for the valuable ore. Soon some people create trouble. There will be laws and taxes now. People object. "What did he say?" What if there is a revolt and a new President? Cherie calls Lt. Fraser for help! Can she rescue the condemned? "Hurry up!" The crowd runs off, then chases the four original settlers. Another storm arises to drive away the people. The island sinks again below the waves. The five are rescued by a ship. Lt. Fraser will marry Cherie for years of happy marriage. We see the fate of the others. The boys are put on their rightful island with food supplies. But there is a problem due to their non-payment of taxes! Their supplies and island are confiscated. "Well, here's another fine mess you've gotten me into." Did the underlying theme reflect their financial problems? Their pre-war wealth may have shrunk with post-war inflation and rising taxes so they needed to make another movie for money. Those who invested in land in the 1930s became wealthier. This international cast is a novel feature. Was this less funny than their earlier short comedies? Too philosophical? Full-length comedies are rare, they need a good story or drama. You can't have a government without armed forces to defend people and borders, and collect taxes.', "I'm a fan of Laurel and Hardy. The story line was good. The editing was a bit lacking. Gaps where there should not have been. Still well worth while seeing.", 'This is some of their classic comedy. It was not the best of their shorts but it very good. I gave it 4 stars.', 'I have been a fan of Laurel & Hardy for decades. I think they were one of the best comedy acts of their time; even superior to Abbott & Costello, who I also like. Their sense of timing was exceptional, which is a key component to successful comedy.', 'I have mixed emotions about this one. Laurel and Hardy fans SHOULD see this one, because it is the last film the boys did. But be prepared, Stan was in poor health at the time. He was a diabetic and suffered terribly during the heat. He was only 60, but looked like death warmed over. The film is NOT typical L&H; comedy, but a poor attempt at political satire. Sorry folks, that just WASN'T the boys style. With poorly dubbed dialog for the non-English speaking performers, it's a little irritating at first. There is still some magic left, like Stan "burping" his pet lobster, when he and Ollie take the boat engine apart, only to have the pieces fall overboard and where Stan pours oil over troubled water. I just wish the film had been made when the boys were in better health and could have had more control. In his final years, even Stan called this film an "abortion" True fans of L&H; should remember them in their prime, like "The Music Box" and "Way Out West", 'On the jacket we are told that the picture runs 100 minutes, which I understand was the \*original\* movie length (before scaled down for U.S.A. distribution about three years after its European release). Yes, this is that commonly available final L & H feature, made overseas, and well researched (note the amazing Amazon book on the making of this film). In many

books we are informed that a good amount of footage was deleted. Most of these obviously "Public Domain" issues show approximately "80" minutes or so. This L & H near-fanatic noted \*maybe\* one minutes' worth of rare or unseen material. I could be wrong. (Even one second of "the boys" is worth its' weight in gold - all due respect to Mr. Hardy). While watching this somewhat "infamous" film (critics and fans have lambasted this film as a worthless fiasco), one can still smile when L & H show they have lost none of their timing or comic personae. This viewing was most enjoyable - I haven't watched it all the way through in quite a while = though I've watched the early scenes about the "yacht" (which "heir" Stan has inherited). It's really a two-reeler in itself...and actually much funnier than several of their short subjects in their Classic period, roughly 1930-34. The picture as a whole, to this reviewer-fan, is by their best effort since 1940 (the year they left Hal Roach). As frantic as the 1950-51 effort is in spots, and unnecessarily complicated and awkward with out of sync dubbing, Stan and Ollie are fully back in character (after years of restraint with Fox and MGM). Also, the script is quite intelligent and is certainly relatable to current times: an overly complicated world, with too many restrictive rules and regulations impinging on freedom (note I didn't use the plural on that...); and over-taxation, to drive industrialized nations' contemporary inhabitants up the wall. I think the picture is very funny. If you do not, then watch all the Marseille dock scenes, then skip to the great passage with Oliver drawing up the "short" constitution and assigned posts to the five Islanders. That's enough stuff to satisfy any comedy fan.', 'This movie is the last of both being together. We enjoyed it very much. Thanks for the one who choose it.', 'Stay away from this version. Desert Island Films states that it's 100 minutes, and uses "Atoll K" art work. Well it's the same old worn out PD dupe of "Utopia" running 82 minutes. Amazon refunded my money, but they should pull this until the description is corrected.', 'A 1951 French-Italian production, Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy's unjustly maligned "Atoll K" deserves another look - particularly in regard to the now-available German version. If you have only seen the mutilated public-domain dupes of "Utopia" (the 1954 U.S. release), the 87-minute "Dick und Doof erben eine Insel" is quite a surprise in terms of its excellent print quality and the additional subplot with co-star Suzy Delair. The team's cinematic swansong includes some memorable sight gags and a surprising amount of political satire. Though somewhat marred by Stan and Ollie's declining health, the admirably offbeat "Atoll K" remains superior to the team's post-Hal Roach efforts.', 'I'm kinda surprised at all of the negative reviews here. I had been staying away from this film because of the negative reviews and the low price which is usually an indicator of quality of the work. Don't miss this one!! For review reference, I personally think Sons of the Desert is the boys best film, I did not find Pardon Us or Flying Ducees too funny, but I thought Utopia was hilarious with plenty of great laughs in the first five minutes alone. Sure the plot gets a little too involved towards the end but what movie doesn't? The entire first hour was great with lots of the signature comedy you're lookin' for! Even when he was old, sick, and overheated from the hot weather on the island, Stan Laurel proves himself to be one of the, if not THE finest comedian in film history. Although the sound and picture quality here is more like a 1930's film (it was 1951!?!), I am glad to own this one. The Boys' last 30 seconds on film was most appropriate and is just how the world will always remember them. Not to be missed!! For reference, the DVD release by the Goodtimes is currently the best picture quality available for this title - some of the other releases are almost unwatchable. Don't be fooled by the low Amazon rating. Even the two star reviews here cite remarkable performances and that the Boys still have some of the old magic left. I think the negative reviews here probably stem from people hard to accept the boys as old and sick and the overall production values (Stan was too ill to participate as editor and the film does suffer a bit as a result). Trust me, the bits here are just as funny or even funnier than most of their feature length stuff. John Wayne was sick and tired when he filmed his last movie, The Shootist, which proved his high caliber performance ability just as Utopia does for Stan and Ollie. "It certainly does!", "Utopia gets better with each viewing. The first time, you'll be kind of shocked at Stan's ill-appearance...it will be a difficult comparison to what you remember from years past. Watch it a second time and more: trust me, you'll start seeing the comedy genius still shining in the twilight years of the Stan and Ollie team. The movie is a wonderful, euro-farce, enhanced by the charming co-stars. After I overcame my unfair comparison biases (to their 1930's and earlier films), I started seeing more and more original, positive and funny scenes in this film. I could rate this

much higher than anything they did in the 1940's. If Stan had looked healthier, this would have ranked with some of their better work, as is, it is still an above average outing.", 'While the silent-era comedies of Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy are well represented on DVD, the majority of the team's sound films remain unavailable here in the U.S. The fact that UTOPIA, their final film, is readily available everywhere is a bitter pill for most of their fans to swallow. In 1950 Stan and Ollie traveled to France to make the movie, which was originally titled ATOLL K. In this uneasy blend of political satire and slapstick, the boys inherit a yacht and wind up on an uncharted atoll, which they try to establish as a new country. This ill-fated little picture saw limited release in Europe during 1951-52, and received scant distribution in the U.S. as UTOPIA in 1954. Aside from the erratic quality of the script and the production, the biggest drawback is the unhealthy physical appearance of the boys themselves. Hardy is at his all-time heaviest, while Laurel contracted dysentery during location shooting and wound up losing over 50 pounds. Here, their "fat and skinny" personas are more like "obese and emaciated." That they're still able to rustle up a handful of laughs and perform with some degree of enthusiasm speaks volumes about their dedication to their craft and their comedic gifts. To his dying day (February 23, 1965), Laurel considered the film one of the most painful experiences of his career. This Goodtimes edition is one of the better-quality copies in circulation, though it doesn't compare to the sparkling 35mm print I saw at a revival theater back in the 1970s.']

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[ 'Horrible DVD! What a waste of money! No one that has watched it has ever watched the complete movie! Absolute garbage!', "Lovers of the legendary Black comedienne Moms Mabley will treasure this film. In a way, it's about everything she stood for. She moves to Baltimore and gets involved when crooked politicians use a confused Black man (Moses Gunn) and his alcoholic wife (Rosiland Cash) as puppets in a phony race. Seventy-plus year old Moms steps in this mess and does her best to straighten things out! I dare anyone who remembers Moms to keep a dry eye when she gives her climactic speech to the students at Morgan State University (a real Black college in Baltimore). It's almost as if she were giving her own eulogy while still giving the students hope to fight for a better tomorrow (she had a heart attack during the filming and died shortly after it was released). Admittedly, this is a very low-budget film with poor sound. But like I said, if you love Moms, you'll love this.", 'this was an old classic movie that bought me back to the 70s, I am a 70s lover of movies and thus movie won me over had me laughing throughout the movie.', 'this is truly interesting and true this is the original Good Fence that stars Goldberg and Glover with a little comedy', "if it wasn't for the supporting actors this movie would've sucked. Ms mabley is a horrible actress.", "Moms Mabley steals the show. From the beginning to the end, this movie will keep you laughing. It is funny, heartwarming, and amazing! Of course, by today's standard of moviemaking, this would be considered a flop, but considering the year in which it was produced and released, this is a delightful movie.", "This movie is a true hidden gem. The footage just takes you back and makes you feel as if you were back in '75. Definate feel good movie.", "Amazing Grace was the last movie that starred the incomparable Moms Mabley; she died only eight months after the release of this film. Amazing Grace gives us plenty of laughs, snappy dialogue and many, many scenes that allow Moms Mabley to strut her stuff and entertain us as no other comedienne ever could! The action starts just after Grace (Moms Mabley) returns to Baltimore after a family reunion. She quickly finds out that her next door neighbor, who she barely knows because he's new to the neighborhood, is running for Mayor of Baltimore! With her platonic buddy Forthwith Wilson (Slappy White) she spies on her new neighbors, Welton Waters (Moses Gunn) and his wife Creola (Rosalind Cash). When Moms find out that the city's corrupt political machine is buying the election of Waters to use him as a paid pawn, Grace vows to take action! Grace boldly spies even on the current mayor and helps gather damaging information on him and his machine to help Welton Waters rid himself of the political machine and run a clean campaign. As other reviewers have noted, Grace's campaign speech near the end of the movie is truly stirring. Moms Mabley outperforms even herself with this heartfelt speech encouraging younger people to fight for a better future. Of course, it may well seem that I gave it all away--but rest

assured I didn't. There are cameo roles for Butterfly McQueen and Stepin Fetchit that help to make the movie truly special. Moreover, questions still remain. Will Waters be able to win running on a totally clean platform? Will the political establishment try to block Waters even after they are exposed as crooks--and, if so, how will they fight back at Welton Waters? What about Grace and her buddy Forthwith Wilson? Will they ever become more than just friends? Watch the movie and find out! The cinematography could have been better in a couple of scenes; at one point Forthwith is dancing in Grace's living room and his head is partially cut off the top of the screen! The choreography works well, however, in crowd scenes including the scene in which Grace gives her speech encouraging younger people to make a better world. Hey, this may have been a low budget film but I scarcely noticed and I really didn't care. People watch this film because they want so much to see the wonderful performances of Moms Mabley, Slappy White, James Karen as an aide to the corrupt white establishment, Butterfly McQueen--and Stepin Fetchit in a role that WASN'T demeaning to African Americans. I highly recommend this film for fans of the stars in this movie; and if you want light hearted comedy with a touch of social commentary then this is the movie for you! Great job, everyone! Thank you so much!", 'I was surprised that Moms Mabley was on DVD. The story plot is good and even though it was filmed a good time ago, it rings true in politics today. It was funny while still making moral points. I will watch it many times in the future. This is truly a reflection from the good old days. It is a really good way to see parts of Baltimore in the old day.', 'Thank goodness that this movie was made with Moms Mabley in it. She was a true pioneer in the field of women comics. This film provides the audience with a glimpse of how genuine and funny she really was. In this film, she is a delight to watch and it leaves the audience wishing there were more performances from her.', 'I saw this movie on cable a while back and I just laughed myself to the ground. Let me explain this movie; A older lady (Ms Moms Mabley herself, who was a gem and is gone now, but if u was around back in the day, u know what I mean); just happens to live next door to this shady politician (Moses Gunn), who if elected, will take the money slated for that area and use for his own "uses". Somehow, Moms has this fella (Slappy White) who helps her out in her shenanigans by putting up elaborate spy systems so they can hear the politician's business. After his high faluting wife (Rosalind Cash, who was as much a gem and gone too) puts on airs with Moms and some of the neighborhood women, Moms give her something to cry for and she and her husband in time, see the light to turn things around. Folks, this is one good movie; a bit disjointed at times, but you can catch the message just the same; Look for bit parts by Debbie Morgan and some others who are prominent now.']

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["Occult writer John Varney (Richard Widmark) must protect a young nun (Nastassja Kinski) who is being hunted by a satanist (Christopher Lee)- one of the 2% of satanists who Varney is "not sure about"; the other 98% are apparently kids playing dress-up- who wants to turn her over to the Dark Side (Chances are George Lucas saw this movie). Based on one of Dennis Wheatley's "Black Magic" novels, this Hammer production is let down by slow pacing but is still watchable. There are some good shocks and effective low-key chills. Lee's masterfully chilling performance evokes an aura of quiet menace. For rock/metal fans, you may be interested to know that Lee's line from this movie "It is not heresy, and I will not recant" appears on the White Zombie track SUPERCHARGER HEAVEN- but of course you ought to already know that. More useless trivia. The movie is also known as CHILD OF SATAN.", "Horror-god Christopher Lee stars as a twisted priest, out to supply Asteroth (satan) w/ a daughter in the form of a young girl (played by the ever-amazingly beautiful Nastassja Kinski). Everything goes fine until the girl's dad (Denholm Elliot from The House That Dripped Blood) decides he can't allow it. Dad enlists the aid of an american occult writer (Richard Widmark from The Swarm) to snag satan's future offspring, and hide her out. Shockingly, the cult of Asteroth doesn't understand! The rest of the story involves Widmark's character, assisted by his doomed friends, trying to keep the girl away from the clutches of Mr. Lee and his minions. Now, I've heard this movie compared to THE EXORCIST, THE OMEN,

and ROSEMARY'S BABY. Ummm, nope. Those movies are utter classics, while TO THE DEVIL... A DAUGHTER is a hammer exploitation film. As such, it's really quite enjoyable, but it's NOT scary or disturbing! As for Ms. Kinski's nekkidness, yes, she does lose her entire wardrobe at one point, for about 2 seconds! I did find the final scene to be somewhat rushed and unsatisfying, but the rest of the movie was well done. Enjoy...", "I enjoy Hammer films and 'To The Devil A Daughter' was no exception. The cast boasts Nastassja Kinski, Christopher Lee (of course), and Denholm Elliott (of Indiana Jones fame), among others. The movie definitely progresses a little slowly but eventually has some great suspenseful buildup. Unfortunately the ending leaves a lot to be desired. There is a fair amount of gore in this movie and a little nudity, but the story line is enough to keep you going. I would give this movie a 3, but it has a great redeeming quality in the bonus features. This is a featurette called 'To The Devil...The Death of Hammer' which basically describes how the Hammer Production company went under due to movies such as this. What is great is that it has the original cast and crew basically trashing this movie, especially the ending. Most enjoyable! But in the end I still enjoyed this movie and would recommend this movie to anyone with similar tastes.", "This represents everything I loved about 1970's horror: Mystery, occult, beauty. Yes, there is a full-nudity scene with a 17-year old girl, but it's not the focus of the film. This reminds me of Rosemary's baby on a more intense and note, just not as well done. That doesn't mean it was bad - it means RB was better - but this is worth several viewings. Also, the bonus interview with Christopher Lee was great!", "It is something of a puzzle that having delivered his son Damien to the world in 'The Omen', the devil should hedge his bets by delivering a daughter through the back door. Was this wise? There is the thorny issue of sibling rivalry to consider, and one can imagine more than the obligatory dipping of hair in the inkwell from these two. A more pressing concern for old scratch is how to prevent Damien's followers from defecting to the distaff camp the moment they clap eyes on Nastassja Kinski in a negligee. There are signs of nervousness very early on in the proceedings when the devil dispenses with his usual supernatural approach to assassination by resorting to the modern method of actually sending a hitman around to his enemies house to do the business. But it seems the would-be assassin is so distracted by the thought of Ms Kinski in a nun's habit that he allows his target to casually open a draw, take out a gun and defend himself most vigorously while doing nothing to stop him. The head satanist played by Chris Lee is not much better. Kinski lying on an altar is so very very distracting to the poor man that he allows himself to be taken out in a most embarrassing manner. And in a public place, too. Perhaps anticipating this 'grave' incompetence, the devil had already returned to the tried and tested remedies such as setting fire to people without the help of an assistant. But is it too little, too late? Has the devil blundered? Will he force Richard Widmark to strip instead in a doomed attempt to distract us from the fact that he's really not all that? (And neither, frankly, is the film.)", "No, just kidding. I just wanted to have fun with the title like everyone else. And that title is so much fun to begin with. I've watched this two times. The first time I saw this I did not like it. Upon the second viewing this is a really slow burn but I did enjoy it the second time around. Christopher Lee just makes for a fun bad guy. He was great in The Man With The Golden Gun and the Hammer Dracula films. There are some Satanic goings-on. The film builds and builds slowly to the final climax which may leave one unsatisfied but it all makes for good fun. Hey both lead actors (Lee and Richard Widmark) lived to be over 90. Widmark died at 93 and Lee is still going strong at 90. But anyway, the movie needs to be seen multiple times to take it all in. If you're patient, this movie just may reward you.", 'First, on my rating: This is actually one STAR, but of mammoth proportions. Stretched so far as to resemble 5 STARS. Confusing? You bet. Please read on. We all know of that most beguiled of film genres, the "It is sooo BAD that it's good!!" movie. This film is so completely ridiculous on every level that I feel compelled, whilst writing this, to go and watch it again knowing full well what I am in for! It is not unlike driving by that horrific car crash or train wreck, straining your neck back to steal a guilty glimpse of the carnage passing behind you...Here are some highlights. Christopher Lee. Richard Widmark. Together. In the same movie. Who will chew up the most scenery?!? Watch and find out! And Ms. Kinski, teenage nun(!), seen in her...Ahem, "Birthday suit"? Yes, please! And then there is the "baby". You have simply not lived a fulfilled life until you have seen the "baby"...If you're looking for completely unintentional humor, masquerading as a "serious" horror film, then look absolutely no farther. You are finally home.



Embrace the darkness (ideally with a cold beer).', "O.K. , so i'm a completist ! I just had to watch this film . It being Hammer's last horror film (and the next to the last 50's through the 70's run of pictures i understand) ? This is a pretty darn depraved film . The gentleman who wrote that of the picture in his ULTIMATE HAMMER COLLECTION review is correct . Still , with that great cast and Lee doing such a brilliant bad fellow ? Lots of interesting stuff here . I streamed it via ROKU . Would i buy it ? Nah . But you may feel different . Worth a stream or rental at least .", "I just love this movie to death it is classic 1970s occult type movie. I've seen it about 6 times and it is just awesome I don't have the time to write a long review but trust me rent it or buy it if you love 70s horror movies. also for all you nudie lovers Natasha Kinski shows full bush.", 'Widmark And Lee are great actors and have great performances, but the story of an Ex-Communicated Priest(A Heretic) and Nuns, and a mysterious Order in Bavaria do not make sense, they could have just done it to be a Cult, but sadly had to go it the other way. The movie is graphic but that is the least here, cheesy special effects and low grade scenes (even for a Hammer Film) make this a snoozer.', "I heard there are two versions. I bought mine on VHS and it's from the early 80's and I love this movie. But. I hear there is now a trimmed down version ? That would be a shame. Get the full length version and I'm sure you won't be disappointed. That is if you adore Nastassja Kinski", "Nastassja Kinski, daughter of devilish Klaus Kinski, appears as Catherine; the virginal offering to Satan in this strange, and sometimes original film. One of the more interesting scenes involves a small baby being 'unborn' - that is, moving up into Nastassja Kinski's body. Christopher Lee plays the bad guy (typecasting or what?), with Richard Widmark trying to save young Catherine from a group of Satanists.", "Even Christopher Lee showing his butt couldn't save this film - which is a pity, because it had potential... I was disappointed with this film, one of the last produced by Hammer in the 70s, before it entering in hibernation in 1979. Below, some more of my impressions, with some limited SPOILERS. Adapted from a novel by Dennis Wheatley (author of many occult novels, including the famous &#34;The devil rides out&#34;, also adapted by Hammer) this film gathered together quite an ensemble casting. Christopher Lee is of course the main attraction, but Richard Widmark, aged but still valiant is also an asset. Young Nastassja Kinski is a very pleasant damsel in distress - it was only her second role, six years before her big break in &#34;Tess&#34;. Denholm Elliott (later wordly famous for his appearances in &#34;Indiana Jones&#34; franchise) is very good indeed. Last but not least, we have Honor Blackman, one of the greatest actresses ever - and if you think this statement is exaggerated, please try to say &#34;My name is Pussy Galore&#34; with a straight face and we will see if you do not change your mind...)) Made the same year as the terrifying (and much, much better) &#34;Omen&#34;, this movie tried to get on the train of fascination with occult, which was started by the already legendary &#34;Exorcist&#34; (also an infinitely better film). Sadly, it mostly failed, because of the scenario. This film is not scary. AT ALL. The story is very predictable and even good actors mostly go through the motions. The only one who is really allowed to give an effort is Denholm Elliott, who shows really well how terrified can be a man who saw hell and is desperately trying not to see it again... There is a kind of grotesque creature appearing at one moment, but far from being scary, it is a mixture of obscene, gross, cute and ridiculous... The ending is pretty lame. Finally, there is also one absolutely unnecessary scene in which a newborn baby is murdered in a very, VERY explicit scene and I absolutely hated that one. Novel's author Dennis Wheatley, who was still alive then (he died next year, at the respectable age of 80), HATED this film and made it clear to Hammer directors, that he will make it certain that they never, EVER can adapt any of his books again. In this film there is much more nudity than in other Hammer productions, but it really didn't add much to the story. OK, granted, this is the only film in which we can see Christopher's Lee naked posterior and he indeed had a quite good butt for such a professional bad@ss...)) Nastassja Kinski who begins the film as a nun, makes later a full frontal - which is quite scandalous, as she was 14 when this scene was filmed. And then, there is a completely unnecessary and rather not very appealing scene of a black mass with quite a lot of intercourse shown... But frankly, there is hardly anything very exciting here. The only reason why I give this film two stars instead of one is of course Christopher Lee, who is simply grandiose as a renegade priest of Anglican (or maybe Catholic) Church. The scene of his excommunication is possibly the best in the film and honestly, I can fully understand why Christopher Lee would be excommunicated (even his face would be reason

enough) - the thing I simply can not understand is who could ever let him in to the first year of seminary...)))Bottom line, this is a rather bad, disappointing film. Only for the most devoted fans of Christopher Lee or Hammer films - otherwise, stay away of this and re-watch &#34;Omen&#34; or &#34;Exorcist&#34; again.", 'British film studio HAMMER\'s penultimate movie and their last horror flick while not a masterpiece does in my view not deserve its bad reputation among horror buffs. The plot may not be too original but it is still enjoyable viewing. The story revolves around a writer of occult novels (Richard WIDMARK), who is asked by a fearstricken man to look after his daughter, a nun, who visits her father in London. A group of satanists, led by Christopher LEE, hunt her, because they need her for an evil ritual...It goes without saying that Christopher LEE is absolutely great as devil worshipping priest with telepathic powers. He is not the only though to deliver a powerhouse performance. I particularly liked Denholm ELLIOTT, as the girl\'s father. The scene, where he sits half insane of fear in a chair in the centre of a pentagram gave me the creeps! I also liked the demon embryo - nice special effects. Other points of interest are the good use of nice London locations, an excellent score and brief full frontal nudity provided by the young Nastassja KINSKI, who was very popular in Germany at the time. Christopher LEE\'s character also drops his clothes during a wild devil worshipping orgy, but it is quite obvious that he was bodydoubled in this scene. However the plot is far from original, a bit slowmoving and the conclusion not very satisfying. Picture quality is very good. The DVD also features excellent extra features. There is an highly interesting 24 minute documentary TO THE DEVIL...THE DEATH OF HAMMER. There is quite a lot of information about the film in this brief documentary - it concerns the author of the novel on which the movie is based (Dennis WHEATLEY also wrote the book THE DEVIL RIDES OUT, which HAMMER turned into a successful film), difficulties with the script, WIDMARK\'s dissatisfaction with the film in which he starred (he called the movie a "mickey mouse production"), and the original ending (which was dropped, because it resembled SCARS OF DRACULA). Interviewees include among others Christopher LEE, director Peter SYKES and producer Roy SKEGGS. Indispensable for HAMMER fans! Also included is the film\'s trailer, extensive biographies on LEE and WIDMARK and an excellent still gallery, featuring promotional photos, behind the scenes pictures and British, German, French and Spain poster art and video tape cover art.', 'When a celebrated occult novelist is approached by a distressed man seeking his help, he soon finds himself keeping watch over a beautiful teenage nun on the lam from a group of Satanists who want to make her Astaroth\'s vessel. Keeping her under wraps for two days would seem simple enough, except the leader of the cult, an excommunicated priest named Rayner, has an arsenal of supernatural tricks up his sleeve to find the girl and destroy anyone who stands in his way. Her own confusion about good and evil doesn\'t help matters much either. The last horror film from legendary British studio Hammer, "To the Devil a Daughter" is quite an entertaining and intriguing picture up until its weak ending. Toted as the next big shocker in the vein of Rosemary\'s Baby and The Exorcist, it really doesn\'t prove to be quite as intense as those films, and it seems no one on the production was very happy with the resolution of the plot either (the author of the original novel, Dennis Wheatley, hated the film). The performances (by a very notable cast, including Hammer icon Christopher Lee as Rayner, screen legend Richard Widmark as hero/novelist John Verney, and a young Nastassja Kinski in the pivotal role of teen-nun Catherine) are excellent, and there are some great, ghastly scenes, like the usual satanic ritual orgy, but a few elements of the plot can get a bit confusing and overly complicate things, contrasted by that overly simple ending. Nevertheless, it\'s a great ride for the most part and was a big commercial success, but not quite enough to save Hammer Studios. This is gone into detail in the bonus documentary, "To the Devil...The Death of Hammer", which is a great viewing, though also sad for us major fans of the studio\'s style/body of work. Other extras include a theatrical trailer, good text bios of Christopher Lee and Richard Widmark, and a poster/still gallery. Another excellent release by Hammer presented uncut in a restored and enhanced widescreen. And, yes, the film features Nastassja Kinski doing full-frontal nudity, and she\'s really quite lovely throughout the film for the most part (a tad European for my tastes, but not bad at all), but by today\'s standards it seems more like she\'s wearing a pair of wooly knickers rather than doing full-frontal, ha. Still good though, still good.', '\_To the Devil a Daughter\_' (1976), made by Hammer Film Productions, is an adaptation of the 1953 novel of the same name by

Dennis Wheatley, which features a classic confrontation between the forces of darkness and those of light. The film takes some liberties with the novel by combining several of the main characters and making the main character (called Christina in the novel) into a nun, rather than a young virgin girl. The film stars Christopher Lee as a heretic priest Father Michael Rayner who plots to use a teenage nun played by Nastassja Kinski (called Catherine Beddows in the film) in a diabolical and satanic rite. The rest of the cast includes Richard Widmark as the occult writer and main hero of the film John Verney (which is a combination of two of the heroes of the original novel and perhaps of Wheatley himself as well), Honor Blackman as Anna Fountain, Denholm Elliott as Henry Beddows the father of Catherine, Michael Goodliffe as George De Grasse, Anthony Valentine as David (a character that does not appear in the novel but who has some role in the film), and Derek Francis as the bishop (who appears in the film as a source of information for John Verney regarding the occult doings of the excommunicated priest). The film begins with the bishop and his fellow priests performing a ritual of excommunication on Father Michael Rayner who refuses to recant his heresy. The film then focuses on Catherine Beddows who lives as a nun in a Bavarian Catholic order known as the Children of the Lord. She is sent to visit her father for her upcoming birthday in London. John Verney who is a well known occult writer is asked by Henry Beddows the father of Catherine to pick her up at the airport and take care of her for some time while he allegedly is away on business, but John suspects that Henry has encountered some problems with some business associates and fears for Catherine. In the meantime, the renegade priest is plotting his diabolical actions against Catherine and making use of satanic rituals with newborn babies. John quickly discovers that Catherine is possessed and must try to figure out what is going on concerning the priest and Beddows before it is too late. He enlists Anna Fountain and David to help him with Catherine. He also visits the bishop where he reads the Grimoire of Astaroth (a principle demon) after seeing a strange symbol of this demon given to Catherine for her birthday. Further, John must confront a severely addled Henry Beddows who protecting himself with a magic circle lives in perpetual terror of the satanists. It turns out that Henry has made a pact with them after witnessing their original plans for his daughter and John must recover this pact. Eventually John must face off against the heretic priest who plans on making Catherine into an avatar of Astaroth upon reaching her eighteenth birthday. As a warning it should be pointed out that this film is disturbing on several levels and includes full frontal nudity. This film is a pretty good adaptation of the novel by Dennis Wheatley. Wheatley is perhaps best known for his occult thriller novels and this film effectively shows the dangers of tampering in black magic. As such this film is recommended to those who enjoyed the novel.', "To the Devil a Daughter" is a late Hammer movie, coproduced with a German production company. The plot involves a satanic priest (Christopher Lee) who is after young Catherine (Nastassja Kinski), who is under the protection of John Verney (Richard Widmark), author of occult books. The story is promising and the movie is, for the most part, well directed but the script just isn't very good, and the ending is just ridiculous. Much of the cast deliver routine performances. The best performances are from supporting actors Honor Blackman, Denholm Elliott and Anthony Valentine. 2,5-3 stars.', 'This movie is a disappointing contribution to the horror genre. There are a lot of stylistic parallels to the exorcist but without the punch. It tries to move in the same quiet pace and with the same tension, but does not pull it off. There is a lot of filler and not enough plot devices to keep it moving. The acting is wooden given the realism this movie was aiming for. Hammer movies are much better off as pure vampire movies. Christopher Lee is not very convincing as a heretic priest.', "To the Devil..." is marred by a clumsy, rushed ending, but prior to the final four minutes, it's fairly stunning stuff. Hammer films were going out of fashion in the 1970's, but not necessarily for lack of quality. Some of the most experimental, daring stabs at literary, gothic horror came from this era of the studio. This film boasts a nice cast and is one of few films to explore black magic in a detailed and accurate manner. Based on the Dennis Wheatley novel. Recommended for companion viewing to: The Devil Rides Out, The Wicker Man (original only), Demons of the Mind, Captain Kronos Vampire Hunter', "<strong>To the Devil a Daughter</strong> (Peter Sykes, 1976) One of those late-era Hammer films--it was, in fact, their penultimate feature before the studio went over to all-TV in the eighties (the last one was a forgettable remake of <em>The Lady Vanishes</em>)--that puts one more in mind of the stuff they've been doing since the 2008

resuscitation than the stuff they did in the fifties-sixties golden age. (&lt;em>The Resident&lt;/em>, anyone?) Richard Widmark plays a hapless novelist trying to rescue a lovely young thing (Nastassja Kinski in her second film role) from the clutches of a rogue priest (Christopher Lee) and his coven. True to Hammer standards, the movie has a simply amazing cast (aside from the above, Denholm Elliott, Michael Goodliffe, and Anthony Valentine, among many other recognizable faces, show up for the dance), but something went horribly, horribly wrong in either the scriptwriting department or post-production editing. Or, more likely a bit of both; the movie turns out a confused muddle, and in at least one place--the climax--we know it's down to overzealous editing because production stills of the real ending exist (though the footage has supposedly not survived). But can that be true of the whole film, or can we just blame Peacock and Wicking's adaptation of Dennis Wheatley's novel? The jury's still out on that one, though I've pushed the novel much closer to the top of the ever-growing list of stuff to get read sooner rather than later. It's mush, but it's watchable mush with an incredible acting stable that Hammer second-stringer Sykes (&lt;em>The Legend of Spider Forest&lt;/em>) wrings solid performances out of; worth watching if you've never seen it, but probably won't make it onto your short shelf of Hammer Classics. \*\*\*\*, 'Richard Widmark and Nastassja Kinski do a very good job in their respective roles and the pacing creates some decent tension throughout most of it, but it does fall a little short of succeeding as Hammer\'s rival to "The Exorcist" or "Rosemary\'s Baby." There are a couple scenes that more or less ruined this for me: 1) The Satanists\' orgy scene in the graveyard has not held up well and is more amusing than terrifying; and, 2) The climactic scene at the finale features some not-so-special effects, which really detracts from much of what had been established in the movie. Recognizing their limitations, the filmmakers should have been more judicious in planning this scene. I have nothing against a film attempting to cash in on the success of another as long as the result at least as good as the source. What might have looked good on paper did not translate very well to film in a couple places. Overall I actually like the movie; I just wish those couple instances had been executed better.', 'Again Christopher Lee cast as the evil priest in this hammer production,the show was good but believe the plot could have been better.anyway with natassia kinski as the lovely devils concubine is worth watching without any comments,strongly believe if this movie was produce now it would be definetly better with the new movie technology .will give 4 stars', 'It would be fair to say that Hammer were a little late catching the modern horror train in the 1970\'s. There response to such progressive films as "Night of the Living Dead" and "The Texas Chainsaw Massacre" was a series of curiously flat gothic retreads and a bungled attempt to place gothic iconography and characters in a modern setting. Horror continued to thrive in the UK in the first part of the 1970\'s despite the financial shortcomings of the British Film Industry and Hammer\'s total failure to tap into the modern zeitgeist beggars belief considering how well they did it in the late 1950\'s. Mismanagement aside their final horror entry returned them to the stuffy bourgeois world of Dennis Wheatley and like their previous adaptation "The Devil Rides Out", "To the Devil: A Daughter" just about succeeds. It succeeds because it is trading in a crisis in Christianity which had been highlighted in two huge commercial hits "The Exorcist" and "The Omen". The subject matter was popular amongst audiences, the treatment by Christopher Wicking is typically convoluted (as anyone who has seen "Scream and Scream Again" will testify). Director Peter Sykes however shoots some impressive London landmarks and proudly pushes Hammer into the modern world. Rather than being anachronistic, Christopher Lee produces one of his most consistently chilling performances which is important because Richard Widemark is terribly miscast as occult novelist John Verney. The film generally suffers from visual flatness which makes the occasional burst of violence and special effects more impressive. The films conclusion however is something of a let down.', "Having just seen this for the first time I was surprised at just how good it was. Whether those involved realised that it would be the last ever Hammer film I don't know, but it seemed as though a bit more effort was made with this.Firstly this has an excellent cast and unlike the later Dracula films Christopher Lee has a proper role which makes good use of his screen presence and unique voice. Denholm Elliot is also very good and the rest of the cast do a fine job. In many ways TTDAD resembles 'The Devil Rides Out' because it is also based on a Dennis Wheatley story, but I think the overriding influence was probably Hammers attempt to cash in on the success of the Exorcist and The Omen.Apart from one

scene, which is very unpleasant (although you actually see nothing) this is a restrained and subtle film compared with the extreme violence in some modern horror films. So overall an enjoyable film which was a fine swan song for Hammer.", 'For anyone who loves horror movies and has a robust sense of nostalgia, there is a certain warm and cosy feeling that creeps upon one on seeing that something is a Hammer Film Production. And here is one of the more durable products of that late lamented outfit. Nastassja Kinski, who would go on to become one of the iconic faces of 80s cinema in movies like "Tess", "Paris, Texas" and "Cat People" is Catherine who has been carefully raised by the sinister and ambiguously named Children of Our Lord sect in Germany to be rebaptised as a personification of the God Ashtaroth. Her dad Henry Beddoes (Denholm Elliott) is signed up to the conspiracy but loses his nerve and seeks help from a writer of supernatural horror fiction John Verney (Richard Widmark). So the movie is a conflict between the effective if rather out of its depth Verney and Chief Baddie Michael Rayner (Christopher Lee - who else?). It isn't exactly terrifying. The climax is something of an anticlimax and there are misjudged touches such as the rather silly and not very frightening demon baby Catherine dreams about. But it's enormous fun. It looks great. Widmark and Lee are value for money. Kinski of course is gorgeous if a bit too passive to be very much else. And the show is completely stolen by Elliott. Cinema history is full of people - folk like Gary Cooper, Gregory Peck, Bruce Willis, Russell Crowe - who were ever so good at depicting strong heroic types. But if it's weakness you want, Elliott really has no rival and his portrayal here of a weak man in a constant state of spineless abject fear is a brilliant illustration of that fact. Some much needed humour is supplied by splendid little cameos, most notably by Frances de la Tour as a zealous Salvation Army group leader and Brian Wilde as a pedantic old lady of a librarian. A minor classic. Definitely minor. But definitely classic.', "To the Devil a Daughter was Hammer's last horror film, but it makes for a less than grand slice of guignol and pales in comparison to their earlier Dennis Wheatley adaptation, The Devil Rides Out. Richard Widmark is the imported American star battling Christopher Lee's Satanist while trying to protect Nastassja Kinski from becoming host to a demon, but despite a few good scenes the film never really makes much of its premise and the ending is one of the biggest anticlimaxes in the history of horror. The best part of it is the excellent documentary on the Anchor Bay DVD, which is surprisingly frank about the film's shortcomings - including that non-ending - and Richard Widmark's tantrums on the set. Anchor Bay's transfer is also surprisingly good: unlike the cold and slightly shoddy looking TV prints, this really does David Watkins' cinematography a great service.", 'I missed this film when it first came out in the 70's. As a huge Hammer fan, I wasn't aware of the decline in the quality of their films until I was much older and could view them a bit more critically. I did finally see this in a second run house and thought, despite its obvious flaws, that it was a fine addition to the Hammer canon. I was a bit surprised when I purchased it on DVD how well the film has held up. Despite an editing job at the conclusion that can only be charitably be described as butchery and a script whose quality faded like a print left in the sun too long, To The Devil A Daughter is still pretty powerful stuff. It's considerably more violent (with nudity) when compared to Terry Fisher's classic adaption of Dennis Wheatley's novel The Devil Rides Out. Wheatley was the source for Daughter as well and the use of Lee in the role as the sinister fallen priest creates a bit of continuity between the two films (although Lee was, surprisingly, the hero of Rides Out). The print is pretty good (an improvement over Dracula Prince of Darkness another Anchor Bay release where the negative was clearly faded and the transfer appeared "jittery"). The extras including a no holds bar documentary featuring director Peter Sykes, producer Roy Skeggs, the two main screenwriters, actors Christopher Lee, Honor Blackman and David Anthony. All are surprisingly candid about the film's shortcomings. Lee knew Wheatley and so is able to provide interesting insight to the project. The script's uneven tone is the result of it passing through at least three different writers. The tales the actors share of Widmark's tantrums (calling the film a "Mickey Mouse production"; storming off the set when he discovers the Director of photography doesn't use key lights; deliberately knocking over the wind machine and telling them they needed one from Hollywood to do the job; coming into the studio commissary to demand his day's pay from producer Roy Skeggs), the last minute rewrites and the badly reshot/edited ending (which allows the film to end with a whimper and not the promised bang) are all interesting. While the film made loads of money (Hammer was playing catch up. They had been passed by with the

release of *The Exorcist*, *Rosemary's Baby* and *The Omen*), none of it went to Hammer as they didn't finance the production. The studio went down like the Titanic after colliding with the economic realities of the 70's. The film looks stylistic; director Peter Sykes does an admirable job and his director of photography (who also worked on *Catch 22*) gives the film a bigger budget look than it really had. Sykes directs with a visual flair and imagination lacking from almost everything that Hammer produced during this time. While Ken Russell, Peter Collinson (*Straight on Till Morning*, *The Italian Job*) and others were approached for the job, it's doubtful they could have done a better job given the circumstances. It's the uneven content of the script that ultimately undoes much of the impact of Sykes' direction and the actor's performances. With new script pages coming in the day before (or day of) shooting, the script's quality is wildly uneven. Sykes manages to do a decent job of making it hang together. What would have been more interesting would have been to cast against type; have Lee play the occult novelist and American actor Richard Widmark play the villain. To *The Devil a Daughter* is last shout for help from a grand sinking ship. It's a minor classic that lacks much of what made Hammer great in the 50's but still has enough imagination to make it a contender. 'Occasionally I'm in the mood for an occult mystery/horror film like "Bay Cove," "The Devil Rides Out" (AKA "The Devil's Bride"), "Race with the Devil and (to a lesser extent) "Rosemary's Baby," which explains why I recently picked up this 1976 Hammer film "To The Devil A Daughter" (which was Hammer's answer to American horror hits like "The Exorcist" and "Rosemary's Baby"). Hey, with Nastassja Kinski, Richard Widmark, Christopher Lee and Honor Blackman in the cast, how can you go wrong?

**THE STORY:** In London, Richard Widmark plays an occult novelist who is asked to protect a man's daughter, a young nun (Kinski), from a cult of satanists led by a malevolent Christopher Lee, who possesses supernatural powers. They need her for some diabolical ritual. The story is loosely based on the Dennis Wheatley novel. Wheatley was furious with the numerous changes and called the film "obscene."

**WHAT WORKS:** The picture pretty much maintains your interest as the mystery slowly progresses. The London (and Germany) locations are excellent. They seemed to have more money to work with in this regard than most Hammer films. Speaking of Hammer, "To the Devil a Daughter" doesn't FEEL at all like a Hammer picture. Don't get me wrong, I love the unique, colorful ambiance of Hammer films, but this is a nice (and unsuspected) change. For those who care, Kinski is shown completely naked from the front. Unfortunately Lee is also shown in the nude, albeit from behind. One thing I never cared to see in my life was Christopher Lee's butt. There's a fairly shocking, obscene "devil baby" sequence. I'm not sure yet if this scene fits or even makes sense (I'll have to see the film again to decide) but they did a good job with the infant F/X, at least for 1976.

**WHAT DOESN'T WORK:** Like I said, the mystery has a fairly good build-up but the ending somehow doesn't quite work. Yes, they throw in some bizarre things -- the aforementioned "devil baby" scene and a wild satanist orgy (which is more silly than shocking) -- but, I don't know, I was left feeling a bit disappointed. It should have ended with a bang (at least I expect it to), but it doesn't.

**COMMENTARY:** This was Hammer's penultimate film and their final horror picture. Surprisingly, "To the Devil a Daughter" was a hit and made lots of money (at least in Europe), but Hammer Studios had debts to pay and the film's success couldn't save them.

**BOTTOM LINE:** The film itself is just okay, so I can only barely recommend it to those interested in occult/mystery stories, Hammer and the actors involved. What makes this DVD worth picking up, believe it or not, is the excellent 24-minute "making-of" documentary that discusses the film and the demise of Hammer Studios; it's called "To the Devil... The Death of Hammer." The documentary includes interviews with Lee, Blackman, the director, the producer and many more. It's very informative and entertaining. By all accounts Widmark was arrogant and a real bastage to work with. The Hollywood star frequently insulted the English filmmakers (calling the picture a "Micky Mouse production"), walking off the set, arguing, brawling and kicking over expensive equipment (!!). Every aspect of the film is addressed, including changes from the novel, Wheatley's objections, the ending's failure, etc. 'If it weren't for a deeply miscast Richard Widmark, this "Exorcist" wanna-be (and final Hammer horror picture) might have a better reputation. Christopher Lee commands the screen when he's on it (as always), and there's something both dirty and delightful about Nastassja Kinski's very early appearance here as a wayward nun. Denholm Elliott and the gorgeous Honor Blackman are on hand too, to class up the joint. It doesn't make a whole lot of sense - especially

the ending - but as a collective of occult-themed spookshow scenes, it casts a minor spell. Or it does, at least, when a grumpy and drunken Widmark isn't clearly trying to bring the proceedings down around him.']

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["The four videotapes in KINO's second SLAPSTICK ENCYCLOPEDIA box are housed in a highly decorative and sturdy storage case. Subject matter covered: Chaplin, his imitators and other music hall comics, HAL ROACH shorts, non-stop action and lesser-known actors in crazy comedies. FOR SYNOPSES OF ALL FILMS, SEE COMMENT #1 (link is located below) KINO's SLAPSTICK ENCYCLOPEDIA BOXED SET 1 showcase very early shorts, Mack Sennett comedies, actresses in unusual roles and Buster, Fatty and Al. (VHS edition) Parenthetical numbers preceding titles are 1 to 10 viewer poll ratings found at a film resource website. VOL. 5 - CHAPLIN AND CO.--(5.9) He's In Again (1918) - Billy West/Oliver Hardy/Leo White/Ethelyn Gibson/Charley Chase/Bud Ross(3.9) Live Wires and Love Sparks (1918) - Billy Ritchie/Viola Barry/Eva Nelson/Gene Rogers(6.7) A Night in the Show (1915) - Charlie Chaplin/Edna Purviance/Charlotte Mineau/Dee Lampton/Leo White/Wesley Ruggles/John Rand/James T. Kelley(6.8) Only Me (1929) - Lupino Lane (uncredited: Wallace Lupino)(5.7) Pie-Eyed (1925) - Stan Laurel/Glen Cavender/Thelma Hill(7.3) The Rink (1916) - Charles Chaplin/Edna Purviance/James T. Kelley/Eric Campbell/Henry Bergman/Lloyd Bacon VOL. 6 - HAL ROACH: THE LOT OF FUN--(6.9) Big Moments from Little Pictures (1923) - Will Rogers/Guinn 'Big Boy' Williams/Charlie Hall(6.2) Dogs of War! (1923) - Jackie Condon/Mickey Daniels/Jack Davis/Joe Cobb/Allen 'Farina' Hoskins/Mary Kornman/'Sunshine Sammy' Morrison/Harold Lloyd/Leo White/Fred C. Newmeyer(6.5) Fluttering Hearts (1927) - Charley Chase/Martha Sleeper/Oliver Hardy/William Burrell/Eugene Pallette(6.9) Get Out and Get Under (1920) - Harold Lloyd/Mildred Davis/Fred McPherson(7.3) It's a Gift (1923) - 'Snub' Pollard/Marie Mosquini/William Gillespie/Wallace Howe/Mark Jones(5.6) Oranges and Lemons (1923) - Stan Laurel/Katherine Grant/Eddie Baker/James Finlayson/'Tonnage' Martin Wolfkeil VOL. 7 - THE RACE IS ON--(7.7) Chasing Choo Choo (1927) - Monty Banks/Virginia Lee Corbin/Leo Willis(5.7) Circus Today (1926) - Billy Bevan/Andy Clyde/Kewpie Morgan/Madeline Hurlock/Betty Welsh (uncredited: Billy Gilbert/Tiny Ward)(6.2) Danger Ahead (1926) - Earl McCarthy/Charlotte Merriam/Jack Cooper/Max Asher(6.1) Out Bound (1924) - Sidney Smith/Cliff Bowes/Virginia Vance(8.4) Teddy at the Throttle (1917) - Bobby Vernon/Gloria Swanson/Wallace Beery/May Emory/Blanche Phillips(5.9) Water Wagons (1925) - Madeline Hurlock/Andy Clyde/Sidney Smith/John J. Richardson/Bud Ross/Leo Sulky VOL. 8 - TONS OF FUN--(4.2) Dry and Thirsty (1920) - Billy Bletcher/Vera Reynolds/John Dempsey(5.7) Family Life (1924) - Mark Jones/Ruth Hiatt/Otto Fries/Sunshine Hart/Tommy Hicks(5.3) The Grocery Clerk (1920) - Larry Semon/Frank Alexander/Lucille Carlisle/Monty Banks/Frank Hayes/Jack Duffy/William Hauber(7.7) Now You Tell One (1926) - Charley Bowers(3.2) Three of a Kind (1926) - Hilliard Karr/Frank Alexander/'Kewpie' Ross/Lois Boyd(6.0) Yukon Jake (1920) - Ben Turpin/Bud Ross/Natalie Kingston/Kalla Pasha/John J. Richardson/Tiny Ward", "Who is kidding whom here? The discs in this set are universally defective. In fact, if you got a set that didn't have a defective disc, you're lucky. They stall, they won't play, they're jittery, or the picture is pixelated. Whoever created the masters did an amateurish job. Even the menus on the discs are stupidly designed. Shame on Image for releasing this junk for sale. Even the cheap price doesn't make up for the fact that you can't watch 1 -5 of the discs. The packaging on this set appears to be nice, but it, too, is garbage. The discs are very difficult to remove from the sleeves. You may not be able to remove the discs in some cases, because they stick to the glossy cardboard sleeves. I'm returning my set for a refund, not a replacement.", "If you have Chaplin, Keaton or Arbuckle sets you probably already have some of these films. But at such a great price duplication shouldn't be an issue. I found about 6 hours of these films to be first rate silent comedy and another 10+ hours to be at least interesting. Arbuckle and Chaplin are both represented by over an hour each. There are also 3 films each featuring Lloyd, Langdon, Bevan and Keaton. Laurel and Hardy each appear twice separately as well as in 23 minutes of clips from their team shorts. I was

most surprised to find a complete one reeler starring John Bunny, one of the comic stars predating Chaplin. Other favorites include Mack Swain in A Movie Star, Harry Langdon in Saturday Afternoon and All Night Long, Charley Chase with Oliver Hardy and Eugene Pallette in Fluttering Hearts, Arbuckle and Normand in the awesome Fatty and Mabel Adrift, the Ton of Fun in Three of a Kind and the three Chaplin films of which The Rink is one of his very best. You see some stars doing stunts on trains and others working with real lions and snakes. The music is excellent and there are no intrusive narrations. You do have to make your own list of titles for each disc and the discs can be a little hard to remove but better too tight than too loose. All in all you get 29 two reelers, 20 one reelers and 5 three reelers. 24 of these films were made in the 1910's and 30 were made in the 1920's. After watching these 18 hours of film from 90 years ago it's apparent to me that people really haven't changed very much at all.", 'Well, Cheap and Defective do usually go together, don't they? I cannot recommend this compilation from Amazon. If any of you have purchased this and can easily view ALL the movies on all 5 DVDs with no problem, I would like to hear about it. Please go the \* below for more details. There is no written index for the movies on these DVDs. You have 5 DVDs with scores of movies, but no list in the booklet or on the DVD case to tell you which movies are on which DVD. This is INCREDIBLY inconvenient! On each DVD, the Main menu is one of those annoying things where it takes a while for the selections to come up; each time you go to the menu, you have to wait while the menu loads a bunch of moving images. The selection process is also annoying: even if you pick a specific movie, after it's done the DVD goes on to the following movie instead of bringing you back to the main menu so you can decide for yourself what you want to see next. Three of the DVDs in my batch were defective; I have two DVD players, so if a movie kept stopping, I would put the DVD into the other player which sometimes could play it. However, I was unable to view two of the three Langdon films, several of the final films on DVD 3, and The Iron Mule, after which I just gave up and have returned the set to Amazon requesting a replacement. I was unable to PULL THE LOWER RIGHT DVD OUT OF ITS SLOT!! (If the other DVDs had not been defective, I would have sliced this one out of the case. But that would have complicated returning the product to Amazon, eh?) OK, so enough of the bad news! The good news is that this is a set of 5 (FIVE!!) DVDs with lots of comedies you may have heard of (or not) but never seen. And the quality is good, as is the quality of most of the soundtracks. AND it's CHEAP! Very worth taking a chance on. If you don't care much for one or another movie, guess what? Another one is next and you just might love it! Of the movies I watched, I would say that this is indeed an interesting and valuable historical "encyclopedic" set of 1910's and 20's comedies. Not all the movies are easy to sit through, however. And they are not all among the best representations of these comedians. Stan Laurel was said to have called Alice Howell one of the 10 greatest comedians; I have now seen 3 of her movies and I remain unimpressed. I wish this collection had a better film by her than the one chosen here, "One Wet Night", which was not only a yawner, but Howell doesn't even have much to do in it. Some of the music for these films really helps pull them along. I was extremely happy to finally find a copy of "Teddy At The Throttle" in a good print with Robert Israel's EXCELLENT orchestral music. In many cases the music for an otherwise mediocre movie actually kept my interest throughout some of the dull stretches of aimless running about and falling down. Eric Beheim's music-and-sound-effects are very much to my taste. He thoroughly brings comedies to life and I find nothing to criticize with his musical comments on the action. Rodney Sauer's absolutely delightful music, played by the Mont Alto Orchestra, really helped keep my interest throughout the Arbuckle film "Fatty and Mabel Adrift" which is actually quite a good movie but a little long. I do wish more restoration had been done here for the image: some parts of the movie are washed out and could be easily fixed with added contrast; other shots are overly contrasty and need to go the other way. The whole film has ugly garish tinting that should have been faded down a bit. (Given the great ease of using modern movie-editing software, like Final Cut, I am always surprised by what has NOT been done to restore a film. It cannot be the money, since surely there are many like me who would do it for free if the movie interested me enough.) On the other hand, Brian Benison pretty much sucks the life out of the first several movies on DVD1. His music is generic and does not correspond well to the tempo of the action. It's also very "synthesized" and becomes irritating after a while. I hope David Shepard stops hiring him. However, I give him credit for doing



quite a good job with the Larry Semon movie "The Grocery Clerk". This is one of Benison's best work. (Personally, I yearn for the Italian dubs of Larry Semon's "Ridolini" movies.) The other excellent job by Benison is for the Arbuckle movie "Oh, Doctor!". Here Benison matches the tempo of the music to the tempos in the film extremely well, using almost all 5 or 6 of the pieces he knows how to play (and which he uses over and over and over in almost every vintage movie he scores, whether it's a George Melies film, an Arbuckle film, a Semon film, or whatever. What a job! You get paid to play the same music for one film that you used before on another film.) The image quality of all the films I WAS able to watch was fair to quite good. Nothing was unwatchable. Of the movies I watched on the first 4 discs (until I finally gave up because of the defective DVDs), and aside from the Keaton and Langdon (which I already own on other DVDs), only "Teddy At The Throttle" and "Wandering Willies" (with another GREAT soundtrack by Robert Israel) were good enough movies that I would subject my friends and family to them. However, given the low cost, it may be worthwhile to purchase this set just for these two films. Once I get my replacement discs, I'll watch the films I was unable to play through, and report back then.\* I wish I could have finished "The Iron Mule" which seemed very good, but the DVD kept stopping until it would not play at all.~ ~ ~ \* ~ ~ ~

~\*I have now received my replacements. DVD#2 still stopped playing before the end and I was unable to watch "His Marriage Wow" and "All Night Long". In fact, not only did "All Night..." not play, but ultimately gave me a blank monitor and I had to remove the DVD to get anything to work. DVD4 would not play "Now You Tell One" and would not play "The Grocery Clerk". I was also unable to play all the way through "Mighty Like A Moose", which stuck half way through the film. I was unable to even start to watch "Big Moments from Little Pictures" and "Haunted Spooks". Apparently this current batch being sold by Amazon is defective. We must either wait until a new batch comes in, or buy it elsewhere from a batch that may not be so bad. If any one you have purchased this new edition of "Slapstick" and it works fine for you, I would be interested to know (1) where did you get it, and (2) what kind of DVD/Blu-Ray player do you have. Back to the original review:~ ~ ~ ~ ~

~This is a super-duper collection if you do NOT already have or plan to buy the Kino set of Keaton short movies, the set of "Harry Langdon Lost and Found", the Chaplin Mutual films, and Kino's Charlie Chase DVDs. But if you like those comedians, you really, REALLY should buy those DVD compilations...before something happens and they go out of circulation! This Encyclopedia collection seems most fitting to the needs of those who only want one inexpensive set of silent comedies. For this, it is excellent; it has a good smattering of great movies by The Four Greats of early comedy: Chaplin, Keaton, Lloyd and Langdon. PLUS it has a hefty selection of the Other comedians people went to see in them Old Days. For the rest of us, I wish this compilation had fewer (or none) of the Top Four and more of The-Best-Of the lesser seen comics and comedy movies. HOWEVER, remember the price! This set is SO DIRT CHEAP (and with such good image and soundtrack quality) that it's worth getting even if it means you will have duplicates of certain films. (Of course this all assumes you can actually PLAY all the films on these DVDs.) Also, the musical accompaniments here are much, much better than the music on the other DVD/Blu-Ray collections. For instance, Keaton's "The Boat" has a delightful, engaging, toe-tapping orchestral score by Robert Israel, which is head-and-shoulders above the adequate but unimaginative (and even a little depressing) organ music on the Kino set of Keaton shorts. (I was finally able to watch some of the other films on a Pioneer DVD player, and the Langdon films, too, have superior music-tracks to the other Langdon DVD set of his shorts. I also made it through "The Iron Mule", which has no story but is chock full of incredibly interesting images from a bygone era (great details in the directing by Roscoe Arbuckle), amazing stunt work and physical comedy by even the oldest members of the troupe, and has an SUPERB soundtrack by Eric Beheim. I have watched this film many times.) SPECIAL NOTE: One of the selections here is "Chasing Choo Choos", a stunning film, but which is only the last two reels of the feature film "Play Safe". Film Preservation Associates would do us all a great favor by releasing this film in its complete version (which is what I would want to show an audience, rather than the cut version). I wish they had included the complete "Play Safe" as the "bonus" film, instead of the shorts they supply, as this is really the sleeper find of the decade. And as good as Eric Beheim's soundtrack is for this condensed version of the movie (and it is VERY good!), I would be even happier if "Play Safe" were fully restored and got the Robert Israel

full-orchestra treatment, like the musical accompaniment he made for Larry Semon's "Wizard of Oz", which helped to greatly raise my opinion about that movie. OR give Beheim the resources to arrange for an orchestra (instead of his usual computer-band). Anybody out there listening?', 'I previously reviewed this set but wanted to add a few comments. Included here is the incredible film "Now you tell one" by Charlie Bowers. Bowers looks like Keaton but out Keatons Keaton! After years of working in animation, Bowers took his surreal special effects into film. The result is jaw dropping! Wait until you see him 'grow' cats - and watch out for the little mouse with the revolver! Monty Banks gives us one of the most thrilling chases ever seen in film in "chasing choo-choos". It looks like he did all of his stunts here and it is amazing that he lived to tell about it! Definitely a great collection. Where else can you get silent films for about a dollar each? Do I like all of them? No. But with over 50 films, there is plenty here to enjoy and thrill to.', 'I thought this box set was terrific. You have pretty much all the major stars and some I never heard of. All in all, a fine collection. I enjoyed it very much.', 'Very funny.', 'I agree with all of the rave reviews. But I give this set only 4 stars because of the poor presentation of Laurel & Hardy. For some reason we are given edited TV cut-downs that are not up to the current restorations on the Lost Films of Laurel & Hardy DVD sets. They are cut to where there is no sense to what is happening and are a waste of time to watch. Another small disappointment is the Charlie Chaplins, they are not the current restorations on the new Chaplin DVD sets from Warners. They look acceptable, but not up to the the New restorations. I also wish some attempt was made to re-create original looking title cards & end titles for the shorts that were missing them. The Lost Films of Laurel & Hardy and the Kino Comedy Classic sets do this. For those curious, here is the rundown of the many films in this set:

Disc 1: Volume 1 "Film Comedy Pioneers" One Too Many (1916) - Oliver Hardy & Billy Ruge in a "Plumb And Runt" Comedy. The Wrong Mr. Fox (1917) Mr. Flip (1909) Alkali Ike's Auto (1911) - with Augustus Carney Fox Trot Finess (1915) - with Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Drew A Cure For Pokoritis (1912) Be My Wife (1921) abridgement - with Max Linder A Natural Born Gambler (1916) - with Bert Williams, an early successful black comic. Volume 2 "Keystone Tonight: Mack Sennett Comedies" Mabel's Dramatic Career (1913) - with Mabel Normand, Mack Sennett, & Ford Sterling Barney Oldfield's Race For Life (1913) - with Mabel Normand, Mack Sennett, & Ford Sterling The Rounders (1914) - with Charley Chaplin & Roscoe "Fatty" Arbuckle A Muddy Romance (1913) - with the Keystone Kops A Movie Star (1916) Teddy at the Throttle (1917) - with Gloria Swanson, Bobby Vernon & Teddy the Keystone Dog. Disc 2 Volume 3 "Sennett In The Twenties" Saturday Afternoon (1926) - with Harry Langdon, directed by Frank Capra Super-Hooper-Dyne-Lizzies (1925) - directed by stooge director Del Lord. Wandering Willies (1926) - with The Keystone Kops, directed by stooge director Del Lord. Circus Today (1926) - with Andy Clyde & Billy Bevan His Marriage Wow (1925) with Harry Langdon, directed by Frank Capra All Night Long (1925) with Harry Langdon, directed by Frank Capra Volume 4 "Funny Girls & Gender Benders" The Detectress (1919) - with Gale Henry One Wet Night (1924) - with Alice Howell, Neely Edwards & Bert Roach Know Thy Wife (1918) - with Dorothy Devore & Earl Rodney Rowdy Ann (1918) - with Fay Tincher, directed by Al Christie Hearts & Flowers (1919) Disc 3 Volume 5 "Keaton, Arbuckle & St. John" Fatty & Mabel Adrift (1916) - with Roscoe "Fatty" Arbuckle, Mabel Normand & Al St. John (Keystone) Oh, Doctor! (1917) - with Roscoe "Fatty" Arbuckle & Buster Keaton (Schenck) The Garage (1920) - with Roscoe "Fatty" Arbuckle & Buster Keaton (Schenck) The Boat (1921) - with Buster Keaton (Schenck) The Iron Mule (1925) - with Al St. John (Tuxedo Comedies) Volume 6 "Hal Roach's All-Star Comedians" Oranges & Lemons (1923) - with Stan Laurel Get Out & Get Under (1920) - with Harold Lloyd Mighty Like A Moose (1926) - with Charley Chase Big Moments Form Little Pictures (1924) - with Will Rogers Haunted Spooks (1920) - with Harold Lloyd Disc 4 Volume 7 "Hal Roach: The Lot Of Fun" Laurel & Hardy Lafftoons - clips from silent Laurel & Hardy films Dogs of War (1923) - with Harold Lloyd & Our Gang/The Little Rascals Fluttering Hearts (1927) - with Charley Chase & Oliver Hardy It's A Gift (1923) - with Harry "Snub" Pollard Volume 8 "Chaplin and the Music Hall Tradition" A Night In The Show (1915) - with Charley Chaplin A Rare Chaplin Snippet (1916) The Rink (1916) - with Charley Chaplin Live Wires & Love Sparks (1916) - with Billie Ritchie impersonating Chaplin He's In Again (1918) - with Chaplin Impersonator Billy West and Oliver Hardy Pie-Eyed (1925) - with Stan Laurel doing a drunk act. Only Me (1929) - with Lupino Lane Disc 5 Volume 9 "The Race Is On" Water Wagons (1925) Outbound

(1924)Chasing Choo-Choos (1927)Danger Ahead (1926)Volume 10 "Tons Of Fun: The Anarchic Fringe"Yukon Jake (1924) - with Ben Turpin, directed by stooge director Del LordThree of a Kind (1926)Dry and Thirsty (1921) - with Billy BletcherFamily Life (1924)Now YouTell One (1926) - with Charley BowersThe GroceryClerk (1920) - with Larry Semon', "The Slapstick Encyclopedia is chock full of entertaining, rare movies from the earliest days of silent movies. Charlie Chaplin, Fatty Arbuckle, Stan Laurel without Oliver Hardy, Oliver Hardy without Stan Laurel, Bustard Keaton, Hal Roach comedies, Harold Loyd in Haunted Spooks, Harry Langdon, Will Rogers, Keystone cops...all the unforgettable greats, you may have only read about in books, and rarely seen, doing the antics that once made movies so special. Included is the rarest of rare, a 1916 film starring Great black entertainer Bert Williams doing some of the comic routines that made him famous and part of America's conscience for decades after his death. Sure to entertain for hours on end.", 'This is a great compilation and priced very reasonable. The source material is excellent bearing in mind the age and availability of good prints.', "This review is for the Sept.25,2012 re-release of KINO's SLAPSTICK ENCYCLOPEDIA. Reviews before this date are for the KINO product, this review is for the IMAGE re-release of the same material which is no longer available from KINO.This is really great stuff and needs to be made available, and IMAGE, as well as KINO, offers a superior product as noted by all of the other reviewers (pre 9-25).The bargain is that you get over 50 classic comedy shorts (over 18 hours!) on 5 dvds, and the price for this amounts to only a few bucks per disc, as AMAZON is currently listing this set at around 10 dollars. And the shorts look pretty good too! For years I've suffered with poor copies of these films on vhs with no or poor musical tracking. And with David Shepard and Joe Adamson involved, along with musical soundtracks by Robert Israel and others, you know you're in for a good ride.So far, so good...Then some bad news...Despite handsome packaging in a 3-part fold-away, the discs themselves are inserted into slits, which upon removal can cause damage and/or scratches to the dvds. I carefully removed mine without incident and put each disc into a seperate case to avoid future damage. None were scratched during the process.And despite a nice permanently-affixed booklet written by Joe Adamson on silent film comedy, no listing of any film or timing is ever given, on the product packaging or in the booklet. I guess you have to already know what KINO had previously released. Here, you just pop in a disc to see what comes up.Still, all in all, a GREAT SET at a GREAT PRICE and this one is very, very highly recommended.UPDATE\*UPDATE\*UPDATE\* (11-7-12)With several reviewers citing defective discs I became concerned about mine as I've yet to encounter any problems. True, I have not yet watched every short here, but I did put in each disc and watched a short or two and they all played fine.One reviewer made special issue with disc 2, HIS MARRIAGE WOW stopping and ALL NIGHT LONG appearing as a blank monitor. So I played disc 2 completely through to see if it was indeed defective and it played just fine. HIS MARRIAGE WOW and ALL NIGHT LONG both just fine, no skipping, stalling, freezing, stopping or blank monitor.Got my set from Amazon when it first became available, so it was probably from the same batch as the other reviewers' sets.Because silent comedy shorts are not the most popular viewing subject in my household, I've been quarantined to watching these on my emachines computer which I bought at Walmart 14 months ago. Maybe that has something to do with it.All I know is that my set appears ok. Maybe for once I just got lucky.", "Image Entertainment bought Madacy in 2010. Can you beleive that! Image Ent the best friend to us film collectors, and Madacy the film collector's WORST enemy! This Box Set is a reissue of Image Entertainment's 2002 release. The only positive thing to say about this collection is that we have some of the rarest silent films existing. Most of the prints are 16mm prints from the Blackhawk Films collection.The negative comments are as follows:PACKAGING: The packaging is HORRIBLE! The discs are shoved into tight sleeves that have a small foam hub to secure the disc. It is IMPOSSIBLE not scratch the disc when removing it from the sleeve.PRESENTATION: Most prints are from the Blackhawk Films collection, and are 16mm. Other prints are from various sources, but are more than acceptable. However, many titles DO NOT have opening credits! The films start at the opening scene! The films without opening credits appear to be the Blackhawk prints. Was Image Ent and David Shepard using these prints without permission? I think not, David Shepard owns the rights to the Blackhawk colletion thru Film Preservation Associates. So why are the credits missing?DISC ERRORS: The Box Set comes with 5 discs. I had trouble with three discs freezing at certain points,

and based on reviews this seems to be problem everyone is having. However, it seems to be only with the 2012 release, not the original 2002 Image Ent release. So there you have it, a good opportunity wasted. Image Entertainment seems to be lowering their standards, and becoming more like Madacy. Avoid this release until Image gets their act together, and fixes the problems.", "Fifteen hours and 53 films worth of silent slapstick is a LOT of silent slapstick. Before you go any farther you should realize this isn't the greatest 15 hours worth of silent slapstick available. If you want to get the best - the funniest stuff - buy the boxed sets of Chaplin, Lloyd, Keaton and Laurel & Hardy, and then see if you can find a compilation disk with some Harry Langdon and Fatty Arbuckle on it. Oh, the heavy hitters are here, but it's the inclusion of so much by the other guys that sets this set apart. If you like silent movies and are willing to sit through some strange stuff for no other reason than to see what folks were laughing at 100 years ago, this set is for you. I think it's a gold mine. A sprawling gold mine, but priceless to anyone interested in the history of filmed comedy. Each disk is divided into two sections. To give a sense of the breadth of this set, I'll briefly mention the highlights - or lowlights - of each section.

- 1- 'Pioneers' - Section one of disk one features the pioneers of silent slapstick and contains, I believe, the earliest film in this collection, the 4-minute long 'Mr. Flip' (1909), starring cross-eyed comic Ben Turpin. Mr. Griffith hadn't invented the close-up yet so we don't get a chance to see Turpin's crossed money makers. This film has Mr. Flip flirting with every woman he comes across and getting slapped with shaving cream, pies, etc., for his trouble. No plot, not even a real start or end, and really not very funny, but oddly engaging.
- 2- 'Keystone Tonight' - Ninety odd minutes worth of early Mack Sennett/Keystone Studio one- and two-reelers. Highlight is the 16-minute 'The Rounders' from 1914. Charlie Chaplin and Fatty Arbuckle star as a couple of luses who flee from their wives so they can continue getting sloshed in the hotel bar. A lot of funny-drunk sight gags. Both had and would make more memorable films, but interesting to see how these two ad-lib off each other. This section also contains Harry Langdon's 'Saturday Afternoon,' (1926, 30mins.) one of those 'hen-pecked husband stepping out' movies. Some claim Langdon was the fourth great silent comedian, and his films are generally less available than Chaplin's, or Keaton's, or Lloyds's. As an innocent man-child, somewhat the waif, and a great pantomime, Langdon reminded me a lot of Stan Laurel. A somewhat creepy Laurel, to be sure. There are a couple more Langdon shorts in this set, so you can decide his claim to glory for yourself.
- 3- 'Sennett in the '20s' - More madcap mayhem from one of the kings of silent movie producers. Because it's Sennett, coherence and continuity are going to take a back seat - or asked to take a walk - over speed and visual gags. In the 20-minute 'Circus Today' (1926) Sennett favorites Bill Bevans and Andy Clyde play a couple of bumbling circus hands. Beauty Madeline Hurlock plays the circus bare-back rider. Bevans is the competent, if unmemorable, knockabout comedian with the brush moustache. Not unusual for a comedy of this era, the stars are gleefully put in harm's way every 2 minutes or so. At one point a cage full of lions escape and, naturally, chase all the main players. In one very memorable scene, the tutu-clad Ms. Hurlock is seen flat on the ground with a 400-pound male lion sitting on top of her. No process shot in this one, and I'd imagine no second take, either.
- 4- 'Funny Girls: Genders and Their Benders.' Slapsticks starring female actresses Gale Henry, Alice Howard, et al.
- 5- 'Keaton, Arbuckle, and St. John.' Fatty Arbuckle with Mabel Normand, a couple of Arbuckle and Keaton collaborations, one Keaton solo and one two-reeler featuring Arbuckle nephew Al St. John. Keaton's solo outing 'The Boat' (1921) is the best film in the entire collection, and a textbook example of how to build and sustain a gag.
- 6- 'Hal Roach's Acts: Star Comedians.' Five shorts from the Hal Roach studio, including a Stan Laurel solo project, a Charley Chase domestic comedy, and a Will Rogers' spoof of contemporary hit movies by Valentino and Fairbanks. Also in this section are a couple of shorts starring Harold Lloyd, including his winning 1920 horror spoof, 'Haunted Spooks.'
- 7- 'Hal Roach: The Lot of Fun.' Laurel and Hardy, Our Gang, Charley Chase, and Snub Pollard. The 'Laurel & Hardy Lafftoons' was the only disappointing entry in this set. 'Lafftoons' is the only instance in which compiled highlight scenes, rather than a complete film, was presented. Laurel and Hardy are a favorite of mine, but I would have preferred seeing all of 'Angora Love,' rather than a short scene from it. Charley Chase is perhaps the most consistently sophisticated comic in this set. Chase uses slapstick to accent characters and situations and push the plot ahead - pretty much the diametric opposition of how it

was usually done.8- 'Chaplin and the Music Hall Tradition.' Or, Chaplin and his imitators. This sections opens with 1915's 'A Night in the Show,' with Charlie playing two roles - Mr. Pest and Mr. Rowdy - whose names ought to clue you in to what kind of (inebriated) theater goers they are. One is tuxedoed and sits in a box seat, one is shabbily dressed and sits way back up in the cheap seats. One of the more curious shorts in this set is 1918's 'He's in Again,' with Billy West - who looks and dresses just like Chaplin - as an out-at-the-heels bar customer. West was the most successful of Chaplin imitators, and, if nothing else, this short gives you a direct example of the difference between competence and genius.9- 'The Race is On.' Four shorts here, all celebrating speed and all featuring some of the most hair-raising footage you'll ever see. The worst is Monty Bank's 1927 'Chasing Choo Choos.' It's easy to take scary stuff on film when you know there's CGI or some other film trick involved. Some of the stunts in this one defy an obvious explanation. In one scene - the one that had me on the edge of my seat - Banks has two feet in a racing race car (one that the driver had bailed out of!) and two hands on a speeding locomotive. Simply the most amazing stunt I've ever seen.10- 'Anarchic Fringe.' Well, we finally get to see a Ben Turpin close-up in 'Yukon Jake' (1924). The biggest surprise, to some, will be Charley Bowers' 1926 'Now You Tell One.' Bowers, who bears more than a passing resemblance to Buster Keaton, tells his story to a gathering of the Liars' Club. Bowers included stop-action animation in his shorts, was really a pioneer in the field, and his story includes a rapidly growing eggplant that contains an egg and salt shaker, shoe strings that tie themselves, and other such fanciful nonsense.", "On this set you get a great overview of early slapstick films for a great price. The drawbacks are that the menu-formatting is preserved from earlier releases and is a bit confusing (and slow) and that there is no comprehensive list of the films anywhere on the set (a pretty egregious oversight). Also, it uses a clip-compilation as its Laurel & Hardy content (which seems like a poor decision). It's still a great value for the money (and for the record I've had no problems with defective discs) Here's a great in-depth review of the set: [...]

Here's the set list gleaned from some other sites (would've like artists as well as titles, but it's a start).

Disc One

In the Beginning: Film Comedy Pioneers

1. Opening
2. One Too Many (1916)
3. The Wrong Mr. Fox (1917)
4. Mr. Flip (1909)
5. Alkali Ike's Auto (1911)
6. Fox Trot Finesse (1915)
7. A Cure for Pokeritis (1912)
8. Be My Wife (1921)
9. A Natural Born Gambler (1916)

Keystone Tonight!

Mack Sennett Comedies

1. Mabel's Dramatic Career (1913)
2. Barney Oldfield's Race for a Life (1913)
3. The Rounders (1914)
4. A Muddy Romance (1913)
5. A Movie Star (1916)
6. Teddy at the Throttle (1917)

Disc Two

Sennett in the Twenties

1. Saturday Afternoon (1926)
2. Super-Hooper-Dyne Lizzies (1925)
3. Wandering Willies (1926)
4. Circus Today (1926)
5. Bonus: His Marriage Wow (1925)
6. Bonus: All Night Long (1925)

Funny Girls: Genders and Their Benders

1. The Detectress (1919)
2. One Wet Night (1924)
3. Know Thy Wife (1918)
4. Rowdy Ann (1918)
5. Hearts and Flowers (1919)

Disc Three

Keaton, Arbuckle and St. John

1. Fatty and Mabel Adrift (1916)
2. Oh, Doctor! (1917)
3. The Garage (1920)
4. The Boat (1921)
5. The Iron Mule (1925)

Hal Roach's All-Star Comedians

1. Oranges and Lemons (1923)
2. Get Out and Get Under (1920)
3. Mighty Like a Moose (1926)
4. Big Moments from Little Pictures (1924)
5. Bonus: Haunted Spooks (1920)

Disc Four

Hal Roach: The Lot of Fun

1. Laurel and Hardy Lafftoons
2. Dogs of War (1923)
3. Fluttering Hearts (1927)
4. It's a Gift (1923)

Chaplin and the Music Hall Tradition

1. A Night in the Show (1915)
2. A Rare Chaplin Snippet (1916)
3. The Rink (1916)
4. Live Wires and Love Sparks (1916)
5. He's in Again (1918)
6. Pie-Eyed (1925)
7. Only Me (1929)

Disc Five

The Race Is on

1. Water Wagons (1925)
2. Outbound (1924)
3. Chasing Choo- Choos (1927)
4. Danger Ahead (1926)

Volume 10 - Tons of Fun: The Anarchic Fringe

1. Yukon Jake (1924)
2. Three of a Kind (1926)
3. Dry and Thirsty (1921)
4. Family Life (1924)
5. Now You tell One (1926)
6. The Grocery Clerk (1920)

This set was originally produced before much of this stuff was on DVD, so it includes generous helpings of comedians whose work has since been reissued in greater quantity: Chaplin At Keystone, Chaplin - Essanay & Mutual, Arbuckle, Arbuckle/Keaton, Keaton - Short Films, Keaton - features and shorts, Harold Lloyd, Harry Langdon, Charley Chase (and several other collections), Laurel & Hardy and many more sets by these artists and others", "There are some great and not-so-great items in this set, but all are of interest, if you like silent comedies. I recommend the 3 shorts each by Harry Langdon and Harold Lloyd (with one caveat to be discussed for "Haunted Spooks"), the rare version of Buster Keaton's "The Boat," some of the solo efforts by Stan Laurel (of later Laurel & Hardy

fame), the "Hairbreadth Harry" short entitled "Danger Ahead" (based on a 1920's comic strip and one of the most ridiculously inspired things I've ever seen), the teaming of Charlie Chaplin and "Fatty" Arbuckle in "The Rounders" (where they each try to top one another on screen), and the delirious short by Charley Bowers (the only successful comedian/ animator in film history--who incorporates his bizarre animation into his film shorts). You can see so much here, as to the development of the careers of famous silent comedians. See Buster Keaton's crying and mugging hysterics while with "Fatty" Arbuckle develop into his more familiar stoic "Great Stone Face." See Stan Laurel go from frenetic nasty idiot on screen to playing the more sublime "Stanley" in the Laurel and Hardy shorts. See early Harold Lloyd shorts where his character has a bit more of an edge. Wonder why Ben Turpin had a career at all. All along marvel at the wonderful, appropriate musical accompaniment, sometimes on the odd "Fotoplayer." The caveat? Well, nothing and I mean nothing has been censored and some very politically incorrect moments also make the cut, a few of which can make for some startling viewing for modern sensibilities. Then again, these films are 75 to 90 years old, and that should be borne in mind. In particular, I'm thinking of "The Detectress" and "Haunted Spooks" and parts of the Bert Williams short as rather blatant offenders. Also, while the prints included are some of the best surviving, a small number have some nitrate decomposition, sprocket jump, discoloration, and the like. As an example, the quality of "The Garage" with Keaton/Arbuckle's a little disappointing compared to some other prints I've watched. However, these are often very rare films, and rough prints can be better than none. I'd recommend this set both as a tremendous resource and a great bargain for any seasoned silent movie fan as well as any novice fan who wants to learn more in a hurry.']

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["Though there are some relatively small historical inaccuracies I found Rudolf Martin's portrayal of Dracula to be incredibly good. It is no wonder he reprised the role for TV's Buffy versus Dracula (Season 5, episode 1 of Buffy The Vampire Slayer). This is a very good movie that looks at the good and bad of the historical Dracula and at the end of the film even ties in some of the vampire story so that the film works as a loose prequel to Bram Stoker's Dracula starring Gray Oldman. I strongly recommend this film for any fan of Dracula or of the history of the middle ages. The film is very well done, very moody, very atmospheric and surprisingly educational. This has fast become one of my favorite Dracula movies in that it teaches a fairly true version of the events of the historical Dracula's life and also adds the slight sprinkling of the vampire mythos by implying he became the vampire after death. Rudolf Martin is a seriously under-rated actor who should get a lot more attention for his Dracula portrayal.", "This movie has a lot going for it. It's a made-for-tv movie, but with a decent budget, filmed in Romania and dealing with the true and fascinating life of Vlad Dracula the prince of Wallachia (not Romania as they erroneously say in the film. That country didn't even exist yet). In other words this isn't another tired old vampire rehash. Unfortunately, somewhere along the way somebody decided that a tired old rehash was exactly what it should be. Just look at the cover for God's sake. That's not the guy playing Dracula and this guy certainly never wore fangs. I don't even think the word vampire was said in the entire film. Now they do bring up immortality and whatnot, but it doesn't jive with either the history or the legend. This Dracula is doomed because he left the Orthodox church and converted to Catholicism. Yup, betcha didn't know that becoming Catholic turned you into a monster. \*Insert Catholic priest/altar boy joke here\* This movie could have been two things: it could have been a straight historical drama with no supernatural stuff whatsoever, or it could be a story set in 15th century Romania about Dracula first becoming a vampire. Either one could be good. But these two things do not mesh. Is the conflict about Vlad gaining the throne and his family problems? Or is it about the loss of his soul? Because he never really seems to care about that last one and the former is irrelevant as far as the vampire angle is concerned. Perhaps if they had him slowly becoming corrupted in order to gain power then there might be something, but that would still make the gaining of power secondary to the conflict for his soul. Yet this film is primarily a historical drama with occasional supernatural interruptions often coming out of left field. If

this is about a man selling his soul to the devil (or being the antichrist as they keep saying) then you cannot sideline that conflict. It'd be like making a movie focusing on life in the newspaper industry only to have them reveal by the end that the lead is actually Superman. As you might have guessed I find the supernatural side of this film to be overplayed and often forced. But it plays as a drama for 9/10 of the time. The only supernatural elements come with his wife and at the very end in a surprise twist that reduces an already nonsensical plot point into complete gibberish. The historical parts are sound, or at least entertaining. Yes they took serious liberties with his life and reduced the conflict to a ridiculously simple level, but on the whole it worked. Watching Dracula take his revenge was fun (although it could have lasted longer) and his relationship with his son was interesting if not used enough. To make up for underplaying the relationship with his son they make a big fuss over his relationship with his brother. Radu is a big part in this, and shows up in places where he wasn't meant to be. I don't just mean he wasn't there historically, but that his being there doesn't make any sense. And of course, his death was what allowed Dracula to return to the country in the first place, so why was he still alive when Vlad arrived? There is a lot to be said for the cinematography in this film. It was only a made-for-tv film but somebody forgot to tell the cinematographers that because these shots are stunning. It fully plays up the natural beauty of Romania. It's hardly the land of perpetual gloom and shadows that these Dracula movies make it out to be. Not that there aren't plenty of those scenes in the movie, but the main ones I remember are of lush hillsides and greenery. When those gorgeous hillsides are filled with decaying corpses on spikes it makes it seem even more disturbing. After all, what's more terrifying: the perpetually unrealistic doom filling most horror films or a man sitting down on a nice hill eating lunch surrounded by dozens of impaled corpses? The rest of the production design is varied. Some of the costumes look good, but many are just obviously modern in style with only slight quaint touches to make them feel older. Vlad for example is wearing something that looks an awful lot like a motorcycle jacket. Fight scenes are also somewhat sub-par (to be expected in a tv movie) but the cinematography is often superb. The opening fight in the rain is a great example. The story of the historical Dracula has actually been told on film before. There's an obscure Romanian film from 1980 called *Vlad Tepes* (or *Vlad the Impaler*) which isn't listed on Amazon but can be found elsewhere (the Amazon.de site for starters). That film is rather more accurate although it dwells overlong on such Communist tropes as dealing with greedy merchants and nationalistic posturing. The lead actor is a dead ringer for Dracula though. It's actually more than a little eerie. It helps that they had excellent costumes and filming locations. The odd thing is that while both of these films are inaccurate in their own ways, their inaccuracies seem to complement each other. For example, while this Dracula looks nothing like the real man they do get the age right (he first became king in his 20s). The Romanian film makes Romania look ugly while this one makes it beautiful. That film captures Dracula's severity of law while this one captures his cruelty. This film included several of the horror stories associated with Vlad while that one just showed the impalings. And there are other examples. It's funny, combine these two together and you might have an awesome movie. As it is this one just isn't up to snuff. It's probably worth a watch, but it's unlikely to become a firm favorite.", 'This early-2000's film features the same actor who played - very well - Dracula in an episode of *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* around this same time: Rudolf Martin. Handsome? Check. Exotic accent? Check. We have ourselves a vampire. This film, however, is based on the history of the real Vlad Tepes, or Vlad Dracul, who ruled what is now Romania, defended it against the Turks, and was reputed to be a huge fan of impalement (supposedly people feared this punishment so much, goblets of gold and other valuable objects could be left out in public unattended and no one would take them because they dreaded the punishment if they should be caught). He also was reputed to dine among the bodies of his impalement victims and dip his bread in their blood (hence the blood-drinking element). The story begins as the adult Vlad is called to account for his actions before high priests of the Orthodox Church, who are going to determine whether to excommunicate him. In this context, he tells his story from childhood on up, from his captivity in a Turkish camp with his brother, to his freedom returning to his native land, to his rule. Also how he fell in love with a beautiful young nun-to-be, who returned his feelings and forsook her calling to the convent to marry him and give him a son. Spoilers Ahoy: She is finally driven to kill herself as she becomes more aware of the atrocities

her husband is committing, despite her own faith's teaching that suicide is the one sin that cannot be forgiven and so her soul will now never find rest. As the story and intrigue ends, Vlad is informed that his Orthodox Church elders have made the decision to excommunicate him, thus, according to their own belief system, dooming his soul to walk the earth for eternity as well. The final scene sees the old priest hearing mysterious noises and going into the cellar where Vlad is buried after his death, only to have Vlad appear to him, very much alive, "thanking" him for giving him eternal life by banishing him from the Church and thus from the only way his soul could have found rest after his passing. The final image is of Vlad and his beloved bride, both now dead, walking hand-in-hand, as the titles inform us of an expedition to Vlad's tomb during which no human remains were found where he was supposedly buried. This well-made, semi-fictional historical drama blends the "true" story of the man, Vlad the Impaler, with vampire imagery and mythology very effectively. Recommended both for fans of historical drama and vampire films. Enjoy. Cheers.', 'This film is a very brave effort to cover the complex story of Vlad Dracula or Vlad Tepes (the impaler). It is a story of a Romanian prince who tries to keep his country independent from the Turks. Although outnumbered and outgunned he makes every effort to unite and prepare his country for a long fight with the Ottomans. The film depicts the conspiracies and back manoeuvres at the court levels very well and the viewer will get an idea of the historical settings. Also, the costumes and the images of the castles in the background are fairly accurate. In short, it is not a fantastic but interesting movie. Towards the end, the film makers do something utterly unnecessary: they link the Vlad Tepes story to the Dracula theme of Bram Stoker. Something that is taken from the realms of fantasy. Vlad Tepes was never connected to the vampyre theme. This is an innovation of literature and the film makers unfortunately follow it, instead of just leaving the story as it is; a story that is interesting enough to stand on its own.', 'The cover is misleading; this is not your classic vampire movie - doesn't really deal with vampires, other than a few allusions and references. The plot centers around the life & exploits of Vlad Tepes (the Impaler). Though it did not have the prerequisite vampires running around, I REALLY dug this movie. Maybe it was because I was impressed that a made for TV movie was so well researched and directed. Maybe it was because I am a romantic kind of girl & liked the romance, as well as the eye candy (Rudolph Martin, Michael Sutton, etc) that the lead actors provided (for any fan of long-haired men, this movie is a must see!). The story was actually fairly well written and more or less historically accurate. The costumes were great & the battle scenes well created. As to Vlad's true character, some is left to the viewer's imagination, but that is to be expected when dealing with a man who has amassed such a mythos in popular culture. I would say that this is a movie for any fan of the vamp genre, more entertaining for a fan of history and the vampire subculture in general...not a typical "vampire" movie, just a bio, but it remains one of the best portrayals of "Vlad Tepes".', 'This is a great movie. Although not true to the line of historical accuracy, it gives you enough information to make you want to break open a book and learn more. He's not a sparkly character, and oddly enough, is treated in real life Romania as a hero. You won't be disappointed with a viewing!', 'This was a bit of a disappointment for me. The truth is more terrifying than the myth? Well, this Dracula is about as terrifying as your local pharmacist. In fact he's portrayed as a relatively nice guy. Not the bloodthirsty sadist history tells us he is. This would have been a better film if they would have stuck close to history rather than romanticizing the legend. Vlad the Impaler is portrayed as a brooding, misunderstood hero that bares more resemblance to the singer of a Gothic Rock band than to the mustachioed, wild eyed, gaudily dressed mad prince of the old paintings and woodcuts. His violent actions are toned down and justified. I also found it funny how the cover of this dvd shows a vampire with fangs and demonic eyes. The true story of Dracula has nothing at all to do with vampires. Seems like a lame marketing ploy. Overall, the atmosphere was enjoyable as well as the settings. For that this film gets 2 stars. I'm still waiting for an accurate portrayal of the infamous Impaler.', 'While not as "real" as the film would have you believe, "Dark Prince" is an entertaining movie about Vlad the Impaler. While his connection to Stoker's Dracula has been exaggerated over the years, Vlad Tepes is a controversial and fascinating figure, and it is about time someone made a film about him. Don't expect vampires. The cover art and trailer are very misleading. However, this is still a solid little film. If you like medieval action films, or just want to get a vague idea as to what the historic Vlad was



like, this film comes recommended.', 'This film attempts to portray Vlad Dracul in a more realistic manner, as far as specific events are concerned, such as:1. Rounding up traitors with the pretext of a drunken celebration, and then when all are pretty well enebriated, lighting the entire edifice aflame, thus ridding himself of possible antagonists to his reign.2. Dining at The Field of The Impaled, while dipping his bread in a goblet filled with blood and wine. Enemies turning back to their countries fearing the man who is capable of such a fearsome spectacle.3. The oft-times neglected fact that he also impaled women and children at times, depending upon their offense, in this case, for being "adulterous". In this sense, he was influenced by Judeo-christian moralism.4. Another truism related that one could veritable leave gold on the streets, and it would not be stolen, for fear of the punishment. Criminals were often seen impaled and immolated on the streets, which acted as a perfect deterrent. He actually displayed elements of Lex Talionis - as a result, crime was just about nil.5. Driving spikes into the skulls of Muslims who refused to remove their turbans. They should "keep their traditions in their own country".As far as the characterization is concerned, the mane-haired Vlad Tepesh {Rudolf Martin} is presented herein in a more or less romantic manner, sans moustache, and often wearing leather. 'Mina' as "Lidia" {Jane March} remains sheltered, and goes insane upon her realization of the actual events occurring in the kingdom, who then begins to superstitiously adorn herself with a rosary and calls Vlad a "monster" {"Voevod"}. Upon her suicide, he has all the mirrors in the castle covered, thus the mythological connection with the vampire "unable" to view his own reflection. She is survived by Vlad Jr., who displays great potential for leadership through his own ruthlessness.He encounters his traitorous younger brother on the battle field, and graciously spares his life instead of dispatching him, which he should have done, as well as his step-father, both of whom eventually prove to be major obstacles, from framing him, which lands him in prison for awhile, to attempts at assassination. Upon regaining the throne, he strikes a deal with Catholic King Janos {Roger Daltrey}, proclaiming that it does not matter to him under what banner he fights, so long as his rule continues, and thus, his own interests prevail.He seemingly resurrects on a couple of occasions, which lends to the legend of physical Vampiric immortality, whose "soul" is unable to enter heaven or Hell, and is "condemned" to roam the earth in a state of the 'undead'; to which he remains thankful to the murderous priest, who himself meets his end via a heart attack - veritably scared to death. Quite a pleasing concluding scene, instead of the typical stake in the heart.Because of his indestructability and military genius, he is accused of being an antichrist by the Orthodox clergy, which seems to amuse him, when all he wanted to accomplish was the glorification of his country and the preservation of his kingdom, both at which he succeeds.I rather enjoyed this presentaion, where Vlad The Impaler relishes in his role as tyrant to his enemies, and savior to his people, who still hail him as a national hero, and expect his symbolic return in some form.Overall, Dracula: The Dark Prince is an aesthetically-impressive film, as Dracula / Vampiric presentations tend to be quite elegant from environment to accoutrement to deportment, and is probably the closest adaptation to actual events in the life of this remarkable historical figure, certainly an unforgettably mighty warrior. who remains an inspiration.', "Not a vampire movie. I knew that before I bought it but if you're looking for a vampire movie this is not it. It's the story of clad. Not really historical but entertaining non the less. For those of you who are Buffy fans , if you saw the Dracula episode, the dark prince may look very familiar.", "Well when this movie was first shown on USA i caught it because i thought it would be good. First it is along movie so if you don't like long movies don't watch this movie.Now i am not gonna write a long summary cause i would reccomend people buying this item so i don't want to spoil it but it was very well casted. Rudolf Martin was cast as Dracula who also played Dracula on Buffy the Vampire Slayer.This story shows the entire and i mean entire history of Vlad who wasn't that bad when he was human.Out of 5 stars i give this 4 stars.", 'Though some of the facts were incorrect in this film, it was interesting nonetheless. Those who have seen this film and enjoyed it, I would refer them to read the book &quot;Vlad III, the life and times of the historical Dracula&quot;.', 'I saw this film when it was on USA Network and I thought it was a very poor attempt to show the story of Vlad the Impaler/Dracula.The character did not evolve to the man we have seen in the standard portrait of Vlad, the hat with the rows of pearls and the ruby star with the feather in it and no mustashe was ever developed. Her looked scruffy and unshaven through most of the film. and the ending was worst of all as they linked

vlad with what would later become the vampire Dracula. If you want a good film on Vlad the Impaler, then I suggest you go to VIDEO SEARCH OF MIAMI and get the Romainan film VLAD THE IMPALER which has english subtitles, but is a far better film on Vlad. The copy quality is not great but the story is more to the point.', "Here's something different: a Dracula movie with no vampires! Based on the life and legends of Vlad Tepes, the Wallachian prince known as Vlad the Impaler, this film is a lavish historical spectacle with strong production values. Unfortunately, the full-frame presentation robs the DVD transfer of some of the impact it might have had in widescreen. As for the story, it falls just short of the kind of rousing dark epic the producers were aiming for. The character of Dracula is almost sympathetic, and the film doesn't try to explain away his brutality with simplistic rationalizations, but the end result lacks real impact. However it's worth watching for hard-core Dracula fans, and Roger Daltrey's portrayal of the King of Hungary is striking to say the least (I never would have guessed it was him!). If you're looking for a real horror movie, this probably won't fit the bill for you, but the film makers deserve a few points for trying something off beat.", 'I had long thought that a movie about Vlad the Impaler, the historical figure that was the inspiration for Bram Stoker's Dracula, would be a good choice for a film. I even had the opening shot of the film worked out: a tracking shot across a field at ground level, increasingly littered with weapons and armor, but no bodies. Then we start to see the bottoms of poles, more and more as we move along until poles appear in the foreground and finally we see one in close up and there is blood running down it. Then the camera pans up and we see the body impaled on the top of the pole and then the camera slowly pulls back and we see the entire forest of impaled Turkish soldiers. Yes, this is a movie just begging to be made. Unfortunately, "Dark Prince: The True Story of Dracula" is not that film. The main problem is that the script by Thomas Baum decides to turn Vlad Tepes (1431?-1476?), son of Vlad Dracul (1390?-1447) into a teenage heartthrob played by Rudolph Martin (1967- ). Historically Vlad the Impaler is remembered as a bloodthirsty tyrant with a reputation for creative cruelty Dante would have admired: in his brief six-year reign he is believed to have conservatively executed 40,000 victims. His reputation was such that basically once they stopped printing up the first Bibles on the new printing presses they started printing up pamphlets about Vlad's deeds, with woodblock illustrations of his enjoying a feast while his victims suffered on their poles. However, this 2000 film does not want to take that route and for some reason I suspect this is because "Dark Prince" was a made for television film instead of a theatrical release, where Vlad's actions could be more graphically displayed. The framing device for the story is that in 1476, shortly before his death, Vlad is brought before the inquisition of the Eastern Orthodox church and made to account for his actions. Within this context he tells his life story, beginning when he and his brother Radu were held prisoners by the Turks as teenagers. Upon his release Vlad claimed the throne of Wallachia (a.k.a. Romania) and slaughtering the nobles who betrayed his father. Politically Vlad's kingdom is caught between the hated Turks and the untrustworthy King Janos of Hungary (Roger Daltrey). Consequently, in the final analysis, "Dark Prince" wants to recast Vlad the Impaler as a 15th century freedom fighter. Consequently, "Dark Prince" wants to deal with Vlad as more of a morally ambiguous figure, a creature of his times who took actions out of political necessity and who was pretty good looking with his dark hair (which certainly runs counter to the man we see in the paintings believed to be Vlad). However, what makes Vlad interesting from a historical perspective is that you can make the case that Vlad the Impaler is to Eastern Europe what El Cid was to the West in terms of being primarily responsible for stopping the Muslims armies from overrunning Christian Europe. When a Turkish army approached his capital he initiated a scorched earth policy and impaled the Turkish advance guard around the walls of his city. When he saw this the Sultan and his invading army retreated. But this is a low-budget film so that scene was never going to be shot. At the end of "Dark Prince" we find out this film was only inspired by the history of Vlad the Impaler, which means it ends up being about as fictional as Stoker's "Dracula," which brings up all sorts of attendant ironies to play with. In the end, those who know about the historical Vlad will be distracted by all the liberties and distortions in the film while the neophytes would have yet another dose of "history" courtesy of a made-for-television movie. There was a rather interesting gimmick with this film in that Martin played the vampire version of Dracula in the season premier of the fifth season of "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" and made a much better impression on the television

show than he did in this made for television film.', "Or so they would have us believe. This film is strongly influenced by the Bram Stoker novel in mood and menace, but it is still highly entertaining and quite well done. Meant to be a historical drama about the real life of Vlad the Impaler, Dracula: The Dark Prince takes us to Romania in the 1400's, to see what made the man the legend he is today. The story is told from Vlad's point of view, as he recounts the story of his life before an Orthodox Ecclesiastical Court in defense of his crown. We first see Vlad as a child, training for battle with his father and younger brother, Radu. But soon after, Vlad's father is killed by the noblemen of his own country, who are constantly looking after their own interests above anything else. His brother kidnapped and brainwashed by a perverted Turkish Sultan, and himself believed to be long dead, Vlad eventually raises an army to help him take back the throne that rightfully belongs to him from the noblemen and their hand picked NEW prince. Once back in power, Vlad and his beautiful, new, young wife commence to having a son. Simultaneously, Vlad takes his revenge on the noblemen of his country who were responsible for the death of his father and so many others. With that matter taken care of, Vlad focuses on his main interest, dealing with the accursed Turks that have plagued him all his life. This brings up the problem of his younger brother, who is now one of them, and matters are not helped by the failing mental state of Vlad's wife, who is disturbed more and more as she discovers the brutality of her husband's style of government. While the film does mention and even depict Vlad's more legendary and gruesome exploits, those that were less likely to be true were presented only as rumors amongst the people and noblemen of Romania that the Prince himself always denied. The film doesn't really take much of a fantasy angle, it simply drops hints here and there to remind you that this is the man known as Dracula. True, in the end the possibility that Vlad did become one of the undead is left open, but even the act that many have claimed ruined the reality of the film could easily be interpreted as the hallucination of a dying man. Overall, this is a pretty good film for what it is, and I recommend it to all fans of Dracula, real or imaginary.", 'The DVD cover is very misleading, because this is actually a fictionalized version of the real Count Vlad Dracul's life. His history was the basis for Bram Stoker's blood-sucking vampire, Dracula. The movie is well made and I think I originally saw it on the History Channel during Halloween. Rudolf Martin is very good and quite attractive as Vlad. The movie begins where he is recounting his life. A younger actor portrays him as a teen when he and his brother are imprisoned by the Sultan. When he is older and goes back to Romania, he fights to free his people from tyranny. To do this he becomes a tyrant himself. There are a few gruesome scenes that I think would be inappropriate for young children (he was called "Vlad the Impaler" for a reason). I've seen quite a few documentaries about the real Count Dracul and this is not actual fact as stated in the description. It's some fact and mostly fiction. The writers added some humor and some hints to where the vampire Dracula's and Count Dracul's lives seem to merge. At one point, when he is being questioned by the priests, they mention that he dipped his bread in his victim's blood and ate it. He wearily says, "I've heard these stories so often, I'm beginning to believe them myself." The real Count Dracul would be amused!', 'The Bram Stoker artifact and historical truth are at serious odds with each other in Dracula: The Dark Prince. As a result, this movie may disappoint many a Dracula fan. That said, though, the biographical details seem somewhat forced to conform to the Dracula legend; therefore, it may disappoint viewers who appreciate good dramatic history too! In fact, its lower-budget melodramatic gothic penchant for romance, marital hysteria, dramatic dialogues, and over-usage of dark, closed-in, night scenes may disappoint many a movie-goer, at first viewing at least. The rather interesting closing screen comments, however, are what most help the viewer to assess whether or not the movie was a success or failure. For example, "In 1931, explorers dug up the tomb of Vlad Dracula, the Impaler; and they found only animal bones. In Romania, Vlad Dracula is still remembered as a savior to his country. Many pray for his return!" In my opinion, it merits judging as a success, but, perhaps not successful enough! After all, here is a man believed to be a new messiah (not only an antichrist), yet the movie does little to define the messianic fervor of his life-long fight against the Turkish Sultan Mohammed! Here is a man who was loved (and is still loved today, more than 600 years after his death) by the subjects and citizens of his land, yet the movie again fails to illuminate this aspect of his reign! Etc. In brief, the biographical facts suggest that a very different movie could/should have been made. It should not have been a

movie that pays respectful homage to coffin odors and Bram Stokers\' gothic imagination but a movie that lets the viewers breath the same exhilaratingly fresh air as that breathed by a person whose true passion is for freedom and victory against incredible, overwhelming odds! That said, this Romanian Prince merits a movie similar to Braveheart; he was the Romanian Braveheart!',  
 "Correcting Amazon's listing, this DVD is not widescreen but full screen, presented in its original 1.33:1 format. Digitally mastered. Audio: English 5.1 digital surround and Dolby 2.0. Subtitles: English and Spanish. Special features include: Select filmographies for director and cast; trailers for this and other features; menus and scene selection; photo gallery.DRACULA: THE DARK PRINCE (a.k.a. DARK PRINCE: THE TRUE STORY OF DRACULA, from USA Networks) stars Rudolf Martin, Jane March, Roger Daltrey, and Peter Weller. Shot on location in Romania with a largely Romanian crew.The DVD's cover art has very little resemblance to the feature. This is not a vampire movie, though at times it's dark and bloody.Martin (Vlad III) and March (Lidia) have many truly sublime moments in DARK PRINCE. The performances overall are well worth wading through the production's few awkward moments. Michael Sutton (Radu) and Christopher Brand (Bruno) add welcome depth with their supporting roles, as does Weller (Fr. Stefan) certainly.March's Lidia is almost distractingly modern in her distain for Dracula's methods, until considering noble daughters might well have been shielded from such political realities. It's Martin's portrayal of the medieval ruler that lingers, however. Coldly ruthless, commanding, born and trained to rule, weary of the necessary dancing with the Roman and Orthodox churches. Yet humanity shines through when he smiles at his infant child.Well done finale, worth the price of admission.", 'This movie came in very quickly and I had only seen this on TV once before. I loved this version about Dracula, it kind of puts a different spin on the story line.', '"Dracula: The Dark Prince": the title of this made-for-TV film is slightly misleading as it may make you think that the film is about vampires. It is not. Certainly the film stars Rudolf Martin as "Vlad Dracula the Impaler" or Prince of Romania (or Wallachia to be precise), one of the models of Count Dracula, but the story itself is not related to Bram Stoker's book or the blood-sucking Count himself. The film claims it is fact-based (and it is though very loosely), inspired by the real history of Vlad Dracula, often referred to as Vlad Tepes (Impaler).Raised by stern father, young Vlad and his brother Radu are later kidnapped and held hostage by the Turkish Sultan. After their father was murdered, only Vlad is allowed to go back to his country (reasons unexplained). Vengeful Vlad vows to free his country and brother Radu from the Turks and he enlists a financial help from Hungarian King Janos (Roger Daltrey). While staying at his court, he falls in love with King's daughter Lidia (Jane March) and marries her.All these incidents loosely based on the historical facts are told as memories of Vlad Dracula interrogated by Father Stefan (Peter Weller) and other priests trying to indict him for his atrocities. The short film includes many events, but as it is clearly low-budget, you cannot expect grand-scale battle scenes. But the film keeps slick storytelling which is not boring with convincing locations (shot in Romania, why not?) and the complex personalities of Vlad Dracula. I only wish that the film took more time to explore the meanings of his extremely harsh punishments as the ruler of the politically unstable country."Dracula: The Dark Prince" is not a horror film; it is more like a historical mini-series. It may not be as accurate as it claims, but it surely has a good story in it.']

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['I like the way the four individuals intertwined. DVD was masterfully done. Something every grade school student should watch and learn about.', 'American history teachers will find this series worth watching and sharing some portions with students. I sometimes show episodes three and four, but time issues limit how much of the series is shown during class. After having students watch episode three, these are some of the major terms/people with definitions that are mentioned throughout the episode:Founding Brothers: Evolution of a Revolution Part III1796: This was the twentieth anniversary of America. There were now sixteen states including Tennessee and Washington stated in September he would not seek a third term.Washington: He decided not to run for a third term in September 1796 and set a two-term presidential tradition. He was the first president and many

people now looked at Americans who had Revolutionary credentials. He entered and left Washington as the most revered man in America. He died on December 14, 1799.

**Adams:** He was the first vice-president, a Federalist, and believed in a strong central government. Adams was once good friends with Jefferson, but politics separated their friendship. He became the first president that had to deal with party politics. Although Hamilton was a He detested and feared Hamilton, although they were both Federalists. He feared the creation of a large standing army because it could be used for tyranny.

**Jefferson:** He was the first secretary of state, a Republican (Democratic-Republican), and believed government should be small. He was once cordial friends with Adams, but this friendship ended because of politics. The Constitution made the second place finisher vice-president because there was no twelfth amendment in 1797. He was considered a French sympathizer.

**political parties:** Federalists and Republicans were the first two organized factions in America. Although not mentioned in the Constitution, party politics began during Washington's presidency. Hamilton was the leader of the Federalists and Jefferson was the leader of the Republicans.

**Madison:** He encouraged his close friend and fellow Republican Thomas Jefferson to run for president against John Adams. He helped write the Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions.

**cabinet:** Adams inherited a cabinet that was more loyal to Hamilton. Washington began the tradition of selecting individuals to lead executive departments that would advise the president.

**Hamilton:** He was the leader of the Federalists and an enemy of both Adams. He earned a poor reputation because of an affair with Maria Reynolds. Although he admitted to an affair, he tried to clear his reputation by publishing all love letters. Hamilton wanted to raise an army during the Quasi-War and later was made the second in command by Washington.

**French Revolution:** This revolution was fought between 1789 to 1799 in France. Americans, including Washington, realized that the reason France had allied itself with America during the American Revolution was to possibly regain lost territory. Although Hamilton made sure American debt was steadily repaid to France, the French were disappointed that America did not loan money.

**Jay's Treaty:** This was a treaty signed in 1795 between the United States and Great Britain that promoted ten years of mostly peaceful trade between the two countries. Alexander Hamilton designed most of the terms of the treaty and John Jay was the chief negotiator. Washington gave reluctant support for the treaty. Jefferson and Madison thought the British economic interests would strengthen the Federalists.

**XYZ Affair:** This diplomatic event dealt with strained relations between France and the United States. X, Y, and Z were nicknames given to three French agents, who were later revealed as Jean Conrad Hottinguer, Pierre Bellamy and Lucien Hauteval. The French agents demanded 50,000 pounds sterling, a \$12 million loan from the United States, a \$250,000 personal bribe to French foreign minister Charles Maurice de Talleyrand, and a formal apology for comments made by President John Adams to continue peace negotiations.

**Quasi-War:** By 1797, Adams's cabinet were crying out for war against France. This war was undeclared and took place between 1798 to 1800. America had to raise an army because of this short war. Some Americans accused Jefferson of being loyal to France. Adams felt a large army could be used for tyranny, but finally raised an army of 15,000 that was led by General George Washington. Alexander Hamilton was made the second in command by Washington during this war. Right at the very end of the war, Adams helped negotiate peace with France.

**War Hawks:** These were congressmen who wanted to raise a 50,000 man army. This term was also used by congressmen who advocated waging war against the British in the War of 1812.

**Abigail:** She offered lots of advice and counsel to her husband John Adams throughout his presidency and life. She was a very educated and informed woman, but one issue she poorly advised her husband on was his decision to pass the Alien and Sedition Acts.

**Alien & Sedition Acts:** This act sent away foreigners and jailed journalists who criticized elected officials. Fourteen reporters and writers were arrested by 1799 for publishing information against Adams and his administration. Jefferson used these acts to his advantage by charging Adams with being a monarchist. This was a bad term because it compared Adams to King George III. Republicans felt the acts went against the First Amendment and the American system of government. These acts damaged the reputation of John Adams.

**muckraker:** This is often a journalist, reporter, or writer who publishes truthful reports about crime and corruption that often focuses on elected officials and celebrities. James T. Callendar is sometimes referred to as a muckraker because of the salacious content of some of his reporting in

the wars between the Federalists and Republicans. Kentucky & Virginia Resolutions: Jefferson and Madison anonymously wrote these resolutions explaining the states had the rights to abolish laws they deemed unconstitutional. Jefferson threatened that Virginia might secede from the union because of the Alien and Sedition Acts. Dec. 14, 1799: This is the day and year that George Washington died. He was 67 and got sick when he was caught in a snowstorm while riding on a five hour trip around his Mount Vernon plantation. It was a date of great mourning because Washington was beloved by Americans, In Philadelphia thousands of people mourned the loss of Washington because of his great leadership during the birth and infancy of the American republic. Henry Lee eulogized Washington by saying, "To the memory of the Man, first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen." Americans were never as unified after the death of Washington.

election of 1800: Thomas Jefferson challenged John Adams once again in this election. It was a hotly contested and vicious election because of the libelous statements between Federalists and Republicans. Jefferson was called an intellectualist and Adams was called a monarchist. Adams fired most of his cabinet, which infuriated Hamilton and other Federalists. Aaron Burr: He was a popular New York Senator. He appealed to Federalists and Republicans and it was thought if he ran for the office of president, he would take votes away from Adams. Although it was hoped he would finish second and become vice president, he tied in a 73 electoral with Jefferson, but the Republicans had hoped he would have been vice president, he remained silent on the issue. He has a questionable reputation and is mistrusted by most of the Founding Fathers. Hamilton did not like Burr and pushed all of his weight towards Jefferson becoming the third President of the United States. In the 36th round of voting in the House, Aaron Burr was elected the vice president.', 'I enjoyed this informative documentary of the beginning of the USA. I think it was very well done and have watched it a couple of times and I am sure I will watch it again.', 'I love history and in recent months I have been voraciously reading / viewing various books / DVD collections. Founding Brothers is a documentary from the History Channel that is based on the Pulitzer-Prize winning book by Joseph Ellis. I would note that there is another DVD collection (created a few years ago by the History Channel) entitled Founding Fathers. Both DVD collections discuss the lives and times of the founding fathers (brothers). This particular DVD collection starts with post revolution times (i.e constitutional congress - 1820 or so) and really dives into how, once the war was over the bickering and infighting began amongst the founding fathers. If you are looking for pre-revolution commentary than Founding Fathers is a better DVD collection to pick up as it starts with New England dissent to the winning of the war.1. This DVD collection is well produced. Famous actors provided the voices for the characters as in Founding Fathers. Many of the voice overs are done by the same people in both collections.2. While the DVD is certainly worth watching I found myself wishing it had more facts about the economy and its progress but, as the title states, this series is about the founding fathers.3. The series did a nice job of discussing how various fathers had issues with slavery. It discussed whether they were pro-slavery or against it and how some had serious troubles dealing with it.4. The one thing I thoroughly enjoyed about the DVD collection was that it clearly depicts how each of these men came together despite their different backgrounds and temperaments to found a nation. Most of my reviews are in business / economics and I encourage people to read them, whether here on Amazon or at my personal website. If you are interested in economic history book I would encourage everyone to read The Worldly Philosophers by Robert Heilbroner since it is more international in scope and deals with the lives and times of the most famous economists in history. If you are interested in economic development / evolution of U.S. property history I would encourage you to read Hernando DeSoto's Mystery of Capital but note his lack of focus on corruption in certain countries. A great general business book is by the management guru Peter Drucker entitled "The Essential Drucker."', "Lately, I have been concentrating my studies of American History in the period immediately proceeding the American Revolution to the conclusion of the Civil War and then the Civil Rights Movement. To this purpose, I have purchased a bunch of VHS & DVD titles. This is just one of many & it is definately worth the price & time n viewing! I enjoyed this video set very much. So many titles have intermingled in my memory, that I can't seem to separate this set from the others I have purchased & viewed. I just know I really enjoyed watching it & would recommend to anybody interested in this period of American History.", "This series is based upon a book by the

same title, 'Founding Brothers', by author Joseph J. Ellis, who also has written books on both John Adams and Thomas Jefferson - hence it makes sense that there would be one book that brings the two of them together, along with other movers and shakers of the early American nationhood. Often referred to as 'founding fathers', in fact toward each other, they were more of a brotherhood. Hence Ellis' title. We live in a time where the aging generation has been celebrated as 'the greatest generation', but for this title (and not meaning to take away anything of their achievement) they certainly must acknowledge a rival, that being the generation of Americans who lived at the time of the Revolutionary War. Of course, this generation had a sense of greatness about it that made them conscious of what they were doing - George Washington deliberately lived and moved as if his every action would be the stuff of precedent; John Adams had his wife Abigail to begin saving his correspondence long before the outbreak of hostilities in the war. Even with this sense about themselves, according to Ellis, 'Uncertainty, in fact, was the dominant mood at that moment' - the time when the Constitution was being drafted and ratified, there was no clear sense of what was meant by certain of the compromises, particularly the meaning of who 'the people' were in the legal and constitutional sense. If they weren't the federal government or the state governments, then just who were they? Ellis identifies different possible ways of telling the early history of American nationhood, but most simply recapitulate the political debates of the time. Ellis sees these debates and early issues as setting the political stage for ongoing American development. He says, 'the revolutionary generation found a way to contain the explosive energies of the debate in the form of an ongoing argument or dialogue that was eventually institutionalised and rendered safe by the creation of political parties.' The issues of the Revolutionary period were not solved by the Constitution and early government development, according to Ellis, but rather enshrined and codified, indeed, woven into the very fabric of the nation as ongoing (and, as Ellis points out, only broke out into warfare during the Civil War). This series develops the narrative across eight major characters, all of whom knew each other rather well. These figures are George Washington, John and Abigail Adams, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, Benjamin Franklin, Alexander Hamilton, and Aaron Burr. These stories include the famous duel between Hamilton and Burr, a dinner party in which the location of the nation's capital city was decided, and George Washington's farewell address upon declining to run for a third term as president. He also recounts the on-again, off-again friendship and rivalry of Jefferson and Adams, up to the very point of Adams' death - his reported last words were about Jefferson, who died on the same day, in what seems like divinely inspired timing for both: July 4, 1826, the fiftieth anniversary of the birth of the nation. The history is necessarily brief in the series; the book companion is not a lengthy one either - however, history is necessarily selective, and the point of this series seems to be to emphasise the personal relationships and interactions that led to the greater developments of the nation. The series does gloss over some of the better-known aspects of history to focus more intimately on the central characters and their lives - in such a short space of time, I feel the series has done a very good job at making this period in time come alive for the viewer, and will hopefully stimulate the viewer to read, both Ellis' book and beyond, to learn more about the foundation of the nation.", 'I've watched the Founding Fathers DVD and now this, The Founding Brothers DVD as part of the Founding of America Mega set. I'll watch the rest, but the primary opinion that I can give you is that I was thoroughly disgusted! I agree with other reviews that I see here in saying that this is EXTREMELY biased towards the Federalists and against the Republicans, who by the way are not clarified as being the Democratic Republicans, not the modern day Republicans although limited government principles are common to both and the modern party was created in 1854 to go back to the principles written in the Declaration of Independence and live by "All men are created equal", which IS Jefferson. It is technically a different organization. I believe that if you 1. know a fair amount of founding era history 2. are a Libertarian, Republican or Constitution party member ( I mention these because the common, limited government principles that each hold are clearly what is being attacked through a side door here. ) and/or 3. are a legitimate historian of any political persuasion, you will be stunned at the audacity of this slanted presentation disguised as a historical education product! They also don't even mention the fact that the Federalists took the use of the name from their political opposition (people like Patrick Henry and George Mason) to defeat them, but Jefferson

is hammered and hammered for every use of politics. I can tell you this. Because I already know much of this history, I can clearly see how slanted these History Channel presentations are. Luckily, I only spent about 19 bucks for the box set, but that's the LAST money the History Channel will get from me. I will never again view them as a credible source of history. Some of the occasionally inserted "experts" did have some credible input, but not all and most of both founding productions show like structured Hit pieces on Jefferson, glorification of the Federalists and almost obscene glorification of Hamilton. This programming puts great effort into painting Jefferson as a political, slave holding hack who unjustifiably accused Hamilton and the Federalists of being advocates of un-necessarily large government with too much power while amazingly skimming over Washington's slaves and totally ignoring Hamilton's five hour speech at the Constitutional Convention that called for a strong national (not federal) government like England's MONARCHY at the time! Jefferson is ripped apart through 4 DVDs (the founding Fathers discs AND the Founding Brothers discs) and all federalists questionable actions are explained with sympathy or not mentioned at all! There isn't even a mention of the slave "trade" ending while Jefferson was President (only to be expanded by others later, which is why people who believed that all men are created equal started the Republican party to unite against slavery) People, there are FAR better sources of history than History Channel presentations, no matter how nicely these are packaged. I view these as corrupt educational material. The American Classic series books are a much better place to start if this is new to you. (The Real Thomas Jefferson (American Classic Series) The Real George Washington (American Classic Series) The Real Benjamin Franklin (American Classic Series). The John Adams HBO series is credible too, (including the "facts are stubborn things" feature on the discs) and the "Politically incorrect guide to" books have great info too. Also check out "A Patriot's History of the United States" by Larry Schweikart and Michael Allen. They are all available here on amazon. The bottom line is that you need to read as much of the founders actual words as possible to get the greater picture.', 'I decided to watch "Founding Brothers" as background research for my class on the American Presidency. My surprise was great when I realized the beginnings of America resemble a modern day soap opera, with just as much drama and deception. This production of the History Channel is based on the best-selling book of the same title by historian Joseph Ellis, and presents an intricate, highly political and oftentimes highly manipulative picture of America's first steps towards self-government. The series is four hours long and covers the first three presidents - George Washington, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson - in all their mandates, along with the politics that surrounded not only them as individuals but their cabinets as well. There is superb acting from the cast in period clothing and a great job has been done in making them look like their alter egos. The voices of the patriots were entrusted to actors of the caliber of Brian Dennehy, Michael York and Peter Coyote. "Founding Brothers" provides great insight and scholarly analysis on other politicians of the time as well, those who did not occupy the executive's office, yet had just as much influence in the shaping of the political future of the country. Thus we have extensive background on Benjamin Franklin, John Jay and Alexander Hamilton to name but a few, this last one a shrewd man, also known as the American Machiavelli, and responsible for the engineering of America's financial system. I don't have anything to say about the quality of the material in the series, which is all discussed by first grade historians and researchers. I was surprised however, by the charisma and integrity that seemed to have been the distinguishing marks of George Washington, the irascibility that precluded John Adams from becoming an effective leader, and the appalling manipulative and conniving personality of Thomas Jefferson, a man known for having betrayed his closest friends. "Founding Brothers" presents a picture sometimes hopeful, sometimes disdainful of American politics. An eye-opener for anyone wishing to understand the nature of the country's government.', "In our modern politization of history, people are forced into two groups. The first are those who've only now realized that their larger-than-life image of Jefferson, Washington and the other founders as an uncommonly civil and reasonable bunch is just that, a myth. This group is hurt by this and looks at any attempt to point out the founders weaknesses, internal inconsistencies and what-have-you as nothing less than high slander. Then there is the group that realizes that the founders WERE flawed, contradictory and not quite the proper stuff of legends. This group, though generally out of political spite, not only embraces this



fact, but loves to rub any history buff's face in it, pointing to our flawed history as certain proof that America was conceived in shame. This video is refreshing because we get a good dose of ammunition for both sides. Starting with George Washington's inauguration, this film takes us through a brilliant story of a people forced to govern from scratch. The film does a good job in pointing out that unlike today, presidents, cabinets, legislators had no precedents. Who could Washington, Hamilton, the congress who in 1800 dealt with the first election recount in history; none of these, had anyone to look to anyone to see how it was done before. It wasn't done before! We go through the Washington, Adams, and Jefferson presidency; our dealings with France, a new economic system, slavery, and colliding visions of the federalists and the republicans (nowadays these would be termed the republicans and the democrats, respectively). Not quite a Ken Burns film but close! With that said, this film is extremely biased towards the federalists. Whether in the battle of words between Adams and Jefferson, where only Jefferson is made to look hot-headed, or the constant understatement of Madison's intellect (well, that is the republican, not the federalist Madison). If you are like me, an old whig republican (nowadays called a libertarian or classical liberal) you will be slightly annoyed at oversights like these. Jefferson was by no means a perfect or for that matter, a thoroughly respectable individual but this film highlights these flaws while letting Hamilton's slide. The only other quip I have is that the legislature and judicial branch are completely ignored. It's understandable because for a film on the History Channel must focus on what the general public is most interested in and this by far is the executive branch (can you name at least one federal judge?) but it would have been nice once in a while to be reminded of their existence. Although this film lacks some of the vigor that Founding Fathers had (with the fiery orations by speakers at the Constitutional Convention), it is still thoroughly engrossing. It conveys what so few films, books and (PUKE!!) history lessons seem to almost, but never fully, get across; the founders and our history were/was living and breathing.", 'I love history and this DVD helps to understand the amazing intelligence and foresight of these wonderful men and the controversies they faced. Providence was definitely involved to create the result.', "This DVD set combined with the book of the same title offers excellent insight to the birth of a great Republic. The DVD is limited in breadth due to time constraints, though it does offer a nice amount of information. Because there were so many heroes and important figures of this historical time, the film makers chose to focus mainly on a few key people: George Washington, Alexander Hamilton, Thomas Jefferson, and John Adams. Almost two whole segments are spent, and rightfully so, on George Washington. Nothing new is exposed for well-read historians, but for casual history buffs there are some great details presented. Interesting analysis, questions, answers, and anecdotes throughout. We get an insiders view of the events and people. We see political tactics used by the key players that would make modern politicians shy up. We get a picture not normally found in text books of the stage set for this experiment. Washington, for example, after being elected President had an interesting ride from Virginia to Philadelphia in a carriage with a driver so drunk that his baggage was tossed over several times. Once in Philadelphia, Washington wondered, how should a President act? After all there was no model. He had to act important, but not monocratic, a tough thing to do. The filmmakers do a nice job contrasting the Federalist and Anti-Federalist (Republican) differences and the very strong personalities involved. They do a nice job weaving the relationships in and out as the years progressed. DVD one starts at the tail end of the American Revolution and DVD two wraps up with the death of Jefferson and Adams on July 4, 1826. It would be very tough to make a two DVD set that properly covers all the material, events, and people involved with this important time period. I think the filmmakers did a fine job here. A one star hit for all but ignoring Franklin's political, philosophical, diplomatic, and social contributions. Even though Franklin was in his advanced years, his contributions to the development of the young nation were very significant. Maybe they felt Franklin too overwhelming a figure for this project, I don't know. Still an effort should have been made. I applaud the material offered and find this to be a worthy set to own and plan to view it many times.", 'Bravo, Bravo...extremely well done! However, the most important part was not included: The faith of our founding fathers! These were men and women who read their Bibles daily and quoted scripture often. They were people who prayed on their knees, especially during times of great peril. Consider George Washington's Prayer for the Nation June 8, 1783, that was sent to the

governors of all the states:"Almighty God, we make our earnest prayer that Thou wilt keep the United States in Thy Holy protection: that Thou wilt incline the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to government and entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another and for their fellow citizens of the United States at large. And finally, that Thou wilt most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility, and pacific temper of mind which were the characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed religion, without a humble imitation of whose example in these things we can never hope to be a happy nation. Grant our supplication, we beseech Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord.Amen."On March 4, 1805, President Jefferson offered "A National Prayer for Peace," which petitioned:"Almighty God, Who has given us this good land for our heritage; We humbly beseech Thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of Thy favor and glad to do Thy will. Bless our land with honorable ministry, sound learning, and pure manners.Save us from violence, discord, and confusion, from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitude brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues.Endow with Thy spirit of wisdom those to whom in Thy Name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that through obedience to Thy law, we may show forth Thy praise among the nations of the earth.In time of prosperity fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in Thee to fail; all of which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen"President John Adams stated on October 11, 1798: "We have no government armed with power capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and religion. Avarice, ambition, revenge, or gallantry, would break the strongest cords of our Constitution as a whale goes through a net. Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other." "We recognize no Sovereign but God, and no King but Jesus!"I recommend reading, "The Light and the Glory" by Peter Marshal, and "America's Godly Heritage" by David Barton. God Bless.']

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[The 41 musical videos put together here are FAR more than mere clips designed to sell an audio product.They all define the different periods of time in which the Pet Shop Boys were recording and are works of art in their own right.The earlier ones such as "Opportunities","Suburbia" and of course "West End Girls" reflect the various British 'slice of life' that the songs themselves portrayed.And the other videos range from the topical "It's Going To Be Alright" and "It's A Sin" to the clever "What Have I Done To Deserve This" and "Left To My Own Devices.My favorites are the colorful early CG videography used for the video's from the 1993 'Very' album era,especially the cone hats worn in the fanciful "Can You Forgive Her?" video.The last 15 or so video's on this set are from albums released long after I lost interest in the Pet Shop Boys music but by the sound and look of things I should reevaluate that notion.So the facts are for any PSB fans who either need to replace or have never seen these video's then this is an obvious must have-it covers every era of their music and is highly comprehensive.And for newcomers this DVD will take you back before music video's became basically just lots of T&A and actually had some genuine thought and theatrical content to them-an era that could really use a comeback in this day and age.', "This is one of the good collections from Neil Tennant and Chris Lowe (Pet Shop Boys)even though the price is a little steep. Recommended to those whom are interested in this genre of Music Video DVD..MTV.....Written by:Dr, Prof (PhD)Ang Poon KahTC Submission for 'this'/money government.Syncast for Mystery of the NileImagine entertainment for Da Vinci Code.Zakkers film director.", "I've been a PSB fan since West End Girls, so I've been thru thick and thin with them. They are one of my favourite groups, and always will be. All in all, this is a treat. Every video they ever made, right here in remastered quality.As another reviewer said, PSB never made great videos. I agree. They must be one of the more stingy outfits around, because their music does sell well (especially in the UK). So they definitely had the money to invest. Sadly, they did not for the majority of these videos. Low budget is the word here.Videos like 'Left to My Own Devices' and 'Before' (an

excellent song) are just pointless. They are so low budget and uninspired as to make them completely irrelevant. All the directors are listed in the booklet, but I think PSB had most of the input on their videos. So many of them look similar, and ALL the videos from "Very" (1993) look almost exactly alike. PSB were making computerized videos seven or eight years after everyone else realized it was cheesy. Also, there are at least four or five videos of random clips of random people doing random things -- which have nothing to do with PSB. That got irritating. In addition, I found the commentary a little disappointing. I was hoping to hear more about the technical details of each video instead of them giggling at each other the entire time. Granted, they are funny and pleasant, but it seemed more like just hanging out and watching videos than real commentary. Anyway, it's an interesting DVD, full of cool stuff (if you get can get thru the boring parts), and I'm glad I have it. I probably won't watch it very often, but I still love PSB and this disc only adds to their rich history.", "How can any video collection be complete without this companion video set to their double/triple disc anthology? As if the PopArt audio set wasn't generous enough, PSB included all of the videos to the songs (except the new ones Miracles and Flamboyant) that were on the CDs as well as two extras Was it Worth it and How Can You Be Taken Seriously and three extended videos of Go West, Domino Dancing and So Hard. Two things made this DVD superb. First, the remastering of the videos. Obviously, the DVD authors have gone to great lengths to revive the color and sound of all videos especially the older ones. Most of the 80's video look as if they could have been shot any day now. The audio quality is also unrivalled. Loud and crisp with the option of hearing a 3-hour long commentary of the boys themselves. The second thing is the booklet that accompanies the disc. Very often, record companies include a pathetic piece of paper in the inlay but PSB gives you 60 pages of video images and colors. As with the videos, they need no introduction. Each tells a story of their own and most would have fitted perfectly with what PSB had in mind at the point in time. Was it worth it? Yes, every penny in your pocket!!!", "I was really happy AMAZON had this DVD because no store in my so called town had it in stock. If you are a Pet Shop Boys fan this DVD is a must have and worth the price tag. You get almost all of the groups videos. The DVD includes over 40 cuts. The Pet Shops Boys music is dancy, techno type of music almost, but in the videos Neil and Chris don't really dance--they just have a presence. Some of the videos are a little strange, like "It's Alright." I have never seen a lot of these videos because most of them weren't aired in the states often. As a Pet Shop Boys fan finally being able to put an image with the song was somewhat satisfying, I am glad I bought this DVD and if you like PSB you will be glad to buy it too.", "After I bought the 3 disc set of the PopArtMix album I thought it couldn't get much better. I was wrong. The DVD version of the album is brilliant. I have no idea what the Amazon description is referring to but mine has 41 videos (3 being extended versions of songs), audio commentary for each video (which is hilarious at times), shuffle feature (which, in my opinion, all music DVD's should offer) and a booklet with photos from each video and tracklisting. I must say these guys treat their fans like royalty. Aside from Release, they have never disappointed me. I must say hearing the singles from Release on the Album and DVD have shed new light on them. Anyhow, this is a real gem of a DVD. I think a lot of other artists should follow in their footsteps when creating "hits" collections.", "This DVD follows the video career of the Pet Shop Boys, paired with the release of their dual-CD of the same name. With regard to the CD, the first of the discs of this 'Greatest Hits' for the Pet Shop Boys contains 17 tracks (Pop), and the second 18 tracks (Art). For those who are die-hard fans of the Pet Shop Boys, this is a must have, but, for the most part, those fans will find it is in many ways an already-have. The tracks are remastered, but given the high production qualities of most PSB discs generally, there isn't a great deal to be gained from this. There are two new songs, Miracles and Flamboyant (one on each disc), which are both wonderful (and, interestingly, the addition of two songs to the 'greatest hits' compilation matches their performance with Discography, which also had a 'best of' with two new tracks added). These songs, unfortunately, are not reflected in the video collection on this DVD. Unlike the CD collection, the DVD is arranged chronologically, beginning the song 'Opportunities' (which had two versions, one released prior to the song 'West End Girls' becoming a worldwide hit), and ending with songs from their latest album, Release. It also includes a few pieces that are extended single versions. Some of these pieces are quite remarkable - directors such as Bruce Weber and Derek Jarman

collaborated with the Pet Shop Boys to make very sleek, very stylish videos that stand the test of time well, and still include innovative features that many other videographers have subsequently taken on as standard practices. There are the major songs and single releases from all previous albums, so this serves both as a retrospective but also as a handy all-in-one collection spanning the history of the Pet Shop Boys; from that perspective, if you were to have just one CD/DVD from them, this would be the one. This includes all the number one hits, all the top ten, with an additional collection of tracks from the later album releases that reached the UK top 20. The division between 'Pop' and 'Art' is subtle, and any lifelong fan will have his or her own impressions as to which songs should fit into which category. On the CD, the 'Pop' side is more disco/dance music, whereas the 'Art' side is a little more sombre, and the lyrics a little more complex. On the other hand, some songs, such as 'Love comes quickly' would easily qualify for either designation. There is no such designation here, but for those who have both, it is interesting to see if the videos match with the music in the categorisation. This collection represents more than 20 years work on the part of Neil Tennant and Chris Lowe. For the first several years of that career, they were famous world-wide, and quite a staple in the dance clubs and video programming in America and elsewhere. The first singles collection 'Discography' (with the companion video release, 'Videography' at the same time) represented the beginning of the decline of 80s style dance music in America, but the music descended from this type remained strongly popular throughout the rest of the world, as the sold-out concert tours of the Pet Shop Boys everywhere except North America attests to. Many of the songs on this 'Pop-Art' collection will therefore be new to audiences whose interest in the Pet Shop Boys ended the hits from the 'Behaviour' era. A must-have for anyone who likes dance music, disco, electronic music, 80s music, the Pet Shop Boys, or who wants to have a complete music collection of some of the 'founding fathers' of Music Television.", 'Who could ask for more? The Pet Shop Boys remain one of the most Influential Dance Groups in dance clubs today. This is a group that was Techno before Techno came into existence and had great collaborations with the late Dusty Springfield (What Have I Done To Deserve This) and Boy George (The Crying Game). But this DVD showcases Neil Tennant and Chris Lowe at their best. From the memorable synth progressions of classics like the rappish "West End Girls" and "Love Comes Quickly" to their hard punching Technofied music of the nineties and today, The Pet Shop Boys always deliver. Without the Pet Shop Boys, We would've been robbed of some great music to move to.', "Sure to replace the outdated VHS video collections like 'Television' and the previous greatest hits companion, 'Videography', 'PopArt' is the ultimate collection for diehard PSB fans. Digitally remastered in both sound and picture, this represents the Pet Shop Boys at their best, leaving no visual representation of their work out of the picture (save for the new singles, 'Flamboyant' and 'Miracles'). The commentary from the duo is excellent; the two offer witty insights into the rather dated, yet well-crafted, videos. Tracks are presented chronologically via the 'play all' function or can be randomized (there is nothing quite like seeing 'West End girls' followed by 'Se a vida e' or 'New York City boy'), a feature that is both fitting and appreciated. As I said, a few of the videos are dated, such as those representing the 'Very' album, but to see the visuals that accompany the singles is a great experience. Highlights include the duet with Dusty Springfield on 'What have I done to deserve this', 'Paninaro '95', 'Single-Bilingual', 'London', 'Always on my mind', and, of course, 'Can you forgive her.' (Though it is fair to say that every video is indeed a 'highlight', and it is tough to pick out a few favorites). Indeed, some may balk at the included extended versions of 'Domino dancing', 'So hard', and 'Go West', but these are significant works in and of themselves. This DVD is a necessary and requisite companion for the 'PopArt' CD as much as it is a requirement for any true Pet Shop Boys fan. So far, the only available version is an import from Canada (playable on all regions) but it is well worth the wait to receive this stunning work. Also included with the DVD is a companion book full of photographs representing the videos themselves, little screen shots of whatever struck their fancy. The videos are as eclectic as the Pet Shop Boys themselves and their music, and it is truly great to have such a collection available on DVD with crystal-clear visuals and superb sound.", "The reason for the four

star rating is that The Pet Shop Boys were not a great video band. I have been a fan since "West End Girls" first hit the radio in 1986. I have collected every single album from them and continue to think they are one of the best electronic bands in pop history. But, they were not that great at making videos! There are many to choose from too. 41 in fact. 2 hours and 45 minutes to be exact--a little overwhelming to be honest. Yet, everything is here from "West End Girls"; to "London". There are some well made videos such as "Being Boring" (which Neil and Chris even comment is one of their best videos), "Can You Forgive Her?", "Go West", "Se A Vida E", "You Only Tell Me You Love Me When You're Drunk", "London" and others. This is a one disc dvd, digitally remastered audio 2.0 and video. It's a regionless, NTSC dvd. It comes with a thick booklet of pictures that do not represent anything in particular and seemed like a waste to me. The unique thing about this compilation is that Neil and Chris give their commentary on all 41 videos and it's insightful as well as humorous. All in all, well worth the high price since it's the most comprehensive video compilation on one disc that you can buy on The Pet Shop Boys. The track listing is as follows:

1. Opportunities (Original Version)
2. West End Girls
3. Love Comes Quickly
4. Opportunities (Second Version)
5. Suburbia
6. Paninaro
7. It's A Sin
8. What Have I Done To Deserve This?
9. Rent
10. Always On My Mind
11. Heart
12. Domino Dancing
13. Left To My Own Devices
14. It's Alright
15. So Hard
16. Being Boring
17. How Can You Expect To Be Taken Seriously?
18. Where The Streets Have No Name (I Can't Take My Eyes Off You)
19. Jealousy
20. DJ Culture
21. Was It Worth It?
22. Can You Forgive Her?
23. Go West
24. I Wouldn't Normally Do This Kind Of Thing
25. Liberation
26. Yesterday, When I Was Mad
27. Paninaro '95
28. Before
29. Se A Vida E
30. Single-Bilingual
31. A Red Letter Day
32. Somewhere
33. I Don't Know What You Want But I Can't Give It Any More
34. New York City Boy
35. You Only Tell Me You Love Me When You're Drunk
36. Home And Dry
37. I Get Along/E-mail
38. London
39. Domino Dancing (Extended Version)
40. So Hard (Extended Version)
41. Go West (Extended Version)

"Some of these videos are just hilarious. Dated. Cliched. Very Eighties. What I really enjoyed is the running commentary with Chris and Neil (even they seem embarrassed by some of their own videos.) Insightful and sometimes very funny. If PSB is your kinda thing (you know who you are, you wouldn't have gotten this far if you don't like them) pick up this DVD. It's FABULOUS.", "Very good selection of classic songs performed by these two English singers. This is a documentary in itself of their musical career. Some performances like "It's a sin" are like treasures because we see them, the pet shop boys, young, at their very best.", "I've been a fan of Neil Tennant and Chris Lowe ever since "West End Girls." Pet Shop Boys distinguished itself from other 1980s bands in Tennant's vocal restraint, Lowe's masterwork at the instruments, and the pair's genius at writing catchy pop music. Their lyrics often touch on themes of lost love, society's superficiality, aging, and mortality. Their videos range in approach from serious and highly artistic affairs to wild self-parody. For years I have longed for DVD-quality editions of their videos, and now I happily have them. Unfortunately, the accompanying commentaries by Tennant and Lowe offer few behind-the-scenes memories of the videos, nor much explanation of why a given visual approach was taken with each video. Instead, Tennant and Lowe simply make fun of themselves in between long silences that could have been better spent explaining the motivation and development of each song and video. Listening to Tennant and Lowe mock their own costumes and performances, in video after video, I was left wondering, "Well, guys, if you hated doing each video that much, why did you do them that way?" I was disappointed in particular at their shallow treatment of "Being Boring," "Go West" and "I Wouldn't Normally Do This Sort of Thing" -- all of which are favorites of mine. If you enjoy the Pet Shop Boys, I highly recommend the DVD -- but the commentaries add nothing substantial to the collection.", "Was a big fan of PSB in the 80's into the 90's. Love their experimentation and all the styles they incorporated into their music. It really is all here. At least until 2003. The staples PSB songs are there as well as songs I never saw the video for. Single-Bilingual, New York City Boy are among the songs I never saw the vids for as well as some others. Awesome to say the least. If you have been a PSB fan for as long as I have, this set is for you...", "This U.S.A.-compatible NTSC edition from EMI/Canada has become the defacto U.S.A. edition, due to complex contractual problems which will likely block Capitol from releasing a U.S.A. pressing. The set contains every Pet Shop Boys video clip, excepting "Absolutely Fabulous". As for

the problems which are likely to preclude a U.S.A. release for the "Pop Art" DVD or CD sets, it can be explained quite simply: the group have owned their recordings from 1990 onwards (EMI owns the 1982-89 recordings), but while the group continues to license their recordings to EMI outside the U.S.A., the group has licensed their 1996-2003 recordings to non-EMI labels (Atlantic, Sire, Sanctuary) in the U.S.A., so as a result, Capitol must now seek permission from those 3 labels (they ARE trying) or there can be no U.S.A. release for the "Pop Art" CD or DVD sets. But the lack of a U.S.A. pressing on the DVD may not matter, since the Canadian import sells for less than what Capitol would have charged for the proposed U.S.A. pressing. Thanks EMI/Canada!!!, "PopArt" is the video anthology of Pet Shop Boys. It compiles all 38 of their videos (as well as extended versions of 3 videos) on a single DVD. When viewed from start to finish, the DVD runs for nearly three hours. While most pop acts release great singles but inferior videos, Neil Tennant and Chris Lowe have crafted music clips that are just as elegant as the albums they release. "PopArt" the DVD runs the gamut of moods and flavors, from the tasteful (Bruce Weber's black-and-white "Being Boring"), the homoerotic ("Domino Dancing" and "Paninaro 95") to high-tech ("Can You Forgive Her?" and "Liberation"), to the violent ("Jealousy") and the silly ("Heart," which has an appearance by Sir Ian McKellan). Even better, the videos are remastered, featuring picture quality ranging from good to striking. The music is also presented in a full-bodied 2.0 channel surround sound. Sure, I would have liked to have seen these videos in 5.1 audio, but the 2.0 sound quality is so superior that I didn't care. You can also watch these videos individually, in random order, or in a continuous sequence. There isn't much to boast in the way of extras, although there is a running commentary by Neil, Chris, and journalist Chris Heath. These guys are very laid back and have a real ball poking fun at each other and at the videos they made. The DVD also comes with a booklet that contains production credits and various pictures of the music videos. For American listeners who can't catch all these clips on MTV, this DVD is a real treat and a must-own. One final note: "PopArt" doesn't have videos for either 2003's "Miracles" or "Flamboyant," but other than that, this covers the groups entire visual history.", 'This is a Great Music Collection if you are a Fan of the Pet Shop Boys like me, in one DVD features 41 Videos, some of them are Awesome the Images are Colorful and Clear and the Sound Is Excellent fully remastered. The only thing I don't like is there are too many Black and White Videos specially the 1990 Being Boring, my all time favorite it would have looked so much better in Full Color, However, that is just a miniscule point and my own preference. I never get tired of watching all of them! For years every time I play their Music is like taking a Journey through my Life ... Their Music Never Gets Old, I wish I could give them 10 Stars The DVD Special Features includes 3 hour band Commentary. Inside the DVD Package there's a Picture Book or "Collectors Booklet" as they call it, mine has 22 Pages and not 60 Pages as indicated under the Editorial Reviews, this so called Collectors Booklet is filled with Blurry and out of Focus Pictures, ... Totally Useless, in the Center Page gives information of each Song's Credits in very Tiny Font, hard to read. I don't care about any of that... I am here for the ~SUPER GREAT MUSIC~ and ~PET SHOP BOYS~ ARE THE BEST! ... Thank You D.D.']

## B0001Z3IB2

["This movie has divided fans of Joe D'Amato, horror, zombies and sexploitation for decades now, and there's good reason for it. The first part of the film is a straight up porno film indicative of almost all Europorn of its day. The latter part is a tepid horror film about the resurrection of the living dead on a tropical island, and even creates a further rift among horror aficionados and zombie freaks about whether the island's inhabitants are just garden variety plain old undead or the upper elitist echelon, the zombie nation (zombie fans take their zombie worship very seriously, I might add). And, in between, there's just your average, standard travelogue exploitation we've seen hundreds of times before. There's no set up, no introductory plot, just bad music, bad acting, bad editing and lots of 'coitus interruptus', as none of the sex is finished - in the middle of each scene, the scissor edits kick in, and we're whisked away to someplace we didn't wish to be... so as porn, it's almost a failure,

but not quite. As horror, it's pretty much a dud until the last 20 minutes when the zombies/undead begin to rise from the sandy soil of their gravesites (which is rather cool, I will add), so it leaves much to be desired there as well. It uses most of the same cast and scenery locations from a similar film of D'Amato's, 'Porno Holocaust', which was filmed at or around the same time, which I think I preferred to this one - 'can't be sure 'till I suffer through it again (I'm a closet cine-masochist, I guess). As far as Laura Gemser goes, aside from a brief glimpse of her 35 minutes into the film, we don't get to see her form or hear her speak till 50 minutes into the island undead saga, so she shouldn't be billed as the star of this flick. She barely gets any screen time, and unveils herself to us only once that I can remember, so it's a total disappointment there. Huge bummer...if you're grabbing this for her presence, think twice. So what we're left with is yet another flick D'Amato didn't have his heart or head in, a movie that can't decide whether it wants to be a horror flick or a sexploitation-porn film, and ultimately ends up as not much of either. It is a curious oddity for those who have a weakness for such things, myself included, so you'll have to decide for yourself based on these disclosures whether you want to spend an 'Erotic Night of the Living Dead'. It might just kill ya...", "Italian zombie movies from the 80s all had a tendency to go to extremes. The success of Lucio Fulchi's *Zombie* (aka *Zombi 2* aka *Zombie Flesh Eaters*) opened the floodgates. Extreme gore was the number one draw of these films. *Erotic Nights* attempts to add what can only be called softcore porn to the mix. Graphic sex and violence doesn't mix at all. Only worth watching if you're a fan of the zombie sub-genre of horror and familiar with Italian films.", 'I think I have come across but accidentally discarded it. So, not seen. I put an OK. I may have to re-order it later.', 'This film has it all and i mean it all. Porn, gore, horror, what more do you want for entertainment. Great film.', "Well I am a collector of zombie movies and I do own some real stinkers such as *Zombie Lake*, *Revenge of the Dead*, to name a few, but boy this one was a huge disappointment. All of the other reviews are true, it is so bad you will find yourself hitting the chapter skip button. I knew not to expect much going into it, but I didn't think it would be this horrible. If you are looking for zombies, you will not find satisfactions here. There are a few scenes where you see these ultra lame zombie wannabes, very weak. If you get the unrated edition and want it for the porn you will find a lot, but you will find yourself getting tired of it quick. There are so many porn scenes that it seems they were just trying to add them in, made me lose interest in the movie immediately as it got old. I would not recommend buying this. Buy something else and steer clear off of this one.", "*Erotic Nights of the Living Dead* aka *Sexy Nights of the Living Dead* (if you get the uncut version). Came out in 1980 and was filmed back to back with many other Joe D'Amato (Aristide Massaccesi) classics like *Porno Holocaust*, *Hard Sensations*, and *Porno Esotic Love*. *Erotic Nights of the Living Dead* starred many Joe D'Amato originals (who are also all in the other three films above), Laura Gemser (*Emanuelle and the Last Cannibals*), George Eastman (*Antropophagus*), Dirce Funari (*Unleashed Perversions of Emanuelle*), Lucia Ramirez (*Blue Paradise*), and Mark Shannon (*Emanuelle in the Country*). Joe D'Amato (Aristide Massaccesi) did the Cinematography as well for the film. The script was written by actor George Eastman. *Erotic Nights of the Living Dead* in my mind was a very good film. It had violence, blood, gore, sex, and hard core penetration scenes. This is a must have for any Joe D'Amato (Aristide Massaccesi) fan or any one who likes zombie movie movies. Special features for *Erotic Nights of the Living Dead* include: Uncut Uncensored XXX Footage Restored! *Erotic Sunny Afternoons of the Living Dead* (Alternate Footage) Production Stills and a HOT and Steamy Laura Gemser Gallery! Original Theatrical Trailer for the Movie! Plot Line of the Movie: A hotel developer purchases a cursed tropical island where he plans to erect a luxury resort. Arriving on the god-forsaken island he finds opposition in the worm infested, flesh eating, walking corpses as they begin to rise from their graves. Did you know: *Erotic Nights of the Living Dead* is among the rarest of all zombie/cannibal/sex films. This Joe D'Amato masterwork is chock full of gore FX, steamy and graphic eroticism, and an apocalyptic cannibal-zombie flesh feast you won't forget!", 'NUDITY!!! We get hardcore oral male and female, penetration, the whole deal. The sex is even with one of the main characters not some spliced in porn. We get lots of naked Laura, and some other girl that spends pretty much the whole movie in a bikini, topless, and even a fair amount of time bottomless, and several other full frontal nude girls. Also a girl has sex with a champagne bottle, real penetration, and the bottle pops its cork inside her, bubbles spill from her bush! It was strange to

see hardcore full blown sex and then simulated softcore sex back to back. The softcore seemed so tame after the hardcore. The zombie stuff is fairly weak but still entertaining. The movie had a cool feel to it. I liked the boating, the seduction on the boat, the remote island. I know a lot of viewers are critical of this movie, but it is insanely original and there is nothing like it. That alone is worth something, besides all the sex and nudity. By itself you could give it 2 stars, but compare it to other movies and it's easily 5 star.', 'I bought this for my husband who owns just about every single "zombie" movie there is. This was a total waste of time and DVD disc material. I should have known by the title that it would be!', "Vampires have often been portrayed as seductive and sexy. Even werewolves are getting their day in the romance novels. But erotic zombies? Not really. The zombies here are not portrayed in any erotic manner, other than Laura Gemser lending her presence to the scene. Instead, the uncensored sex is provided by a hotel executive scouting a location to build a hotel. For some unknown reason he has chosen a remote island that seems to be completely covered in burial grounds. Laura Gemser is on the side of the interned. So what happens when capitalism tries to clash with the dead and buried? The dead become restless. What follows is rather typical of the low budget zombie films. The island becomes overrun with hundreds of zombies pushing up through the dirt to take their revenge on the living. The film could have used a little more plot to tie it together so we would know why the site was picked, that the developers knew about the graves but disregarded them, etc. but we don't get that. What we do wind up with is the sexy Laura Gemser, a bit of explicit sex, and lots of walking corpses. Actually, not so bad for a low-budget zombie film. If you are a fan of the low-budget zombie genre (you know who you are) then you will probably get a kick out of this film. If you are interested in seeing a hardcore epic that happens to include zombies, then you will be disappointed by the brief, though explicit, footage. If you know what you are hoping to find then you will know if this one is for you.", 'I may not be the quintessential purveyor of Euro-Horror, but I have seen enough to know that I have seen one of the worst in "Erotic Nights of the Living Dead!" That is not to say that this film is entirely uninteresting. If money is no object, or you can pick this DVD up for a song, then the combination of eye candy, bad special effects and hysterical dubbing (anybody remember SCTV's "Rome, Italian Style" spoof from years ago? Dubbing wise, this is the real thing!) make this zombie movie fun to watch...for awhile. Cinema this bad can only last so long until you grab your DVD remote and speed up the process, or go to the main menu for the special features. You have two men and a woman head out to "Cat Island," where zombies are purported to live. These folks don't believe the folktales, meet up with the only two inhabitants of the grave-riddled island (an elderly man with a boil on his forehead and his sultry granddaughter, played by Euro-Siren Laura Gemser), who warn the visitors to leave and... well, y'know. What I found most shocking about the film was that the restored hardcore sex scenes advertised on the package were actually hardcore sex scenes, available in shops that refuse to sell XXX action. Now--- if this is the part you're curious about, it's only one hardcore scene, and probably tame compared to the other XXX you've seen. You get lots of soft-core, lots of beautiful women romping naked, but nothing worth shelling out hard cash for. As for the Euro-Horror zombie flesh-chomping scenes, they are far and few between, and amongst the worst you will ever see! The special features? The alternate scenes and the Laura Gemser gallery is so lame, you would swear the folks producing this DVD wanted to outdo the mediocrity of the film itself. The one good special feature is the trailers for other Euro-Horror films.', 'I can not believe I spent over \$20.00 for this piece of trash. What I really can't believe is there are people out there who give this trash more than one star. This is without a doubt one of the worst movies I have ever seen. Nothing but porn. No horror at all. The zombies are terrible. The make up stinks. And by the way the dead do not make it a porn. Only the living. Don't buy it.', 'This is a Joe D'Amato's Caribbean zombie & sex flick, a good representative of the Italian exploitation cinema from the late 1970s and early 1980s. That said, the movie is fine and delivers what fans are expecting, an ok script, with gory and sex scenes. Compared with the previous release by Shriek Show, this one labeled as "Explicit uncut version" has more complete scenes with porn in them. Most notably, the initial scene with a trio in the bathroom and then in bed, the dancer with the champagne bottle (well achieved), and the women's revenge "cutting" scene. I noticed an interesting pattern in which as the movie progresses sex scenes tend to decrease while zombie gory scenes tend to increase. Please, note that both



versions of this film indicate Not Rated (NR) on the back cover. All in all, a good zombie and sex flick for those looking for such movies. A good, widescreen DVD transfer (similar in both versions of the film), English audio, no subtitles provided.', 'Joe Damatos erotic nights of the living dead is another one of those Italian trashy exploitation zombie flicks that while quite enjoyable is still flawed. the film is about a hotel tycoon who wants to build a new hotel on a Caribbean island. the island just so happens to be filled with walking corpses who don't want their home to be used for the hotels. as you can probably guess by now, the hotel guy and his group soon fall prey to the zombies. erotic nights isn't all that bad if you enjoy cheesy Italian films but everyone else should beware. the film is very cheesy and the acting, special effects, dubbing and overall look of the film is pretty low quality. also the film is pretty boring and dull until the final zombie attack at the end. leading up to that part we have an un-erotic hardcore sex scene and a few cheesy simulated scenes. if your patient through the tedious sex than you will enjoy the film's zombie filled climax. a good film for fans of Italian horror, just don't expect the best of the genre.', "First things first.....this is a Joe D'Amato (Aristide Massaccesi) Zombie Classic. Any one who is a Joe D'Amato fan knows that in all of his films with an exception of a few the he mixes Sex and Horror together. So don't buy his movies if you do not like movies like this. A hotel developer purchases a cursed tropical island where he plans to build a luxury resort. Arriving on the god-forsaken island he finds opposition in the worm infested, flesh eating, walking corpses as they begin to rise from their graves. Exotic Laura Gemser (BLACK EMANUELLE, EMANUELLE AND THE CANNIBALS, VIOLENCE IN A WOMAN'S PRISON) plays a sexy and mysterious apparition, who warns of grave danger! Among the rarest of all zombie/cannibal/sex films, this Joe D'Amato masterwork is full of gore, steamy eroticism, and an apocalyptic cannibal-zombie climax flesh feast you won't soon forget! Joe D'Amato (Aristide Massaccesi) was born on December 15, 1936, in Rome and died in Rome, Italy because of a heart attack. The last film that D'Amato was working on was a movie called PLANKTON (1995). That was supposed to be about a group of young divers become infected with a 'virus' which results in rape and bloody mayhem. Erotic Nights of the Living Dead (Sexy Night of the Living Dead) originally was supposed to be a strait forward Horror film. But the producer told Joe to put the Sex, Orgasms, threesomes in there to spice it up. Erotic Nights of the Living Dead is an Erotic Horror film. It even states that on the back of the box. If you don't like the version with all the Sex, Orgasms, threesomes then just buy the Cut version also by Shriek Show. If you liked this title then you will like Joe D'Amato's (Aristide Massaccesi) other Zombie Horror Classic, PORNO HOLOCAUST also released by Shriek Show/Media Blasters under their Exploitation label company Exploitation Digital. It is the infamous sleaze/horror 'classic' from Joe D'Amato. That Stars infamous cast of EROTIC NIGHTS OF THE LIVING DEAD; George Eastman, Dirce Funari, Lucia Ramirez and Mark Shannon, join Annj Goren (Unleashed Perversions of Emanuelle, Black Orgasm) in this notorious Italian cult shocker! In Porno Holocaust, A group of scientists visit a deserted island to search for a native who's reportedly been exposed to nuclear fallout. Unaware that a sex-crazed, cannibalistic, radioactive monster walks among them they are stalked and attacked by the, zombie mutant. This insatiable creature explicitly rapes and then disembowels the females, who die horrible deaths after being inseminated with its radioactive sperm. This is one of Joe D'Amato's strangest, wildest, and sleaziest films!", "Oh good lord what can I say about this one. With Laura Gemser starring and Joe D'Amato directing, this film feels like a lost entry in the Black Emmanuelle series, but in this one she plays a voodoo girl who keeps staring off the beach of Cat Island. Do not take this as a bad thing as D'Amato's camera loves Gemser and perhaps in this film it is apparent more than their others. George Eastman of 'Baba Yaga' stars in this one as a boat captain who is hired by this skeezy oversexed (you betcha!!) lawyer type to take him to the forbidden island with his tramp dujour. So Eastman (apparently still a Name in the cast because he gets to have all his sex with his clothes on) takes them out there where the living dead attack them. Okay, the zombies don't get as much screen time as the naked chicks, but with this kind of acting, like, who can tell the difference. Combining the hardcore market and the gutmuncher market is honestly one of the most misguided ideas in the history of film, so this one gets three stars just for being a carwreck of a film that you just know you have to slow down for. I will never look at a champagne bottle the same way again, and, like Jay Slater said in his book Eaten Alive, I could only wonder what had happened to the cork...

The photography of the sex scenes leaves me with one lingering query: What would D'amato have achieved in the hardcore scene if he hadn't been so misogynistic? Also kudos to the overdubbing dept.--they didn't even match the cat's yowling with it's mouth!!", "Prolific porn and horror director Joe D Amato attempts to tackle two popular genres that many other Italian directors have tried to cash in on during their success in the late 70's and early 80's which were the beloved genre's of zombie horror flicks and Porn. In essence, you would think by mixing the two, you would have yourself a great movie. But Erotic Nights of the Living Dead falls short as both a porn flick and a zombie movie. But what it does accomplish, is the status of a truly great pizza and beer with buddies movie. So if you're into truly and laughably bad movies with bad acting, bad dubbing, bad music, bad plot and mediocre effects, Erotic Nights of the Living Dead may be up your next Mystery Science Theater 3000 project. I will say that the zombies are very Fulci in design and there are a few good gory moments here and there. But otherwise avoid unless you are a zombie completist or a truly sadist cinephile like myself.", 'If there was as much zombie action in this movie as there was sex, this movie would be great!1) ACTING: The acting was difficult to tell as the voices of the actors were dubbed. No one "appeared" to be a bad actor.2) PRODUCTION: The movie was pretty good when it came to production values. There were a few lighting issues, but nothing too distracting. Not a whole lot of blood and gore in this movie. There is a scene that is pretty violently graphic, and then later, one of our heroes is being eaten by the zombies. The soundtrack wasn't bad, and the eerie organ music heightened the creepiness of the island. The old man and the girl on the island were never explained, but I'm guessing they were ghosts, even though the girl did get it on with both Larry, John AND Fiona.3) ZOMBIES: The zombies in this one are definitely "Romero shamblers," even though where Romero's had problems walking, these were very steady in their pace. These zombies were very reminiscent of the Templar Knights movies, right down to the robes. They were in advanced stages of "rot," and varied from grotesque maggot covered peeling skin to simple gray faces with darkened eyes. They walked INCREDIBLY slow and weren't difficult to destroy. They did enjoy eating their victims.4) THE CAUSE: No specific cause was given. The island suffered an earthquake, then an un-named epidemic, and there seemed to be some black magic and rituals involved as well.5) NUDITY: There was SO much nudity and graphic sex in this movie, it was almost like watching a horror themed soft core porn movie. There was one hardcore scene (complete with money shot) and I wonder if all the sex was taken out of this movie, if it would be 40 minutes long! There also is an interesting champagne bottle scene that must be seen to be believed. (37 minutes in)This movie was pretty much "okay," although it is a number of years old. Other than the sex, it is really mild for an Italian horror movie. Normally, there is blood galore, but not here. I wonder if the director purposely did this, and then filled the rest of the movie with lots of nudity and sex. I wouldn't recommend buying it, as after one viewing, you'll probably not need to (or want to) see it again. But, I don't really think there is anywhere around that this would be on a video store's rental shelf.RATING: 2 out of 5']

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["Cheryl Smith makes this movie worth watching!Although low-budget, this is truly a classic.It captures the feeling of `stealing innocence'.", 'I bought this DVD, because all these good review about it an all. When I receive the DVD and watch it. What the silly stupid peace of cheesy crap this movie is, not scary at all. Can't believe this crap came to DVD, very cheap and cheesy stage, and acting was the "WORST OF ALL". I don't pay even a dollar for this crap, and u guys gives 4 to 5 stars????? Maybe that's for lame movie ever seen and made!!!! U guys Trippin BIG TIME!!!', 'LEMORA is the tale of 13yo Lila Lee (Cheryl Smith) and her quest to see her dying father. Lila is thrust into an adventurous ordeal involving vampires, werewolves (beastmen), living dead children, and mysterious, deadly secrets. LEMORA (Lesley Gilb) herself is a macabre figure w/ perfectly vampiric eyes and killer cheekbones! She comes across well as the female Nosferatu and mistress of all things eeevil. I put this movie up there w/ NIGHT OF THE HUNTER, WHOEVER SLEW AUNTIE ROO?, A COMPANY OF WOLVES, THE GINGER SNAPS TRILOGY, and THE LITTLE

GIRL WHO LIVES DOWN THE LANE. Epic stuff...', "What a magical story. Lemora: A Child's Tale of the Supernatural might just be the most fascinating journey ever captured on film. I seldom recall being drawn into a fairy tale and feeling more bewildered and nervous about the outcome. The innocent Lila Lee pulls you in close and has your heart screaming for her safe passage. This movie is rated PG, but was banned upon its release in 1975. It is easy to see the disruption this film caused, as it bends the genre elements way out of shape. It's actually hard to classify this as a vampire film. It feels much like a dark coming of age tale. Maybe Alice in Wonderland meets Red Riding Hood. It is filled with startling, controversial themes that continually dominate the mood. Such dark, dreary aspects that sensationalize every step. Much of the developments feel so surreal, it leaves you off-balance and in need of some support. And then there is Lemora. A more inviting, complex, and truly evil woman I have yet to see. Creepy and totally wicked. Lemora: A Child's Tale of the Supernatural is quite artistic and strikes me as very metaphorical. You can't help but silently beg that Lila maintains her innocence in this dark, cruel world. I love this film. Totally blew me away. Simply put, this is one of the most underrated horror films of all time.", 'I saw this film as a kid and it scared the crap out of me, still a bit creepy now. As much a modern fairy story as a horror, Lemora seems to be a cross between Carmila & Shadow over Innsmouth. The only problem is this is a film made on little or no budget, wisely most scenes are at night;) Still like it.', 'First, let me say that Synapse did an amazing job in the mastering process. The film is sharp with solid blacks and minimal grain. They went all out here. Now, as for the movie, I have to say I found the film strange, almost surreal in its presentation. I've noticed other reviewers here and elsewhere describe Lemora as offbeat and I'd have to agree. The characters seem colorful in a supernatural way and I like the fact that the director didn't feel the need for extensive character development. I think if he did, there would be something lost in the movie's presentation. Creep factor: Lemora is one of the creepiest vampires I've ever seen next to Nosferatu. She keeps children around as company and leans a bit toward lesbianism. However, the shape of her head and the speckled cheeks that the pancake makeup tries to conceal all add to the chill factor. I understand the girl who plays Lila Lee, Cheryl "Rainbeaux" Smith, died of hepatitis in 2002. May she rest in peace. Anyway, in the end, I don't feel this movie will be tolerated by just anyone. Sometimes, the pacing is slow and the production value is on the low side giving it a B-movie status, but I at least think it's worth a rental at the minimum.', 'In past reviews, I've mentioned my nostalgic reverence for the drive-in horror movies of generations past that had low budgets but plenty of imagination and ingenuity. Such a movie was, and still is, "Lemora." In my mind, it is probably the quintessential drive-in horror movie, the epitome of what could be achieved when talented, inspired people got together and created cinematic alchemy. Sort of a nightmarish blending of LeFanu and Stoker and Lovecraft with "Alice In Wonderland," I might have missed this movie totally, as it was sort of an innocuous blip on the late-night TV radar many years ago. Luckily, I did chance upon it, and it's haunted me ever since, even though the version I saw was heavily edited and loaded with commercials. Cheryl Smith was one of the great screen beauties of the 70's and my sincere hope is that with the release of this DVD, there will be a revival of interest in her career and she can achieve the illustrious status of such horror icons as Barbara Steele (with whom she co-starred in "Caged Heat") and Allison Hayes. There was an enigmatic and sad magic to her performances that Quentin Tarantino compared to that of Marilyn Monroe. Equally impressive is the performance of Lesley Gilb as "Lemora." She is alternately seductive and terrifying; playfully spiteful and maliciously brutal. It is a testament to the power and efficacy of her performance that she was able to accomplish this difficult feat despite the encumbrance of heavy wig, make-up and clothing. Like all great artistic works, the steadily increasing eeriness and occasionally non-linear quality of the storyline begins to function as a sort of funhouse mirror in which whatever pre-conceptions the viewer brings with him to the viewing experience are reflected back in subjectively distorted imagery. As Mr. Blackburn explains in the DVD commentary, there are those who see this as a Catholic film masquerading as a Protestant film, and those who see it as a Protestant film in the guise of a Catholic film. Then there are those agnostics like myself who will ignore the religious symbolism and experience it viscerally as the spooky, dark Fairytale for adults which it bills itself as. As previous reviewers have commented, the picture quality is superb and for the true fans of this cinematic gem, the commentary by Mr.

Blackburn, Ms. Gilb, and Mr. Fern is priceless. Suffice it to say, this is one of my favorite vampire/horror movies of all time and the passage of 30 plus years has not lessened its effectiveness and emotional impact. This is one of those rare movies that will continue to haunt you long after you have seen it.', 'There are people out there who gave this movie 5 stars. 5! And they said this was scary. This is actually one of the weirdest movies I have ever seen. It is filled with tons of sexual innuendo. Everything from pedophilia to lesbianism. If that what people find scary, then perhaps it is. The person who played LEMORA looks like some dude with a mild case of acromegaly. And not surprisingly, she has never been in another movie. The people who gave this movie 4 or 5 stars are either NOT horror movie fans, or are basing there reviews soley on nostalgia. Perhaps this movie was scary some 30 yrs. ago, but today it only comes off as weird. If you are really interested in horror movies, read my other reviews for good horror movies.', '1. The only actor in the film with talent is Cheryl Rainbeaux Smith... which is a relief, since she is the protagonist. Rainbeaux later had roles in several cult films... and a long-term addiction to heroin in real life. She died at age 47.2. Filmed circa 1973. That is 40 years ago. If you are not familiar with cinema of that era and/or were weaned on CGI, Lemora may seem jarringly bad.3. Lemora features highly stylized set design and is rich in allegory. View it abstractly if you find yourself getting bored. That said, the pace is slow, and this film is not for everyone (understatement of the year?)4. According toThe Vampire Film: From Nosferatu to True Blood Fourth Edition - Updated and Expanded, Lemora was condemned by The Catholic Legion of Decency... which in itself makes the film worth watching.5. If like me you are a vampire completist, then Lemora is simply required viewing. This is not to say you will enjoy it.6. In case you didn't read the product description: "New uncut uncensored anamorphic transfer supervised and approved by the director." While the movie itself may not be enchanting, the video transfer is indeed fantastic. No black bars: the picture fills up the entire screen on myAcer G276HL Gbd 27" 1080p LED Backlit LCD Monitor.7. The old hag witch character seems to be played by a man in drag. That it might actually be a woman is perhaps the most frightening aspect of the film. The credits state that The Old Woman is played by Maxine Ballantyne (Max the cross-dresser?)8. The actress who plays Lemora was likely chosen for her facial features, not her talent. It may not be an acceptable tradeoff, but you can't say that her face isn't memorable.9. The film has gone by several titles over the years, starting with The Legendary Curse of Lemora.10. The price for this DVD on Amazon doesn't seem to drop below 10 bucks (new/sealed). It'd been on my wishlist for years, and I finally got tired of waiting for a price decrease that never came. Purchased instead of rented due to extras on the disc.Final verdict: 2.5 stars', 'Made in the same year as THE EXORCIST, the low-budget LEMORA: A CHILD'S TALE OF THE SUPERNATURAL is a much more intelligently written and better paced look at innocence corrupted by means of a supernatural allegory of adolescence. Set in the Depression, the film has its core Lila Lee (Cheryl Smith), the beautiful daughter of a notorious gangster raised apart from him by an Evangelical minister (Richard Blackburn, who also wrote and directed the film) to sing in his church. A note from her ill father's caretaker, the mysterious Lemora, summons Lila to Astaroth, a backwoods small town hidden in the salt marshes where the degraded inhabitants are notorious for the "Astaroth look," and where Lila is cared for (or held prisoner?) by the beautiful and eerie Lemora (Lesley Gilb).The film seems in a long tradition of horror stories ranging from H. P. Lovecraft "The Dunwich Horror" to Sheridan le Fanu's "Carmilla"; at the same time, it seems unlike anything else from its era. The art direction, sound direction, and color photography are remarkable; swathed in violets and blues, the lighting makes spectacular advantage of day-for-night photography carefully edited with actual nighttime scenes. There are a few bad directorial decisions (like the annoying montage sequence near the film's end), and most of the actors seem to have let Blackburn down, including Gilb, who possesses the requisite strange and statuesque beauty for the title role but sometimes vocally overacts (even though she tries for an affectless tone). But the director struck gold in the casting of the great young low-budget actress Cheryl Smith as Lila. Eighteen years old when the film was made, Smith (later a member of the famous band the Runaways) beautifully passes for a younger woman at the beginning of puberty; her straightforward, intuitive performance seems in another league entirely from most of the other actors in the film. Her genuine ability to convey fear, coupled with the director's fine ability to convey movement through space (both by mise-en-scene and by clever

editing) make the multiple chases Lila endures by Lemora and her minions seem quite scary. The film deserves its cult reputation as one of the most unusual and beautiful horror films of the 70s.', "This film is a wonderfully low-budgeted but eerie tale of wood ghouls (formerly vampires) and more vampires, lorded over by the Lizzie Borden/Countess Marya Zaleska (Dracula's Daughter) persona of Lemora. Tricking a young religious girl to come to her home in the woods, in the Lovecraftian-styled town of Asteroth (so she can convert her to vampirism and become her lover), the story conveys the 70's style for coloration, pacing and makeup effects. Memorably creepy performances by the ticket booth operator and the bus driver make for a fun ride. Not for die-hard horror-heads looking for buckets of gore, but for those looking for an atmospheric, unusual take on the vampire genre.", "I've been wanting to buy this movie for years now but the price has always been a little too high. I took advantage of a sale on amazon... and though I'm glad I finally saw this film I don't feel I've been missing much. There is very little dialogue, the story doesn't really do much for me either. The cover is the best part of this purchase. If you want some kind of strange horror movie experience then look no further than Dario Argento's films... Susperia is awesome if you can't get it.", 'I never saw this film until the DVD came out. What a surprise. If this ever made the drive-in rounds it was sadly overlooked. "Lemora" is a very unusual and intriguing story of a young girl Lila Lee (Cheryl "Rainbeaux" Smith), the innocent daughter of a notorious gangster, being lured to an isolated mansion by a mysterious woman, Lemora (Lesley Gilb), with supernatural powers. Her journey there is beset by monsters and weird happenings. Once there, she slowly discovers what her destiny is. Gothic atmosphere and vampirism is vividly depicted and the woods surrounding the estate are overrun with mutants and other victims of a strange curse or "disease" caused by Asteroth...the Lovecraftian name of the area. The film is low budget but this is deftly handled with beautiful photography and striking use of color. "Lemora" is quite unlike any horror film of the period (70's) and being set in the 30's, you wouldn't know it was from that era thanks to the wonderful sets and costumes. The film is dedicated to the late Smith (who apparently died in 2002) and she is quite beautiful and amazingly innocent looking...perfect for the role. There are good extras featured---including interviews with Gilb and others involved in the film. All in all, "Lemora" is highly recommended for collectors of strange horror films and others who like an interestingly spooky tale. Synapse has done a great job and are commended for bringing this truly offbeat film it's due.', "'Lemora" is a 1973 cult film that had its share of rabid fans but was practically impossible to find on VHS. Thanks to Synapse films, we can now enjoy on DVD this lost film that at the time caused quite a stir, due to hints of pedophilia, lesbianism and witchcraft."Lemora" takes place during the depression-era 1920's in the deep south. Lila Lee, a 13 year old girl, is revered around town as a singing angel, an object of virginal purity who is an upstanding member of the church singing choir. Her father, a ruthless gangster who abandoned Lila and suddenly disappears from town, sends Lila a letter informing her he has been seriously injured and needs her help. Lila thus packs her bags and heads deep into the swamps and bayous in search for her dad and ends up at a witch's coven. The coven is headed by "Lemora", a vampire priestess who has kidnapped several children and wishes to make little Lila a piece in her collection...The storyline is nothing spectacular rather it's the atmosphere created by director Richard Blackburn that makes this film a winner. The pitch-black sets and the several scenes of little girl lost Lila running and hiding in the woods surrounding the witch coven lend the film a very surreal feel. Cheryl Smith is perfect in the role of Lila, with her innocent and naive face, blond curls and white dress. Her performance reminded me of Jennifer Connelly's in Phenomena; she's not called to say much but that actually helps to lend the film its dream-like feel.It's easy to see how the film was seen as perverse especially for its time. While on her journey to the witch's coven, everyone little Lila comes across be it the priest or the ticket agent or the bus driver salivates over the possibilities of having intercourse with her and this is a girl that looks no older than 13. And then there are the scenes of lesbianism with middle-aged Lemora who salivates over young children.Make no mistake about it however, Lemora is very low budget replete with buildings that appear like cardboard cutouts and car scenes that you know were not filmed in cars. No doubt at its time of filming it was meant to be little more than drive-in fodder. Also while I loved Cheryl Smith's performance as little Lila the actress who plays Lemora was absolutely atrocious. It was funny witnessing a middle-aged woman getting upstaged in every scene by a little

girl. Still, anyone who likes thick atmosphere and sleazy 70's euro-horror (although this particular one is American) will probably like "Lemora". I know I sure did. How can you not like a film that mixes influences of Lovecraft, George Romero, Brothers Grimm and the sleazy vampires of Jean Rollin? 'I am keen on "older" vampire movies, before they started being shot on videotape. Hence, I was surprised that I never heard of "Lemora..." First off, even after reading the mostly rave reviews about it, all I could think about was "hmmm, isn't a lemora some kind of eel?"; as it was, I couldn't resist all the glowing reviews of this film. Upon seeing it, I can't help but think that the majority of these reviews were, indeed, based upon nostalgia. Viewers with any perspective whatsoever will immediately see this as something that would have had a memorable effect on any youngster who may have seen it. In fact, as I've learned, it has a memorable effect on ANYone who sees it. I'll give it this much: it is u-n-i-q-u-e! The oddest effect it had on me was sleep inducement. And that is not necessarily a "bad" thing, in this case. I find it almost impossible to remain awake throughout this whole film, but not especially because it is boring (it is not, though it isn't exactly "exciting"). It creates this wave of hypnotic haze over me, matched only by Dreyer's "Vampyr"... also find it hard or impossible to stay awake during that one. These are the only 2 films which effect me this way, so take that for whatever it means (it must mean something). Among many others, I consider "Vampyr" to be a landmark of genius, due to it's unquestionably eerie imagery, certainly not for it's driving narrative. Perhaps the same can be said of "Lemora", as I certainly DO enjoy most of the imagery. For me, this film, like "Vampyr", is a series of (to me) beautiful, haunting paintings, with the story being only secondary. Because the story itself is quite abstract (yet easily "understood") and can be taken in several ways. It is, in the end, HOKEY. But it is endearing to all but the most ignorant "gol, that ain't SCARY, there ain't no BLOOD!" horror fan, even though you may have to watch it at least twice to become enchanted by it. I would say that it IS a must-see, though it is not a favourite of mine by any means. If not for the oozing originality and Bava-esque cinematography, or the quite attractive (can't believe nobody has yet mentioned the "bathtub nipple" sequence) Cheryl Smith (who sho'nuff don't look like no 13 year old!), I'd be giving this a 3 or even 2. But it is unforgettable and original enough to warrant at least a 4. The woman that plays Lemora herself is equal parts enigmatic and awkward, perhaps creating an actual character rather than a caricature? One of the indelible images of the film is her red-splotched cheekbones (like that rash/disease called rosacea or something like that)...intentional, or did she really have that affliction? I'll also go along with what others said, that it certainly doesn't REALLY look like a '70s film, exactly, being meant as the 30s (in other words, no goofy fashions, hair, or music). Another forwarding to those who are influenced by the many glowing reviews: the "anti-religion" and "lesbianism" factors are a lot more subtle than blatant, but they are there. A flawed, low-budget film that benefits from gorgeous photography, some memorably creepy (as well as a few ludicrous) characters/scenes, and a stamp of originality that elevates it to that "must-see" status. And if you really, really, really like gloopy-faced forest-dwelling malformed beast men who act like those rowdy kids who ruined your junior-high Christmas pageant, it is ESSENTIAL viewing (yes, like many other reviewers I also am perplexed as to what they are meant to be)! 'Here's an odd story: Back when I was just a young tike in the 70s, I must have caught part of "Lemora" on network TV. I'd long since forgotten the name of this film, but I did recall a handful of scenes: Namely a young girl trapped inside a bus while a horde of ferel zombie/vampire/werewolves (WTF are those things?) try to smash their way in, and that same girl spying on a female vampire as she feeds on a young boy. These must have been pretty chilling images for young Monkey Deathcar, because years later I couldn't for the life of me remember the name of the film (I'd come to even suspect that it was a childhood nightmare ... ), but those few images still stuck in my mind. Lucky for me, I spent one night perusing horror films on Amazon, following the "customers who bought this item also purchased ..." trail, until I came across "Lemora: A Child's Tale of the Supernatural." The reviews sounded awfully familiar - Could it be the same movie? Well, it was, and I've got to say I feel fortunate for having stumbled upon this odd like b-genre flick. The basic plot goes something like this: A gangster in the south of the 1930s murders his cheating wife and her love in cold blood and hits the road. He's accosted by the seductive, mysterious Lemora (Lesley Gilb) and her hooded minions. Lemora learns from a newspaper clip that this gangster has a daughter, 13-year-old Lila Lee (Cheryl Smith) - the purehearted "angel" of her

church's congregation. Lila soon receives a letter from Lemora, claiming that her father is on his death bed in a distant town of Asteroth. Lila is urged to come alone and come at once. Of course, this is all a ruse - Lemora's real goal is to corrupt the young girl's Christian spirit ...The rest of the picture veers into seriously odd "Alice in Wonderland" terrain. We follow Lila Lee (dressed in pigtails and a pink Sunday dress, and looking quite a few years older than 13), as she journeys to Lemora's Southern Gothic manor in the woods of Asteroth. Lila encounters pasty vampire children, a gypsy witch, feral zombielike creatures and of course, the seductive Lemora. Strong sexual overtones, unintentional camp and loads of atmosphere ensue. I won't lie to you: "Lemora: A Child's Tale of the Supernatural" isn't really a "good" movie by any stretch. Some of the sets are poor. Any scene that takes place in a "moving" vehicle was obviously shot in a stationary bus/car. The dialogue is frequently laugh-out-loud terrible. The acting is wildly uneven, ranging from "competent" to some of the worst performances I've ever seen on film. The bus drive's overacting would make William Shattner blush. But, "Lemora" succeeds as cheesy good fun for a few reasons, not the least of which is atmosphere. Nearly the entire movie is bathed in an eerie blueish night, which does wonders for the nighttime shots of the creepy manor and surrounding marshlands. The movie also uses sound very well. Any outdoor scene is accompanied by chirping crickets, exotic birdsongs and distant grunts and creepy feral noises. The soundtrack is also solid, ranging from bible hymns to swelling orchestral music. Not bad. "Lemora" is also a wildly original vision. Not only do we get a vampire seductress, but the surrounding woods are teeming with these rotting, feral beasts. Imagine week-old zombies that act like werewolves and making grunting, dogpack noises and you get the idea. From what I gathered, they're sort of like vampires with rabies. It's scarier and not nearly as silly as it sounds. And finally, the sexual overtones in "Lemora" are pretty racy, particularly since Lila Lee is supposedly 13. Near every adult in the picture is lusting after young Lila, especially Lemora herself. The suggestion of lesbianism and pedophilia would push buttons today - I can only imagine how censors must have reacted back in 1973. The performances by Gilb and Smith are competent, if unspectacular. Gilb is adequately seductive and moves/speaks with grace, especially when you consider she's forced to deliver lines like "Come with me and live for all eternity!" Sadly, her makeup job is pretty wretched - pale skin, purple lips, purple nails ... and bright red cheeks? Either this was deliberate, or Gilb had some form of skin disease, because it's pretty silly looking. Smith is also decent. For most of the movie, she trots around in a pink dress or runs through the woods in her cotton nightgown, which isn't nearly as erotic as it sounds. Smith doesn't have too much to say, which might be a good thing - she's not a great actress, and this adds more to the dreamlike atmosphere anyhow. Overall, if you can tolerate poor acting and a low budget, "Lemora" treats you to atmosphere and imagination... from a B-horror movie filmed on a shoestring budget, you can't ask for much more. It'd make a great double-feature with "Phantasm," another cheapo (but IMO significantly better) 70s horror cheesefest. Enjoy!, 'This is a nice, creepy, how-come-I-haven't-heard-of-this-until-now lost 70s horror classic gem that belongs on everyone's shelf who has an interest in horror. One review alluded to a TV movie--but, if TV movies were like this I wouldn't hate them so much! This isn't "Something Weird" low-budget, this is "Halloween" or "Texas Chainsaw Massacre" low-budget. Little goblins, witches, things that go bump in the night that can make you feel you're glad you're at home watching TV...except, no, this one draws you in too much. You're there with them and they're gonna get you! Watch out!', "It's here! The great Lemora, carefully and beautifully presented as it deserves. Its nice to see more and more great movies getting this kind of DVD attention.", 'This movie is just weird, not scary, and pretty boring. It is almost like a weirded up story of little red riding hood being chased by a vampire and her little demons. Of course, you have to remember it was made in 1975 and probably did scare children back then. I had to skip chapters just to get through this one! Gave it 2 stars basically for its originality for 1975 standards.', "I saw this movie when it first came out, and I think the original title may have been 'Lemora - Lady Dracula'. Weird it was, as well as somewhat silly, and scary it wasn't, at least not much. Some of the scenes were especially funny and would've been good material for a 'Saturday Nite Live' goof, especially when the old hag starts trying to scare this kid. Bottom line is it was a cool period-piece, and it would be great fun to have my fellow baby-boomers over for pizza and to throw it on. Of course I'll have to break out the lava-lites. LOL.",

I'm very fond of this film, having become aware of it when it used to show on the old channel 9 (WOR TV) in the 70s. Having this beautiful transfer is a genuine pleasure. This is less a horror film than a twisted fairy tale (little girl lost in the woods, kept prisoner in a strange house, with demonic children and a presiding witch figure, who is a vampire). There's a bit of anti-religious feeling to the film, which got it condemned by the Catholic church. What better recommendation is there? Yes, it's low budget, but it's still an excellent little off beat vampire film, with an excellent performance by late cult actress Cheryl "Rainbeaux" Smith (Chained Heat, anyone).', '(3.5/5 stars) For the most part, this movie is a very pleasant surprise. It is an unusual little horror movie, in which a young girl, Lila Lee, travels to her hometown in order to see her father. He has been evading authorities since he shot and killed his wife and her lover. Young Lila does not realize that the person holding her father is actually a vampire, who kidnapped him in order to lure the virginal Lila. There are many nice touches along Lila's Red Hiding Hood-like journey that make this film well worth watching, especially for horror fans. Cult favorite Cheryl "Rainbeaux" Smith is absolutely captivating in her role as Lila, her stoicism subduing (and practically hypnotizing) us throughout. (At twenty years old, she is actually passable as a thirteen year old) Her bus ride would make J.K. Rowling proud. The film takes place during the 1930's, which seems odd, given the film's obviously low budget. They do succeed for the most part, though, and deserve extra credit for trying. There are a few aspects of the film I find distracting, however. Some of the acting is truly bad and amateurish, especially Hy Pike's outlandish overacting as the Bus Driver and Maxine Ballantyne as the Old Woman. Although she does a halfway decent job, she looks far too young to play a decrepit, demented old gal in her phony gray wig. She actually fares slightly better than most of the crazed loonies, whose make-up unfortunately is very poorly done. Nonetheless, this film is a bizarre and entertaining little movie that satisfies that craving for a lesser known, good horror movie.', "That is what you will notice often here. The big hype originally is that this was banned by the Catholic Church (must have been a slow news day for them). No awards for makeup, filmed in a dreamy styled reality and has the annoying Euro-style of never quite giving you a real cohesive plot, but that tends to be the style of this film's Euro era. Probably not out there to rent or I would really suggest a rental before ever making it a purchase. If you spot it in a \$5 sales bin, then go for it. It does have a good European type Tenebrae creepy vibe and that does save it, and there are some good sort-of-zombie/vampire moments that were creepy, but if they had taken better care as the developed it, could have been so much better.", "I use to see this film decades ago on WOR-TV 9! This film has the creepiest atmosphere of any horror film! With a dark country setting full of terrifying houl's, a rather creepy long hair old woman, and perhaps the creepiest female vampire ever in Lemora! It looks like an American version of Transylvania!If you like ultra-creepy, schockley horror films of the early 1970's, than this film may be the ultimate chioce for you!", "'Lemora: A Child's Tale of the Supernatural" is one of the best vampire films I've seen in a long time. The fact that it escaped my notice this long aggravates me to no end. Perhaps the fact that it was banned upon release in 1975 by The Catholic League of Decency (a more fascist name I could not imagine) in spite of it's mere PG rating and was barely seen in the United States until the mid-90's has led to the obscurity of what is easily one of the best female vampire stories ever told onscreen. It's dark, dreary, surreal, somewhat perverse, and creepy as all hell. Fellow vampire fanatics, this is not to be missed under any circumstance. Our tale begins with a beautiful 13 year old girl singing in her church. Her father is a notorious gangster who murdered her mother, her reverend has taken her in but is having trouble resisting temptation, the townsfolk are talking. One night she receives a mysterious letter promising to take her to her ill father, who has been missing for months. So out into the world young innocent Lila goes and all she sees is perversion and violence. She gets on the bus as instructed by the letter and is taken to a house in a forest filled with deformed bestial ghouls. Within the house is an old woman servant, a large number of creepy laughing children, and her hostess, a pale woman named Lemora. No shortage of mysteries for our adolescent protagonist to unravel here. The first time we glimpse Lemora, she appears as a dark hooded feminine figure with only her contemptuously smiling mouth visible. This is how you introduce a lady vampire, people. The overall look of this film is so dark it gives Tim Burton nightmares. The whole world seems tinted with blue and the naive blonde girl venturing through it gives a definite Alice in Wonderland feel to the



story. Except Alice never had snarling feral humanoid beasts fighting for the privilege of feasting upon her or an enamored lesbian vampire bathe her. The whole feel of this film just screams creepy. I feel that this film has a bit of kinship with fellow cult classic *The Company of Wolves*. While that film used lycanthropy as a metaphor for puberty this one uses vampirism in much the same way. The themes of both films heavily suggest a transformation from the innocence of youth and exploring one's self to an adult predator. Both are dark fairytales about young women venturing out into the world, finding it harsh and ugly, and eventually making it their own. But unlike *Wolves*, *Lemora* doesn't lose itself in inscrutable symbolic imagery and plays very much as a straightforward literal story which makes it much more watchable for casual viewers. The film looks amazing considering how dark it is and brings to mind some of Argento's best work. The film is must-see material for horror fans and is absolutely one of the best vampire films to come out of the 70's, which is saying a whole lot. The ethereal atmosphere, pedophilic overtones, and black implications of humanity make this a bold classic that I am very happy to see it return from the dead. Like the title character, stories like this one are unkillable and eternal. I wish I could say this was a perfect film, but sadly the third act has some substantial pacing issues that keep it from my infinitesimal gallery of 5 star vamp flicks. But it's not far off. 4/12 stars, rounded up for originality. I give this movie 5 stars. I have seen many vampire movies and this is may be my favorite. It is a very unique movie. I have never seen a vampire movie before like this and Cheryl Smith is absolutely stunning as the blond teenage heroine. What an unusual plot we have here, to have a black haired female vampire intent on possessing the innocent blond teenage girl. *Lemora* is a very strong vampire and she is relentless... *Lemora* simply will NOT let the lovely blond girl escape!]

## B000641YQO

["I have been collecting the *Wolf's Rain* DVDs, so naturally when this volume came out I rushed and bought it on the day of its release. However, this all ended in disappointment when I found that I... basically already own this disc. My previous discs essentially contain the same episodes that are recapped on this disc. If you have been a *Wolf's Rain* collector up to this point... be forewarned that you already own these episodes. I would only suggest buying this DVD for the collector's value, but be forewarned that the storyline does not progress at all here.", 'I understand that some fans would like to see more of their loved characters (this series is one of the best as far as I'm concerned), and I can understand the need in filling in a gap especially if the show hasn't been aired in a while on TV: but I cannot understand ANYONE who buys this DVD for ANY reason. You do not need this DVD to "fill the gap in your collection." They did the same thing with *Chobits* in episode 7, another damn recap. There's no point in watching it. The series is great, stick to the episodes both before and after this DVD. Trust me, I know how tempting it is to either rent this episode, get it on NetFlix, or go out and buy it outright... but don't. You'll only be sorry. There are a myriad of reasons why the company made this DVD (posted elsewhere) but what's important is that it is a waste of time and money. Great series (A+), This DVD = F.', "After an interlude of developing some of the side characters, this volume gets back into the main journey of the pack. Finally, we get to see some of the long awaited former life of Kiba and how his journey began. Interesting character development proceeds on the rest of the pack...especially on Tsume, and Tolbo faces a crisis in which he snaps. I was a bit somber on Volume 3. Hubb (the detective), his ex-wife, Cher, and Quint (the wolf hunter) are very interesting characters, but it's truly Kiba, Tsume, Hige and Tolbo (and the flower maiden, Cheza) that have truly driven this story. Not to mention, Blue, who we begin to see in ways we have never seen before. The tension and the story really begin to build in Volume 4...as well as the new developments. Has Kiba truly found paradise? What has really happened to Homina (Lord Darsha's love who has been stricken by Paradise). And above all that, enter the most vile of villains...the noble behind the misery of all...Jagera. The only other thing I can add is just wait for Volume 5! Volume 4 is the build up to the climax, but I guarantee every episode in Volume 5 will have you cheering, crying, or wishing to step through the screen to throttle the villainess Jagera. This is one of the most unique anime series ever produced. If you like something very different, with

some of the best story telling ever written, some of the best sound track music (Yes, there are some new tracks in this volume, and Yoko Kanno continues to top herself), and some of the best anime ever contained within a television series, Wolf's Rain is a must. Studio Bones (also producers of Cowboy Bebop) is truly one of the most ground breaking anime groups ever! One last request to Studio Bones...please...please don't do to Kiba and the pack what you did to Spike at the end of the Cowboy Bebop series!!! Also...Please make a feature film of Wolf's Rain (Like the Cowboy Bebop movie...not just a re-hash!)", "What happened? Instead of continuing on with this fantastic series, the animators decided to use one whole DVD volume to recap all events up to this point. Did someone in the production team realize that the series was going to be one DVD short in filling up the box set & they decided to remedy that? Get Vol. 4 ONLY if you have short term memory issues or like looooooong flashbacks. Otherwise skip to Volume 5, you'll be glad you did.", "This DVD is more well known as the infamous recap volume and that's basically all it is. All 4 episodes on this DVD are recaps of the events of the previous DVDs, there's nothing new in this volume at all. You could simply skip this volume and go straight to 5 and you'd be fine, there's no additional story in this volume, only reason to really pick it up is to complete your collection.", "If you've been following along this series by DVD, as I have, episodes 15 thru 18 will be something of a disappointment. They are a reprise of the story up to this point, and nothing more. That might work for the TV audience, for which much time has passed, but for someone who just watched the third DVD last week it's an unexpected delay in an otherwise compelling series. There are a few extra insights here, but most of what you will see is excerpts from the previous episodes. The continuity is well done, and the effect is something like a four episode special, but at the end you will be right where you were at the end of episode 14. If you're just renting and watching then you could easily skip this DVD and go right on to the fifth. If you are buying then you will have to wrestle with your compulsion for completeness. If you have none go directly to five without a further thought. If you are compulsive buy it, but be prepared to feel faintly cheated. Or you could buy it and wait 6 months before viewing it in order to get the intended effect. Since the first episodes were excellent this DVD is just as good, and the focus on only the key moments makes you more aware of the music, which is in a class by itself. Truly, This is probably the first time I've told people that something was really good but that they shouldn't buy it. Go figure.", "Well, This dvd is pretty bad, like everyone else said. It's 4 episodes recapping the previous 14, with narration from each character in the background. I believe they had to make these eps due to the fact that they needed to save some money in Japan since they weren't getting high ratings on the anime series. Anyway, I didn't buy this dvd, because I have the Japanese box set instead, which saved me a lot of \$\$\$. I watched each episode, and I must say the only part I liked was the opening and ending theme. Other than that, there really is no need to buy this dvd unless you are truly a die-hard Wolf's Rain fan. But, don't be surprised if you watch this dvd for 5 minutes and then throw it out the window. I really highly recommend renting this before you buy it, cause otherwise you are wasting your money.", "This is a great anime series but if you have the first 3 discs then there is absolutely no reason to purchase this dvd. I only wish that there had been some type of warning on the cover that this was a recap dvd. I give this dvd 1 star because I feel ripped off!", "I rented this with high expectations but ended up stopping it halfway through. I had no idea that the disc would be a complete recap of the previous action. Thus my hopes for a new plot twist or perhaps some explanations for many of the mysteries in the series were dashed. Don't get me wrong - I love this series. The artwork is fantastic and the soundtrack inspired (thank god for Yoko Kanno - she is hands down my favorite anime composer today). But there is so much to be explored in this story! I'm very disappointed that Studio Bones wasted 4 hours of critical plot development time to a recap. Perhaps it was money related - I don't know the details. What I do know is that as a fan of this series, I wish that these episodes could have been used to develop the story rather than just throwing in old animation. Bottom line: If you've not watched any of the previous episodes, you could get this DVD and catch up on the story in only 4 episodes as opposed to 12. But who'd want to?", "I know the title of this volume of Wolf's Rain is 'Recollections', but Bandai has went a little overboard. I expect at least one or two episodes in an anime series to be a recap but here we have an ENTIRE DVD, 4 EPISODES of recycled material from past shows!!!! There is nothing new here. Even the infamous last 2 episodes of Evangelion didn't go so far as this and they

were running out of money. What is the excuse here? To pay 20\$ for an entire dvd of stuff I've already seen. It's almost like they were making one of those awful anime movies where an entire 26 episode series is squeezed into 2 hours. There should have been a warning on the dvd box that there is no new material contained in it. It makes me want to write to Bandai and demand my money back. If you have been following Wolf's Rain since the first volume, definitely skip this volume. You'll be wasting your money. I would recommend Miami Guns Episode 2, which parodies recap shows by having one after only one episode of the show.']

## B0007LFPT8

[It is July 2001, months before the September 11 attacks on the United States. Rose Maria (Leonor Silveira) and her daughter Maria Joana (Filipa de Almeida) are on their way to Bombay to meet Joana's father, who is a pilot. They take a cruise and arrive at such places as Marseilles, Athens and Naples. Rose Maria is a history teacher and loves the fact she is finally able to visit the places she is always teaching about. And she is fascinated by the people she meets and the customs she learns. At first glance Manoel de Oliveira's "A Talking Picture" seems to be a travelogue piece showing us some of the most beautiful places on Earth. The movie doesn't seem to be about much yet I enjoyed watching the movie. After you watch the movie try and think back to what happened in the movie. You'll find the movie tells a little story, but, it takes on big subjects. You may also enjoy the film because, like a cruise, it moves at a gentle, calm pace. There is almost something lyrical about the movie. The charm of seeing these destinations and meeting these characters was enough for me to want to finish watching the movie. Some in fact may become so bored with it they won't even wait until the end. But what is "A Talking Picture" about and why does it matter that it takes place before September 11? Well you see the captain of the ship, John Walesa (John Malkovich) entertains three lovely ladies, all international beauties. They include Catherine Deneuve ("Belle de jour", "The Umbrellas of Cherbourg" and Truffaut's "The Last Metro"), Stefania Sandrelli (star of several Bertolucci films; "The Conformist", "Partner" and "1900", she also appeared in "La Chiave (AKA The Key)" and Irene Papas ("Z" and "Zorba the Greek"). These four people all speak different languages and yet they understand each other. They talk about world topics, such as politics. At this point in the film the movie addresses terrorism and has a chilling conclusion that makes the movie seem all too real. I realize after watching the movie some may find the conclusion pointless and ask themselves what was this all about? But if you think it over you will see the movie has a universal message. And its appeal should not be limited to a selective audience. The movie was nominated for the Golden Lion at the Venice Film Festival and is the latest film from the now 96 year old Oliveira. I have yet to see any of his other films but I could tell just by watching this movie he is a man of extraordinary talent. I hope many of you come to enjoy this film as much or more so than I did. Bottom-line: Granted the movie is not full of action and moves at a slow pace but it has a certain charm to it that won me over. There is something gentle and calm about the movie. Plus the locations are amazing. 'I'm trying to figure out the meaning of this movie, assuming that there is a meaning . . . I have concluded that it is trying to say that civilizations come, and civilizations go, and the only things left are dead monuments. They can be monuments of stone, like the Pyramids or the Acropolis, or they can be people who have outlived their glory, like the three fading, aging celebrities on board the ship. In any case, this is a disjointed, poorly produced movie. The acting is stiff, and the recurring scenes, such as incessantly watching the bow of the ship passing through water, or crowds waving from the docks, are contrived and repetitive. Even the constant questions posed by the little girl, and her seemingly patient mother, grates the nerves after a few minutes. And the conversation between the women and the Captain is nonsensical, with each one speaking in their own language but understood by all. That might be OK for French and Italian, but would hardly be the case for the Greek language (unless one were Greek). In any case, the conversation of these people, including the Captain, were so self-centered as to be obnoxious. This is a terrible movie, and whatever it has to say, it doesn't do it very well, either artistically, or through a story line.', "Portuguese director Manoel de Oliveira at age 96 concocted this strange little film that

suggests and artist/philosopher glance over his shoulder about all of civilization and the development of culture and language and then a rather ominous look toward the future. Part travelogue and part captured conversations this film may not be for the movie going public as much as for those who yearn to expand their cultural horizons. It may wander around and lose focus, but it is such an elegant little journey that it bears watching repeatedly. The time is July 2001. Rosa Maria (Leonor Silveira) is a history professor in Lisbon and takes her young daughter Maria Joana (Felipe de Almeida) on a Mediterranean cruise to Bombay, India where the two will meet up with her husband. They board a cruise ship and for the first hour of the film mother gives daughter a verbal history of the ports of call. The ship stops at Marseilles (where the first strange famous lady - Catherine Deneuve - boards) and after a walk through the streets of the port, dining on bouillabaisse and learning about the Greek origins of the port as an introduction to the world of Greek civilization, the two return to ship. The next stop is Naples (second strange lady - Stefania Sandrelli - boards) and the two wander Naples and journey to Pompeii to see the ancient ruins, mixing information of history and myth, the warmly rich instruction from the mother shares. Then at Athens (third strange lady - Irene Pappas - boards) and the two visit the Parthenon and the Acropolis aided by the friendly information by a Greek Orthodox priest (Nikos Hatzopoulos) who illuminates the sites as well as the differences between Greek Orthodox and Roman Catholic religions and symbols. The ship's next stop is Egypt where the two view the pyramids and chat with a fellow Portuguese actor (Luís Miguel Cintra). The final stops include Istanbul, where the cross between Muslim and Christian faith is explained using the great mosque as example, and Tangiers where the two shop and ship's Captain Walesa (John Malkovich) secretly buys a doll for Maria Joana. Finally back aboard ship Captain Walesa invites the three famous women to his table and there is an extended conversation among the four, each speaking her/his native tongue. This plays like a string quartet as the various melodies are in French, Italian, Greek and English, and the conversation surveys languages, the various cultures, and the joys of communication even in this 'Tower of Babel' setting. The Captain invites Rosa Maria and Maria Joana to this illustrious table the next evening and the Captain asks Irene Pappas to sing. During the song the Captain mysteriously leaves the table only to return with the quiet news that while in the last port terrorists placed time bombs on the ship and asks the passengers to prepare to evacuate the ship. The climax of the movie is jolting and to reveal the ending would destroy the joy of the story. At first this beautifully photographed film (cinematographer Emmanuel Machuel) appears to be just exactly 'A Talking Picture' with all of the history and travelogue atmosphere. It is with the gradual introduction of the 'three Norns' and the American Captain's involvement that the message becomes more poignant and philosophical. Setting this story in the summer months exactly before the terrorist attacks of 9/11 in New York provides the chilling poignancy that makes this film not the simple tale it first appears. It serves as a shocking reminder how no matter how rich the history of our 'civilization' may be, it is fragile and tenuous in times such as these when random acts can destroy so much we hold precious. In Portuguese, French, Greek, Italian, and English with subtitles. Highly recommended. Grady Harp, May 05", 'I am disappointed and quite annoyed that many dislike this film and other works by Manoel de Oliveira. This is a magnificent picture, one of Manoel's best, and it's really a deep, humanistic, and sad film about the current world situation and the world itself. The film is filled with beautiful shots, great dialogue, intelligence, charm, and thought provoking themes and culture, yet, most people (and many critics) intensely dislike this work. Perhaps after 2 decades of smug, aggressively cynical, "ironic", and arrogant attitudes in film and pop culture, people have suppressed their humanistic instincts, and that is the underlying reason that they cannot appreciate a film like this. It shows that people don't really change (a conclusion that this film comes to), and that we ignore history at our peril. We should be grateful that we have Manoel de Oliveira in our midst, a true treasure. He is 99 years old as of this writing (and is still making great films), and the fact that he is sharing his wisdom and sense of art with us should make us privileged.', 'A Portuguese woman and her young daughter take a Mediterranean cruise ship while absorbing ancient historic sites and artifacts. Slow moving and clinical, the emotionless dialogue and blase photography forces the viewer to concentrate on the history lesson of western civilization, which evolves into a thematic comfort zone of its own, until the preposterous climax, sure to incite emotion in the unsuspecting,

and sedated viewer. "A Talking Picture" leaves one speechless.', 'At the age of 93 (2003), Manoel De Oliveira decided to make a film that would offer the sensuality of travel, the beauty of mythology, the innocence of a child, and the heady intellectualism of a salon. The resulting film, A Talking Picture, is a tall order, even for a film director whose accomplishments span decades of writing, directing and producing. In order to combine these broad stroke goals, Manoel De Oliveira created a conversation-filled film in which a beautiful history professor and her daughter travel by ship from Portugal to Bombay, stopping at historic sites. At each site she teaches her daughter, in a melodic, chimeric voice, about the past, how it ties to the present, in a language that is understandable to children of all ages. To infuse the salon, Oliveira throws in a sea captain (poorly cast with John Malkovitch) and three vibrant women, talking politics--personal and worldly, a la 'My dinner with Andre'. To make it even more cosmopolitan, each character speaks in their own tongue. With all that conversation, history and thought, why does this movie fail? The intellectual banter is too heady, incongruent, and dated, and John Malkovitch is downright creepy. The movie has no tempo, so there is no sense that we are going to actually learn anything. What works: the sweetness of teaching the daughter about mythology, history, how the past intertwines with the present. The beautiful backdrops of port of calls. If Oliveira had simply left this a sort of travelogue film it might have had a chance of working. The film's first 20 minutes or so is worth watching. Enjoy that part and then shut down the DVD player.', "I think it takes a deep thinking intelligence to enjoy this movie. I saw it three times, and each time, I saw more in the movie that I'd missed before. I homeschool an older child, and the movie is a treat as a tour of ancient Greece. This movie teaches a lot of facts, history and lore about the ancient world. The first 2/3s of this movie is a visual treat. It is beautiful if you enjoy tours! It IS a walking tour with some meaningful commentary. The last 1/3 of the movie is a dialogue. That's where a lot of folks get lost. If you've lived in Europe, you will appreciate it more. This long dialog DOES indeed have a purpose. It might seem a bit monotonous - but it is MEANT to. All the major Western cultures are represented - just talking about every day things, certainly not on gaurd. Life is just a bit boring, good - good food, plenty to eat, good company, no worries. Then at the very end, it all comes together. Time to wake up. The problems of the middle east are spreading and encroaching on the safety and security of the west. Watch it a second time - listen more closely to the religious overtones in the commentary. AHA! It was a very thoughtful movie. Some people that don't like to think deeply or politically probably will not enjoy it to the full extent - but the tours are great for everyone. For parents, other than almost hidden quick violent overtones at the end, there is no blood, no gore in this movie, no curse words.", 'SPOILER ALERT! This movie can hardly even be called a movie. Watching it is basically like following a very serious boring history teacher around as she explains random facts from ancient history to her daughter during their vacation. Other people join in with the boring facts, such as a priest who explains in detail what they will see inside a ruin they are about to enter, "There will be a column on the left, blah, blah, blah." The only cute thing about the movie is the little girl who is also boringly serious but has a sweet face. In the last five minutes of the movie, the director for some reason changes the movie from slowest-documentary-style-fiction-on-earth to low-budget-horror-film. The cruise ship starts to sink, the mom and daughter don't make it on time to the one escape boat (yes, suddenly there are only 12 people on the ship instead of the hundreds we saw before), and they are blown up. I wouldn't normally tell you the ending but this is such a ridiculous ending, and so mean after you've watched this mom and daughter for the whole movie, that it must be exposed before you bother to watch it. You have to see this movie to believe how incredibly dumb it is!', "A tepid, awkward travelogue interrupted by tepid, awkward dinner-table philosophy and put to rest by an awkward ending apparently intended to imbue the film with meaning through tragedy. The only success in the film was capturing John Malkovich's expression at the end of the movie and holding that one successful moment frozen through the credits.", "WARNING: If you haven't seen this, be aware some other viewers have damn near spoiled the film by giving away too much. Proceed with caution. But the film definitely has a message, and takes it's sweet time getting it across. That's OK, though; the pace is, as someone else said, as relaxing as a cruse. Granted, some things don't ring totally true, but that's OK; the film makes it point through its fundamental and total normalcy. I do think it ended a bit abruptly, however, despite the plot.", 'This is the only film to which I've given a

one star rating. I wish I could give it a zero. I watched the first part with some interest as an attractive young Portuguese woman and her pretty little girl take a cruise from Lisbon eastward. I did find it a little boring as the woman, a history teacher gave lectures to the girl about the sites. I kept expecting something interesting to happen. I wondered if this was some kind of travelogue? Then there was the introduction of the "stars." Whatever possessed John Malkovich and Catherine DeNeuve to appear in this film totally escapes me. However I thought that finally something interesting might happen. No...it was an unendurable, pretentious conversation of the worst type. I ended up fast-forwarding through it, missing Irene Pappas's song. Yuk! Malkovich, a brilliant actor was embarrassingly creepy here. I wonder if he ever watched it. Then....oh gee I don't want to spoil the ending for those of you who are really going to buy this....Suffice it to say that it should have happened earlier on. I cannot think of one good reason to see this film. There are many better travelogues and if you want to hear Portuguese spoken, I'm sure there are far more interesting language tapes.', 'This is a pretentious film that tries hard to impress us with a tone of high culture and with portent for civilization as a whole. But really, it is just a windy exercise. First of all, the relationship between the mother and the daughter is a windy one. As the two make their journey on a cruise ship through the historic cities around the Mediterranean, the mother remains the perpetual pedagogue. I was reminded of the cautions issued by Ivan Illich, the philosopher of the homeschooling movement. He worried that many parents might interpret any call to homeschool simply as an invitation to move the classroom into their family lives - to use their time with their children as an occasion to cram more information into the youngsters, to accelerate them along the learning curve. And that's exactly what the mother in this film is doing. She stands perpetually in loco educator. She is intent on making this trip with her daughter "An Educational Experience." So I didn't find her to be a sympathetic character. For her part, the daughter in this film seems perfectly content to have a walking curriculum for a mother. She reinforces her mother's pedantry by asking leading questions - about Napoleon and war and the Ottoman Empire. Like that would happen! Then the conversation around the Captain's table is totally phony. I didn't particularly object to the fact that everyone understands everyone else's language. Europeans are notably polyglot. So that cinematic license wasn't much of a stretch. But the merengues of philosophy that the characters froth out, are all just too airy and aimless. And they contain jarring notes of misinformation. The Greek lady claims that when America's Founding Fathers voted on what language would be the official language of the new United States, Greek lost by just one vote. I had always heard that it was German that lost by that single vote. In her turn, the French woman aboard (played by Catherine Deneuve) states that the principles of the French Revolution inspired America's democratic Constitution. I think it was the other way around. The American Revolution and Constitution preceded the French Revolution. Perhaps the writer and director of this film meant these "errors" to be sly commentaries on the actual chauvinism people harbor even as they declare in favor of the unity and equality of all mankind. I don't think so though. The movie's overall tone is generally one of such earnest instruction, that I believe these ideas may reflect the filmmakers' real misunderstandings. John Malkovich is, as ever, creepy and subtly perverse in his role. Although he represents America in the international mix on board, his attitude actually better captures the sort of European male chauvinism that persists to this day. He is incapable of seeing women as individuals. He sees them only as abstractions, as exemplars of charm or of the regrettable lack of charm. The other characters, including the mother and daughter, are rarely shown in close-up. They are mostly shown from a distance great enough to make it impossible for viewers to see their features. I probably wouldn't be able to recognize any of these actors (outside the well-known Malkovich and Deneuve) if I saw them in other films. Again, this may have been intentional. The filmmakers may have wanted to be sure the characters stood, not as individuals, but as representatives of mankind. But I found myself straining to see a face, a unique expression. In spite of all these failings, I was almost drawn into the movie during its final third. The quiet formality of the dialogue, the tender folk ballad that the Greek lady sings - almost made me care about the ending. But not quite. On the whole, this movie is more histrionics than history. It attempts to be a travelogue through mankind's past and projected future. And for that, I think you're better off renting Rick Steves', 'This film, "A Talking Picture", is literally that, a film-travelogue of a Portuguese Professor and her daughter, who

engage in a history lesson while the two travel around the Mediterranean, the cradle of the civilization that Europe emerged from, while they visit its major landmarks on a Mediterranean cruise. The mother explains to her daughter the meanings of 'myth', 'civilization', 'nature', 'mosque' etc. the tour stops off at Pompeii, the Acropolis, and the Pyramids. Throughout, little Maria Joana acts as blank, baffled slate, soaking in the contradictions of history. Poised to the point of stiltedness, the parent-child exchanges are strictly informational: the inquisitive girl asks leading questions ("Which Middle Ages are we in now?"), and her impassive mother disgorges reams of encyclopedic dialogue. Jean Luc Godard drew heavily on this in his latest film, *Film Socialisme*. This is a straightforward riff on a Mediterranean cruise as history. I could not take the mother and daughter relationship as anything but symbolical, a hook to put the film's clothing on. No mother however clever talks to her daughter in this way. Similarly later on in the film when the Captain of the ship (Malkovitch), talks with the 3 famous women at his table and they all speak in their own tongues-Greek, Italian, English and French-I did not feel any discrepancy, merely poetic license, as they all seemed to understand each other. Love, women, politics and language are the topics presided over by the effete sea-captain. Europe used to have people who spoke more than one language. There is a sense of nostalgic innocence about a timeless beauty that no longer exists. A fable. A millennial crossroads of Western Civilization explodes into a contemporary newsflash. But it is not only the shock of the film's ending that exposes the deficiency of any such notions, the false sense of security that we, as viewers, share with the film's protagonists. All along the way, as Maria Joana and her mother, Rosa Maria (Leonor Silveira), disembark at successive stops on their odyssey, we begin to discern - in the film's dispassionate loquaciousness, in the director's deliberately static camerawork, in the subtle and not-so-subtle ironies that colour the intellectual colloquy between mother and child as they navigate *A Talking Picture*'s otherwise childless world - a subversive undercurrent that gradually turns the rich pageant into a full-blown jeremiad, a bittersweet goodbye to the West and its legacy. The little girl's journey is given primacy, before the ship's arrival at Aden, in the Arab world. The West seems old and childless: the elderly fisherman, the Orthodox priest, the actor in Egypt, the 3 distinguished ladies, the captain. Maria Joana is burdened with an awesome responsibility as the single vessel capable of preserving the legacy of the past for the future. Like the small dog who becomes the anchor of the boat, her daunting destiny leaves us close to the edge. In her hands the future is fragile. Her serious mien seems freighted with preconscious knowledge of the task's enormity. Stories of heroes, protectors and goddesses are presented, receding mistily into the realms of ruin, myth and legend: mermaids, muses, the myth of the statue of Athena inside the Parthenon that inspired the wisdom of philosophers, playwrights, musicians. Who protects Greece now? With the face of the broken Sphinx in Egypt, we sense a civilization that no longer believes in its own protective myths. The camera lingers on the monuments when people are gone, mute, abandoned by history. Globalised English, not the original Greek dominate, marginalizing culture by commerce. The closer exchange between East and West e.g. the Suez Canal, has put them on a collision course. Reversing Ulysses journey home westward away from war, the mother and her daughter travel eastwards towards the absent father, towards war, the spectre of September 11th in front of them. In this Homeric reversal speech becomes a decadent luxury devoid of action. Words have become descriptive, as Helen says at dinner, "No Civilization lasts forever".]

## B000A2UBPM

[Cho is great in her stand up routine. There are some really funny moments, and great satire on politics, society and life. Worth a watch. Just keep your mind open.', 'I have watched and listened to Margaret Cho over the years and found her brand of humor funny throughout. This time around, however, I find she has successfully migrated herself into that elite group of social humorists who are able to comment on our social status as a country and our politics, and do so with blazing strikes that are poignant, on-the-mark AND funny. Margaret has changed, and with this change comes a broadening of her boldness. She has taken the torch from the likes of Lenny Bruce, and she holds

no punches back when she speaks her mind, be it about the rights of individuals or the brazen BS of our some of our right-wing politicians. Ms. Cho may be the one that she wants, she might be notorious, she could lead a revolution, but frankly, she IS one politically savvy comic assassin and this show is her best yet.', 'i love the fact that margaret cho loves to fight. she fights for what she believes in and she is not afraid to back down from the majority. i think that is her greatest accomplishment, her ability to vocalize for those who are oppressed and speaking out against those that do the oppressing. all of her dvds tackle similar rants but each one still delivers on the laughs. she has great imagination and charisma. i love that she has the audacity and the courage to speak out against the president and all of the awful right wing people. i really got a kick when she said that on the night of the presidential election, she pointed out that as the states became colored that there was a color coded map to where all the stupid people are. another great snippet came when she performed for all the republican hotel owners and she would not get off the stage. she is an inspiration to me and so many others, i wish that everyone she represents could be like her and really make a change, then everything would be great. the bruce daniels intro is worth watching as well. the real gem in the extras is the short documentary invisible son. i almost started crying. the dvd is great and on par with all the other cho videos. i wish i could see her live again it would be awesome. but for right now i will settle for knock out dvds. thanks margaret', '...because it mainly sticks to its own, preaching to the converted in a handful of major urban areas instead going out into the heartland and interacting with the large majority of the population---its appeal only becomes narrower and narrower. Ditto with Margaret Cho, I'm sorry to say. I loved her first DVD concert, "I'm The One I Want"---the material was fresh and daring for the most part, despite the occasional maudlin detour into pop-psychology bathos ("poor me, they told me I was fat!"). However with each new DVD, Margaret seems to be mainly recycling the same old punchlines and hooks, and most worrisome of all, seemingly ALWAYS TO THE SAME ULTRA-FRIENDLY HOME AUDIENCE!!!! It reminds me a bit of GW Bush of all people---all of his appearances are carefully planned with the audience carefully prescreened and limited to enthusiastic Republican supporters. The result being that Bush often appears to live inside a bubble and makes sense only to himself and his endless sea of stooges and ardent fans. There is a annoying clubbiness about Cho's whole approach, which you can see in the first 5-10 minutes of these DVDs, when the camera gets in the face of her adoring fans standing in line, all of them gushing about how absolutely cool and bad-@ss Margaret is...ick! So much narcissistic self-congratulation, and it all stinks of some vague desperation: why would she NEED to showcase all that validation at the beginning of her DVDs? Does she feel that the viewer needs to be told how GREAT she is (or at least how great her fans think she is) before they watch her performance? Or is it her way of fostering a sense of commonality and identity (see "clubbiness") in her fan base? This is all such a shame, because it's obvious that Cho is blessed with immense comedic talent even when she's just phoning it in like she does here. Margaret: why not tape a concert before an audience in oh, Topeka Kansas instead of your usual San Francisco or NYC fan base? I'll bet you COULD make those Kansans laugh too if you really wanted.', "Margaret Cho has been one of my faves for quite awhile. I was telling my wife that if she stopped doing impressions of her mom that she would be done, and it happened. Instead of being funny and poking fun at the right wing tactfully, she just comes off with vulgar language. Many times she is waiting for the audience to get what she thinks is funny. She pauses and nervously goes into her next tirade. I think gays are cool. I am not much into politics, but this was really, really bad. It is something if I can't even sit through 30 minutes of it. If I could have given a more negative score I would have. Any fans of her old material will be VERY dissapointed. Do not buy or rent this garbage. Dave Chapelle gets more laughs in 3 seconds than I did watching 30 minutes of this. It is one thing to be vulgar but funny. She was just vulgar. He career is plummeting.", 'She is like a ray of hope in the dark discriminative world. When I watch Margaret Cho I get the courage to be what i want to be. I love you Margaret and I hope you keep bringing the light into our lives.', "This installment of Margaret Cho's comedy outing was pretty good. It's a step up from her last comedy movie, Revolution, but still doesn't live up to her first two. It starts off pretty slow, but once she starts kicking in heavy on her political jokes, you'll start enjoying it. She's very critical of the administration in her jokes, but does it in a way that's very truthful and not too malicious.", 'Before I finally turned it off. I



had seen and liked her first thing years ago, so when my gf (a big Cho fan) picked this out I was like "okay". We watched for about 15 minutes, waiting to laugh or even be slightly amused. No dice. We fast-forwarded; more of the same. The whole show is apparently joke-free and consists of a shrill left-wing political screed using 'newsworthy' events from 2003-2004, interspersed with long silences and Cho making weird faces or staring dully off into space. It was sort of like being forced to watch Bill O'Reilly of Fox News fame, only if you put him in drag and made him into an anarcho-communist somehow. Very annoyingly dull, boring, and pointless. Save your time and money by staying far far away from this! (Note - other anarcho-communists may find the show minutely entertaining, but would probably have a lot more fun by just turning on the news and righteously yelling at the stupidity).', "a couple of years ago i bought the 3-pack dvd set with cho's first three stand up dvds and i loved each one of them. all three were funny. i wanted to buy assassin but something told me to wait. then one day at blockbuster my mom told me to pick a couple of things out and when i saw assassin, i was like, cool i'll rent it to see if it's any good. my mom wanted to turn it off after 10 minutes, bored, but i, loving miss cho as much as i do, made her sit through the first half hour. i was so sad because i love margaret and wanted to love it but just couldn't. we still have it for like another week and i plan on watching the rest of it alone to see if it gets any better, but from the first half hour, i can tell it probably wont.", 'Margaret cho is no longer funny. this isnt stand up.this is just a liberally biased speech for 1 hour. get earlier dvds and ignore this.', "I've enjoyed past live performances by Margaret Cho and was really looking forward to watching her latest. This one seemed \*a lot\* more focused on gay culture and 'being gay' in today's America than her previous performances and got a bit tiring after the first 30 minutes. Maybe it's just that she's peaked and is now headed down, maybe it was the audience she was performing in front of... but I was disappointed and will likely not watch another one by her.", 'Margaret is KILLER!! SO real! SO RIGHT! DAMG I wish most people looked at this world in more of a light that she does. Just being open minded and remaining at peace. I LOVE MARGARET', 'They tried to force Cho down our throats about 10 years ago. Yeah, that worked. In my opinion she is flat out just not funny. Period. If I have to see her doing another impression of her mother (the squinting of the eyes and screaming pigeon English into the microphone) I cannot take it. Now her act seems to be her just rambling on about herself, not only is her current act not engaging it would be torture if I was actually with her one on one and had to listen to this crap. I think she is basically for the hardcore left crowd now. Other comics of course have had acts that had real overt points of view from the left like Bill Hicks except he was FUNNY.', 'Once again Margaret Cho\'s shows that she is a performer in the mold of Richard Pryor. She manages to make people love her or hate her. Proof in the amount of negative "reviews" from right wingers. Margaret Cho is here to stay. Deal with it!!', "I typically love Margaret Cho and her wicked sense of humor. Her edgy, sardonic, volatile way with words has always appealed to me. Unfortunatly, With Assassin, Cho has lost that charm. I actually sat down expecting to CRACK UP, but I found myself only chuckling a few times and one of the times was when Margaret famously imitated her mother-which is standard Cho. I agree with all of Margaret's political views and I find her opinions refreshing. I find myself feeling ostricized in my small-town community for having the views that I do, and it is incredibly soothing to find celebrities and people in the spotlight who can vocalize what I am always thinking. She vocalized everything....But, it was just too much for a comedy routine. I wanted to laugh more! If I was having a group discussion with Margaret, I would have appreciated her input and the views she expressed in this routine, but for a comedy routine it was lackluster. Not really recommended unless you want to hear someone vent about Bush.", 'For all its controversy/political relevance/stereotype-challenging/what have you, "Assassin" just isn\'t very funny. It has its moments ("Matthew 4:17 - Shut the f\*ck up" is a winner), but her style is so overbearingly political that it more often than not just seems preachy. Throughout the sets, she alternates between her normal voice and that of a sassy black woman, the only purpose of which is to evoke nervous laughter. Even when she\'s doing a good joke, it takes about 5 minutes to tell, as she is either waiting for applause or spelling out her material in a condescendingly slow fashion. The funniest parts have nothing whatever to do with the larger political message, leaving one with the feeling that she\'d do splendidly with less politically motivated material. We get it - she\'s Asian, gay, and angry. You

won't come away with much more insight than that. For wittier, more playful, and equally political satire, check out Eddie Izzard.', 'I really loved Margaret Cho's first two concert films - "I'm the One I That I Want" (2000) and "Notorious C.H.O." (2001). She has always been a gifted storyteller, and some of her jokes about her family as well as her riffs on sex were hilarious. Somewhere in between these two films and "Margaret Cho: Assassin" (2005), Cho became increasingly politically edged. Her jokes now focus on lambasting conservatives and Christian religious groups. I'm pretty open to any topic being the source of humor, but the jokes have to be well-written and original or else it can come across as petty. Unfortunately, too much of her material in "Assassin" is stale - tired iterations of the same old Bush jokes. Of course, "Assassin" was released in 2005, so some of the jokes may have been a bit fresher then. However, even to this Cho fan, they haven't aged well. A few jokes did score. Her impression of Bjork is terrific, and she can still tell a raunchy joke skillfully. Unfortunately, Cho is starting to come off a tad smug, even though I agree with most of her political beliefs. Making her political beliefs and activities the focus of her act is a mistake, in my view; she verges on pandering to her audience at times, and it overshadows the jokes. I'm curious to see how Cho in this age of Obama will change her act. I'm still a fan, just a tad skeptical of whether I will enjoy her future work as much.']

## B000H0NJE2

[Just when you think a guy, in this case a Robert Mitchum 1950s crime noir movie actor guy, hasn't got enough sense to come in out of the rain when some vampish femme fatale displays her charms he finally gets some sense, a little anyway. Previously I had the following to say about Brother Mitchum in a review of Angel Face (co-starring young femme fatale Jean Simmons): Some guys never learn, never learn to leave well enough alone, and stay away, far away from femme fatales that have that slightly mad look in their eyes and lust in their hearts, as here in the Otto Preminger-directed &em>crime noir&/em>, Angel Face, with Robert Mitchum. See, it is not like Brother Robert hadn't been down that road before and had all the trouble he could handle and then some with femme fatale Jane Greer in Out Of The Past. Ms. Greer "took him for a ride" six ways to Sunday in that one. But you know when a guy gets heated up by a dame, well, let's just leave it at you know, okay. Needless to say Brother Robert is set to get "taken for a ride" six ways to Sunday here too, although the femme fatale here is a little younger, and maybe has better manners than Ms. Greer. Maybe. But that all goes for naught when the heat rises. Yes, we guys and maybe gals too) know, we know, nature." And a summary of the plot in the comedic crime noir under review here, His Kind Of Woman, will tell the tale of why I qualified that wising up a little part. Mitchum plays a profession gambler a little off his game, about six aces up the sleeve worth, and so, as anybody is that situation might do, he listens to any proposition that will get him out from under. In this case a proposition about changing his identity for a wad of dough from a deported gangster (played by a non-lawyerly, a very non-lawyerly, Raymond Burr), looking to get back in the old U.S. of A. so he can get his usual infusion of illegal dough. Now this is something that Mitchum might have passed on in sunnier times. But times are hard and suckers are not as plentiful to rope in when you don't have dough, or a way to get it. Of course the action here, due to Burr's, ah, immigration problems, has to take place in, well, sunny Mexico (this is stage-door Mexico before the ax fell down there and crime, and criminals got nastier, very much nastier than that of the criminal skills displayed here) at a tropical seaside resort (naturally). And here is where the dame comes in, also naturally. A sweet-singing down-on-her-heels night club singer (maybe) posing as an heiress, played by Jane Russell (producer Howard Hughes' paramour at the time), is working her own angles for dough in the person of a vacationing ham, strictly B-movie actor, played by Vincent Price. But when broad-shouldered, bedroom eyes, world-wary Mitchum shows up she is, he is, well, they are smitten (after a little cat and mouse game, as expected). When Mitchum, after putting together some acute observations (putting two and two together, okay) about the set-up, fully realized that he is to be the fall guy and may not get to spend that promised wad of dough everything goes awry. But get this- when things get hairy Ms. Russell, instead of throwing him to the wolves like some of his past

companions, actually tries to help him (trying to provide a gat in the bargain). A lot. Now Robert this is a woman to hang onto, and she looks, well, fetching in a bathing suit in the bargain. Speaking of which, while he is trying to bring a little justice in this old wicked old world Mitchum shows plenty of beefcake for the ladies, the 1950s ladies I would guess. Plenty of comic moments here, some corny some clever but the main thing is that Brother Mitchum does not have to keep looking over his shoulder every time he kisses Ms. Russell like with some of that earlier female company he kept. Whee! Note: Naturally with a hunky guy like Robert Mitchum, he of the broad shoulders to fend off the world's troubles, or at least any women's troubles, those smoldering eyes, and that glib world-wary cigarette and whiskey manner, the ladies will surely be flocking to his door. Sorry, in this one heart-of-gold faux gold-digger Russell has him slated as exclusive property. And Mitchum tries, tries like hell, for once to stay in that orbit, unlike in the past, where he let those maddened femme fatale eyes and ruby red lips that speak to some dark adventure get the best of him. Progress, definitely progress, Brother Mitchum.', 'I second all the positive reviews and would like to add that for a few dollars more you can get this movie as part of Film Noir Classic Collection, Vol. 3 (Border Incident / His Kind of Woman / Lady in the Lake / On Dangerous Ground / The Racket)-- well maybe more than a just a few dollars more, but you will get some other worthy films including another Mitchum vehicle. You even get the commentary plus a bonus disk with other special features only available on the collection.', 'Robert Mitchum's loner cool, Jane Russell's breasts and Howard Hughes' obsessiveness might be all there are to this odd, dull noir, but then there's Vincent Price. He plays, as if born to the part, a ham of an actor who befriends Mitchum when Mitchum could really use some help. With Vincent Price deliberately overacting, Hughes and His Kind of Woman got lucky, turning a disaster into simply an oddity. But that's not saying much. What Hughes came up with after taking the movie away from director John Farrow is a mishmash of poor craftsmanship and the forced joining of some decent noir scenes with low quality comedy. Hughes winds up with Mitchum and Russell in a Mexican resort, not a bad thing at all, but also with Raymond's Burr's bulging eyeballs and psycho brutality, a hypodermic filled with nasty Nazi fluid, a sinking rowboat filled with "comically" inept Mexican police officers, a facial transplant in the works, Tim Holt as a Fed agent, gravel-voiced Charles McGraw as a gunzel, Price hamming it up and Russell singing something titled "Five Little Miles from San Berdoo." The movie starts promisingly, loses its way for well over an hour and then ends with viciousness and belly laughs. His Kind of Woman is a movie almost as odd as Howard Hughes was. What's the story? Dan Milner (Robert Mitchum), a loner down on his luck, stops at a diner late one night for a glass of milk he can't pay for, then meanders down the street to his rented room. He's met by three thugs who beat him up. Then he gets offered money if he flies down to a small resort on the Mexican coast to await further orders. He'll be part of a scheme involving a deported top gangster, Nick Farraro (Raymond Burr), who needs a new identity to return to the States. Dan shrugs and goes. On the way he meets Lenore Brent (Jane Russell), a singer who is determined to marry rich. She's headed to the same resort to hook up with Mark Cardigan (Vincent Price), famous Hollywood adventure star, who is down there for a spot of shooting and relaxation while his wife gets a divorce. The ennui sets in when Dan and Lenore get settled at the resort. The movie lasts for two long hours, and a good deal of that time is spent getting to know a number of the guests, a good many of whom have nothing much to do with the story line. There's even a young hubby with a gambling problem being taken to the cleaners. Dan steps in and cleverly turns the tables. He gets a chaste kiss by the young wife as thanks as the couple happily leave the resort. Then the movie starts getting serious again with Nick arriving in a yacht. Dan changes his mind and fights back, Lenore gets worried and Mark with his rifles sets out to rescue Dan from the yacht. Price uses all his hammy skills to play the hammy Mark, and he gives Mitchum a run for his money. Unfortunately, we keep cutting back to Mitchum creeping around the yacht, Mitchum being pounded in the stomach, Mitchum being whipped with a belt and Mitchum almost...almost...but not quite...being injected by a white-haired medical war criminal with a serum which will erase Dan's memory, destroy his brain within a year, and keep his face intact until it can be used by Nick the psycho gangster. The movie takes this seriously. Then add Mark playing slapstick hero. What on earth was Howard Hughes thinking about? Well, we know he was thinking about Jane Russell and her 38D bust. He makes sure this actress, who he was determined would

be a big star, is photographed with loving skill. As for Russell, the movie is so schizoid she's hardly given a chance to show what she can do. She has two songs, neither of them very good. What she does well is to project her natural good humor. She's sexy in the standard Hollywood style, but she never seems to really take herself too seriously. She works well with Mitchum, who manages to hold his own simply because his laid-back, tough style never really depended on the movies he was cast in. His Kind of Woman isn't much of a noir, although it starts promisingly. It's not much of a movie, either, because it mixes so oddly and unconvincingly violence and low comedy. However, Mitchum is always Mitchum, Russell has a fine, honest personality despite the cantilevered bras Hughes designed for her, and Price is a good sport.', "Filmed by RKO during its period of ownership by Howard Hughes, HIS KIND OF WOMAN exists - as many films did - to show off the twin talents of Jane Russell. Never a great actress, she nonetheless commands attention in a series of revealing costumes, and even gets to sing a couple of songs (albeit unmemorably). Set in a relentlessly studio-bound Mexico, with stock footage to set the scenes, John Farrow's thriller centers on a professional gambler Dan Miner (Robert Mitchum), who becomes involved in a film noir-esque plot involving money, sex and illegality. The plot negotiates its usual twists and turns, with Mitchum fulfilling his familiar tough-guy role. Even during his prime as an actor, he seldom deviated from this stereotypical role, even though he was extremely good at it. This movie's stand-out performance comes from Vincent Price as a smarmy socialite, the kind of person in whom one would never place one's trust. He towers over Mitchum - which is no mean feat - but we know that he will never be a match for the star in a fist-fight. In terms of line-delivery, the two actors couldn't be more different: Mitchum mumbles his lines through his teeth in familiar film noir style, while Price's dialogue is full of stresses and forced emphases - the kind of technique you'd expect from an old-style Shakespearean actor. It's highly entertaining; and helps to explain why Price was one of Hollywood's most bankable supporting actors, even before he found belated stardom in Roger Corman's Edgar Allan Poe cycle in the early Sixties.", 'It really doesn't pay to write much on this because the review by "mirasreviews" is spot on. But this is one of my all-time favorite movies and I had to cast my 5 star vote. Robert Mitchum and Jane Russell make a great screen couple. Raymond Burr (Perry Mason) made a career out of playing bad guys and did it well. Tim Holt in a non-cowboy role, and I guarantee you'll never see Vincent Price in a role like this again in anything he ever did. The movie is worth the "price" just to see Vincent, I'm sitting here laughing just thinking about it. It's the funniest "noir" you'll ever see.', 'Another S/M role for Raymond Burr (a la "Raw Deal") and what struck me as the strangest Vincent Price role ever...but they both work. Robert Mitchum and Jane Russell are a good match--very sexy and sort of touching for two tough cookies. One of the other reviews mentioned the strange juxtaposition of gut-wrenching violence and humor...you find yourself laughing and then wincing in the same two seconds. I loved this movie.', 'The fact that "His Kind of Woman" achieves coherence is miraculous. One third of the film rewritten after its completion, reshoots, and scenes recast and reshot again at the insistence of executive producer Howard Hughes transformed this movie into particularly brutal film noir juxtaposed with romantic comedy and topped off with farce. It sounds like a recipe for disaster, but "His Kind of Woman" is splendid. The movie's title gives the impression of a clever romantic comedy featuring RKO's biggest stars at the time, Robert Mitchum and Jane Russell. And so it is. Sassy and sexy with sharp dialogue by Frank Fenton and Jack Leonard. But this is also, clearly and consciously, a menacing, introverted crime film in which Robert Mitchum's world-weary gambler has sold his fate without knowing what it is, and he's increasingly anxious to find out. Crime boss Nick Ferraro (Raymond Burr) is eager to return to the United States to take control of his troubled syndicate but can't set foot over the U.S. border without being recognized. Ferraro's agent offers gambler Dan Milner (Robert Mitchum) \$50,000 to leave the United States for a year so that Ferraro can assume Milner's identity to enter the U. S. Milner is to wait it out at a posh Mexican resort, Morro's Lodge. En route to the Lodge, Milner meets Lenore Brent (Jane Russell), a songstress claiming to be a millionaire, headed the same direction. At Morro's Lodge, Lenore tries to get a marriage proposal out of her daffy movie star boyfriend Mark Cardigan (Vincent Price). Cardigan is more interested in hunting. Lenore is more interested in Milner. And Milner is desperate to learn if he should expect a bullet in the head or a nice Mexican vacation. Eventually, an undercover U. S. Immigration agent

(Tim Holt) arrives to clear up that mystery. It's odd to interweave a snappy, sophisticated romantic comedy with existential dread, but Robert Mitchum is as notably introverted and aloof as he is romantic and formidable. Milner sold his fate and thereby lost control of his life. He has no choice but to act like a tourist, enjoy the amenities, and await whatever comes. He tries to find out what the plans are for him, threatening one of Ferraro's men, "I want information, and I'm beginning not to care how I get it." No dice. He's adrift in a world he doesn't understand and cannot control. To emphasize the point, this film has the most low camera angles I have ever seen. We spend a lot of time looking at the ceiling. But Milner has one distraction: The lovely Lenore, who is not what she says. The affable, self-absorbed Mark Cardigan keeps us all amused with his unconscious jabs at Hollywood culture. I can't praise Vincent Price's performance enough. The unforgettable final act of "His Kind of Woman" juxtaposes the most sadistic violence ever seen in an American movie as of 1951 with some of the most successful farce ever -and gets away with it. Howard Hughes felt that "His Kind of Woman" ended too abruptly and insisted that the conclusion of the film be rewritten. The last 40 minutes were directed by Richard Fleischer, not John Farrow, who directed the original cut of the film, and partly written by Hughes, for a total running time of 2 hours -impossibly long in 1951. Milner's torture by Ferraro and his henchmen is cross-cut with Mark Cardigan's farcical attempts to enlist the Lodge's guests and Mexican police in rescuing Milner. Back-and-forth. One might think that Cardigan's antics were intended as comic relief, but they actually emphasize the horror of Milner's predicament. I found myself laughing out loud one minute and cringing the next. More than once. No one knows how it got past the Production Code Administration, but the last 40 minutes of "His Kind of Woman" are so effective and fascinating that you may want to watch them twice. The DVD (Warner Brothers 2006): The single bonus feature is a very good audio commentary by UCLA professor of film and television Vivian Sobchack. Ms. Sobchack talks about stars, characters, cinematography, art direction, and the problems that the film had with the PCA. She compares the film's comedic and noir tones. And she provides a lot of detail about Howard Hughes heavy-handed involvement in the last 40 minutes of the film and its results. The commentary is nearly constant, with Sobchack kindly pausing briefly so that we can hear particularly good dialogue. She does not discuss the noir themes in depth, as that does not seem to be her specialty. That may disappoint noir fans, but themes are easy to figure out for yourself, and the commentary offers a wealth of information on other aspects of the film and its amazing recreation. It's worth listening to the entire commentary. Subtitles for the film are available in English, Spanish, and French. 'A screenwriting disaster with lots and lots of appealing bits in it. Jane Russell is terrific. And the movie has Thurston Howell the Third, Vincent Price, AND Perry Mason--who couldn't love that? The cinematography goes from very good (well, maybe just good in the shootout scenes) to very, very good. Robert Mitchum has lots of great lines (She: "I heard you killed -----". How did it feel?" Mitchum: "He didn't say.") But oh my god, the idiotic plot. The movie can't begin to decide what genre it is--it goes from film noir to suave romance to slapstick comedy (I mean really, the BOAT SINKS?) to over-the-top melodrama complete with mad bug-eyed pure-evil arch-villain and neo-Nazi-ish doctor. And what is that weird freaky business with the belt? Just a whack-O mess. To begin with, the movie goes for practically an HOUR without the audience knowing what the heck is going on; and when you finally learn, you'll wish you'd stayed in the dark. With a plot this hopeless, you'd want to put off getting to it for as long as possible too. According to the commentary by Vivian Sobchack (I like DVDs with commentary tracks), the notorious nutjob billionaire Howard Hughes had purchased RKO Radio Pictures in 1948, and immediately began "helping" with the studio's products, including this 1951 release. She says he was responsible for most of the bad parts of this movie-that-can't-make-up-its-mind: apparently he was virtually writing the film himself by the time it turns weird and genre-bending. So this is really a textbook example of how a meddlesome boss can ruin a project...except that apparently the meddlesome (and inexplicably inconsistent) censors helped spoil the broth too. I can't even complain that it's not a "film noir" because it is. But only in places. There are holes galore in the plot--not only is the main plot straight out of a comic book, but there are all sorts of little "asides" that don't advance the story. And although it's hard to dislike Robert Mitchum in anything, he never conveys the sense here that he's ever actually in any danger OR that he is but doesn't care (like in "Out of the Past"). But that's beside the point--it's the

genre-confusion that spoils the stew here, like a whole bunch of standard Hollywood tropes tossed in randomly and stirred. Where did that term "hot mess" come from? It's perfect for "His Kind of Woman!". I can't quite bring myself to give this two stars because of the lovely Jane Russell and the great B&W; camerawork and...well, all the swell Hollywood pros doing such swell jobs at what they do. But three stars is really a stretch for a movie that just plain fails to come together.', "Vincent Price plays Erroll Flynn as John Barrymore. Jim Backus as a drunk millionaire on the prowl. Paul Frees. Raymond Burr as Lucky Luciano. Also- Robert Mitchum and Jane Russell with just the right amount of tongue-in-cheek to make this film come out as a spoof-ish whole. John Farrow's assured direction keeps the story straight and on-track as a sturdy frame for the antics of Price, Backus, et al. Just Great.", "What more can I say! I'm a fan of both of film noir and Mitchum, though this is not noir, it is Mitchum with a young Vincent Price and Raymond Burr--and for the gentlemen---Jane Russell.!", 'This one gets \'thumbs way up\' from me, but not knowing the plot (IMO) increases the fun; as the type of \'fun\' is best when unexpected. Still, if you don't care either way: "Read on MacDuff!"\*\*\*\*SPOILERS\*\*\*\*This is one fun movie, especially if you are going in expecting a straight crime film. But Howard Hughes, in his attempt to resurrect RKO, had other ideas....At the crux of the plot is deported Italian gangster Nick Ferraro (a rather thin Raymond Burr). Ferraro's men lure Dan Milner (Robert Mitchum), a down-on-his-luck gambler, down to Mexico with the promise of \$50,000. Milner has no idea what for, but he is paid a portion in advance, and that is good enough for him. What Milner doesn't know is that Ferraro plans to kill him in Mexico, and impersonate him across the border, into the states. On his way down to Mexico, Mitchum meets Lenore Brent (Jane Russell) and immediately falls for her. They are both destined for the same resort, but Milner soon learns that Brent is trying to land married actor Mark Cardigan (Vincent Price). Cardigan is a successful thespian, but his marriage is a poor one, so he has come down to Mexico to take out his frustrations by hunting ... and meeting up with Brent. We are introduced to a myriad of resort patrons, such as Myron Winton (Jim Backus), 'our narrator' Thompson (Charles McGraw), chess-playing writer Martin Krafft (John Mylong), and about midway, Bill Lusk (Tim Holt). Up until this point, everything is rather noiry and mysterious in tone; especially after warning Milner something is up ... Lusk ends up dead. Then the tone shifts to something akin to a mix of James Bond and Errol Flynn swashbuckler, as the thugs fail to take Milner aboard a boat to his ultimate doom. They fail because Cardigan is warned about what is going on, and he helps Milner by coming to the rescue fully armed. But then Milner gets the idea that the only way to put a stop to all this is to confront Ferraro on his boat, which is manned by about 20-25 sailors and gangsters.... So he attempts to board the boat and find Ferraro. By this time, Cardigan (in what is one of the most fun performances I've ever seen Price give) feels the rush of adventure and collects a rag-tag band to storm the boat, all the while spouting Shakespearean quotes and wry quips. The last quarter of the film is, in my opinion, as funny as any screwball comedy you care to name. Mark Cardigan: "Alas, why must I be plagued by yammering magpies on the eve of battle?!" "Fun film.", 'Producer Howard Hughes\' "His Kind of Woman" (1951) has become a cult favorite for its delirious mixture of film noir, action, romance and comedy. Red-hot chemistry between Robert Mitchum and Jane Russell (their first screen pairing), with Vincent Price having the time of his life as an adventurous matinee idol. Raymond Burr makes a wonderfully sadistic villain. Slightly overlong, but terrific fun. However, it's a shame Warner Home Video did not include the original RKO trailer.', "Produced by Howard Hughes, His Kind of Woman! is a blending of a little bit from several genres, including film noir, over-the-top comedy, and action. Surprisingly enough, it all works really well. Dan Milner is typically a gambler who has everything go his way, but of late he's hit an unlucky streak. When he's at his lowest, Milner is approached by some shady characters with a way to make some easy money. All he has to do is go to a remote Mexican resort and wait to meet a man. Arriving at the resort, Milner starts to smell a rat as the plan comes together, a deported mobster wants to buy his identity so he can get back into the US. Of course that's just the basic storyline. There's a wide variety of crazy, eccentric characters at the resort all with their own motives. The blending of noir, action, and comedy works perfectly together and makes for a very enjoyable movie. Leading the ensemble cast is the always cool Robert Mitchum as Dan Milner, a down and out gambler looking for some easy money. Mitchum could pull off action star and romance equally well which serves him well here. He teams with sex symbol

Jane Russell for their first of two movies together. Russell plays Lenore Brent, a heiress looking to nab a rich husband. Her scenes with Mitchum are great, and her character is basically a chance to show off her good looks in any number of outfits. Vincent Price really seems to be enjoying himself as over-the-top Mark Cardigan, a Hollywood actor who jumps at the chance to get into some real action when trouble arises. The solid supporting cast includes Tim Holt, Charles McGraw, Marjorie Reynolds, Raymond Burr, Jim Backus, Leslie Banning, and Philip Van Zandt. The DVD has the movie in a standard presentation with a few scratches here and there, but nothing that takes you away from the movie. Film historian Vivian Sobchack also provides an informative commentary, but that's it for special features. So for a movie that blends action, comedy and noir with great performances from Mitchum, Russell, and Price, check out *His Kind of Woman!*", "This is a review for HIS KIND OF WOMAN (1951) dby John Farrow (w/Richard Fleischer), Production Supervised by Howard Hughes. HIS KIND OF WOMAN was probably made, remade and made again before producer Howard Hughes came close to being satisfied with it. It's really not GONE WITH THE WIND but you would think that's what was being filmed considering all the time, care and especially money that was put into it. As it is, HIS KIND OF WOMAN is more or less two movies in one, the first two thirds, a more or less straight ahead film noir directed by John Farrow, and the last third which was directed by, among others, Richard Fleischer. The first portion features plenty of the noir touches that we've become used to from the likes of RKO and Robert Mitchum, shadowy threats of violence and thanks to John Farrow, plenty of fairly ingenious long takes that help keep the story momentum going without a lot of jarring back and forth then he said, then she said set up shots. The final third, when Vincent Price becomes more prominent in the story, is more like a farcial addition to the first part, and the longer the story goes, the funnier it becomes. Vincent Price is in top form in this film, at least the second part, and even if you don't care for moody noirs, you might like the anti-noir farcial atmosphere of the second part and climax of HIS KIND OF WOMAN. The story of HIS KIND OF WOMAN concerns gambler Dan Milner, played by Robert Mitchum, being persuaded to go to Baja, Mexico in order to assist a Luciano-like gangster, played by Raymond Burr, to re-enter the United States without government permission. Along the way Milner runs into a singer named Lenore Brent, played by Jane Russell and a popular Errol Flynn-like movie actor played by Vincent Price. Although at times HIS KIND OF WOMAN can get a mite congested, there's a lot of activity and plenty of interesting characters to keep things going and the two hour running time is pleasantly filled with the type of entertainment we have come to expect from the later years of the RKO studio. I rate HIS KIND OF WOMAN Four Stars", 'His Kind of Woman should be a mess, but somehow it emerges as a highly enjoyable insane asylum of a movie as much thanks to as in spite of the constant interference by Howard Hughes: credited to John Farrow, Richard Fleischer spent months shooting and reshooting the yacht finale at the mogul's whims in a desperate attempt to get out of his own studio contract. Even Raymond Burr's villain is a case of third time lucky after Howard Petrie and Robert J. Wilke played the part without meriting Hughes' approval. Snappy dialogue ("You're the guy who shot (him). How did it feel?" "He didn't say.") unlucky gamblers, fortune-hunting gals, randy Wall Street types (played by no less than Mr Magoo himself, Jim Backus), Nazi plastic surgeons, Italian mobsters, Robert Mitchum betting his shoe and ironing his money, and a very wonderful hotel set courtesy of Albert D'Agostino - this has everything Hughes' money could buy. Mitch and Jane Russell have real chemistry, and she comes over as far more genuinely likeable than in many of her contemporary roles: for all the chaos, you get the sense that they're actually having fun (certainly she looks genuinely happy when she sings in her opening scene). But the show belongs to Vincent Price's ham actor, who doesn't fear death - he's too well-known to die - loves guns, never shuns the spotlight - even if it is wielded by gun-toting mobsters - but isn't too wild about his wife. He should destroy the movie if you're still expecting the bleak noir it began as, but by the time he appears you know that this is a log ride that drifts with the prevailing current and his outrageous hamming somehow compliments the sadism and prolonged action of the extended finale perfectly. A shame that the DVD has a noticeable scratch during the yacht sequences', "I didn't care for the movie, but the commentary by Prof. Vivian Sobcheck of UCLA's School of Film and Television is worth the rental. She goes into Film Noir, and Howard Hughes, and the making of the film.", 'Note that this film is available as part of a five-picture Film

Noir package, for about the same price as the film by itself. It's one of the oddest noirs ever, starting with a down-on-his-luck professional gambler taking a \$5K down-payment to do "something" he'll be told about later, and ending as... "The Pirates of Penzance" (with Frederick about to be terminated)? Really. I'm not kidding. The complaint that the first hour (heck, most of the film) is confusing, holds some water. But plenty of hints are dropped, if you're paying attention. The climax has Vincent Price, as Mark Cardigan (!), a Flynn-like actor at the end of his career, leading a posse of Mexican police to save Mitchum. This genre mixing doesn't work well, not so much because of the disparity, but because Price's scenes run on much too long. This weakens the film's tension, when it could have been used to heighten it. They could easily have been trimmed. Mitchum is repeatedly beaten up, though mostly off-camera. But one beating has to be one of the worst, if not /the/ worst, beatings in a Code film. Good performances all around, including the often-flat Jane Russell, and especially Price. Price is still in the "serious actor" part of his career, and avoids going overboard. (If you'd like an even better example of his comedic skills, catch "Champagne for Caesar".) Burr is surprisingly thin, and handsome. Definitely worth seeing, even if you don't normally care for noir.']

## B000T28PZQ

['Drew Carey hosts the hilarious "Whose Line is it Anyway" (adapted from a British show of the same name). In this show, four actor/comedians (usually Colin Mochrie, Wayne Brady, Ryan Stiles, and a "wildcard") act out improvisational comedy skits. These skits are hilarious! My wife and I will sometimes be in tears laughing at these incredibly skilled actors who can do amazing improvisational comedy. They also have a great rapport with each other, which is probably the key to the show. That being said, the first season doesn't quite live up to the later seasons. Some of the skits ("games") were a bit lame and not that funny - it's as if the writers were still searching for the best ideas for the show. And don't get excited about the "Uncensored" label, because little if anything in this season was actually censored, so you won't see anything that you haven't already seen. Still, it's a side-splittingly funny show with a fabulous cast and should be must-buy for anyone.', "My boyfriend and I LOVE this show! Its always entertaining to watch this, it all puts people in a good mood because they're all so funny and creative!", "IF you need a pick me up and a few good laughs, this is for you. These are some very talented comedians. And where is Wayne Brady. I want more of him and why don't we see more of him. He can sing as well as be funny. Some of these are side splitting and when you think this is all off the top of their heads. They are GENIUS! A winner!", 'I love this show. They are so entertaining. The games they play are so funny in how they interpret them. All the people on here make you laugh. I wish this show would come back.', 'I have been a fan of "Whose Line is it Anyway?" since its original inception in Britain. Whether or not your skeptical about the reality of this show, it still remains that it is hilarious to watch and the truth of the matter is that everyone on this show is well-versed in improv. I've never cared for Drew Carey on the show, but everyone else really shines (even a young Stephen Colbert!) The DVD bonus features are limited to outtakes but watching some of those are even funnier than the show itself! (Ryan Stiles making fun of the producer behind his back is absolutely hysterical!) If you even remotely liked the show this collection is well-worth a look. I do a lot of acting and have taken improv classes and will sometimes watch a few episodes to help reinforce my basic improv fundamentals because they are all there! Remember: Always say "YES and...", 'This show was absolutely hilarious when it was on TV and the uncensored dvds are even better. This show is awesome and will have you laughing the whole time. There are a variety of actors that come on and they are all very funny. There is singing, improv, and all kinds of jokes. The outtakes are especially hilarious and include all kinds of trash talk. This is a must see if you were a fan of the show on TV, or even if you are just a fan of improv comedy.', "This is great! These guys are hysterical and it's great to be able to watch it again.", 'Great product! How could anyone not laugh at this show? But I cannot find anything except season 1!! Where are the other seasons!? This show got better as it went along. My boys all loved getting it for Christmas. The whole house loved watching it. As



always, great service from Amazon.', 'Just what I was looking for. I loved this show and I was waiting for something like this to appear on amazon.Perfect.', 'Whose Line is a great show and this collection, while overpriced, contains some really funny stuff. The "Uncensored" label is misleading though. Only the special features are really uncensored, and even with those, about 25% are things the censors were just being overly politically correct with. You could tell the talent wasn't very happy with the censors at times and I don't blame them. I think most of the "uncensored" stuff are things that would be aired normally on a channel like Comedy Central, but since the show was basically owned by Disney at the time, they considered very mild things as controversial.Anyway, I highly recommend this to any fan of improv. I just wanted to clarify the "uncensored" label.', 'The guest stars on the show are great!! Well all know that Richard Simmons is a freak, well, the episode with him is absolutely hysterical. All great, but that one is pure insanity.', 'I really like this show and was glad to be able to buy it on DVD. It has provided me with plenty of laughs.', 'I love to hear my teenage grandson laughing as he is watching these videos. He loves them. It was a good choice.', 'Another gift for son and daughter-in-law. They love comedy stuff a whole bunch. They were as excited about this one as they were about Gabriel Iglesias DVD.']

## B001EZE5FG

["The best Pink Panther film is The Return of the Pink Panther, which isn't included in MGM sets because it's owned by Universal.[...]It's only [...] here on Amazon and it is, by far, the best in the series.These Pink Panther films (except the first one, which was intended as a vehicle for David Niven until the producers realized that it was much more entertaining to watch Sellers) are OK, and funny simply because of Sellers. But it's not worth this kind of price when you can get his best Clouseau in The Return of the Pink Panther/", 'Great gift for the Pink Panther buff in your family it is a nice fuzzy set that any true Pink Panther fan would love to own. Includes all movies and cartoons', 'I just got this yesterday from the Gold Box Deal. It's a HUGE pink velvet book-style case (Compare the size of the DVD's to the book-style case in the picture). When you open the cover, it looks like it has two books inside. One is a huge Pink Panther hard cover coffee table book, the other book is a case that holds all of the DVD's. I bought this for thirty-five as the Gold Box deal of the day, and at the same time, ordered a "Very Good" used copy of Return of the Pink Panther for about 5 bucks, which I'll slip into this set.Realize that most all of the 1-star reviews here are because "Return" didn't come in this set (How can it, if the studio doesn't own it?), or because of shipping issues, which are vendor/shipper related, and not product related.', 'Just got in this box set today (well, just now picking it up at the Post Office). The set was packaged great; the outer box is probably the sturdiest cardboard box I've ever seen. So the set arrived in great shape. However, upon opening the set I found that one of the DVDs was missing; the slot for the movie "Shot in the Dark" was empty. And from the looks of it, it appears that the DVD was never inserted into it. That's why I'm only giving this set three stars - I would have given it five otherwise. I know some people will probably comment that I should just contact Amazon and send this set back for a replacement. I've decided not to do that though. I got this set as a Gold Box deal so it really didn't cost all that much, and I already have a copy of that particular movie that I picked up a few years ago. So I can just put that disc in the slot. It's just not worth it to box this heavy set back up and lug it the 30 miles back to the post office and then have to wait for the replacement to get here.', "can't go wrong with this amazin collection of really funny pink panther movies and cartoons. great for all ages...", 'This review is about the packaging for the "Ultimate Collection," rather than the Peter Seller movies which we all know are wonderfully great already.This attractive box-set comes shrink-wrapped and then placed in its own cardboard box with stickers reminding the seller not to remove the boxset from the box because it is an 'Ultimate Collection.' Next this box is place in a shipping box - so it's double-boxed to insure coming to you in excellent shape. Its shipping weight is over 10 pounds and it feels like it. The outer cover of the boxset itself, feels like a soft veleour-like material. To me, it feels like micro-fiber - like the covering of my down blanket. The case of the boxset is built very sturdy and makes a good coffee table book.My problem is the cardboard slots which is where the

DVD's rest. I'm not a fan of cardboard slots for DVDs or BluRay Disc and this set proves it. Approximately half of the discs had become dislodged from their slots during shipping. Consequently there were quite a few scratches on the Discs. One Disc was lodged in its slot so tight that it somehow made contact with the glue used to cement the cardboard together. There was actually glue on the Disc which I had to remove with alcohol. But the Discs were all playable so I decided to rip all the Discs to a backup harddrive anyways which I usually do with sets like this. So I'm not sending it back to Amazon for a replacement. Anyways I bought the set mostly for the cartoon collection and the included encyclopedic-like book as I already have the movies in my home collection. The book, by the way, covers the forty year period of the movie productions. One thing to remember about this set or any other Pink Panther Collection is that it does not include "Return of the Pink Panther," arguably one of the best if not the best of the series. Something about Copyright issues or a different company made the movie or something like that. But you can buy it reasonably cheap. The only reason I bring this up is because, if and when you do buy the 'Return of ..... ' make sure you get the Universal edition and not the Artisan edition. I have both of them and the Artisan edition is awful bad. It looks like a burned copy of a bad VHS copy to DVD. The Universal edition is an excellent transfer. It's beautiful, actually, especially when compared to the Artisan edition. Anyways, enjoy the set if you get it but I wouldn't buy it unless or until it is sold again as a "Gold Box deal," which it probably will be someday. 'Why in world call this ultimate? The cartoon series is available separately while the curse of the pink panther without sellers, The son of the pink panther & the 2006 sham with Steve Martin which nobody liked I don't get this? MGM search for more money The only interesting thing in this set is 60 minutes extra footage, of the pink panther? I guess now that Blake Edwards is dead. MGM candig up purposely lost footage and nobody can object.? I will not buy this set, and have feeling alot people wont either. MGM is double dipping theres nothing wrong with 2004 collection I know the return of pink panther is not available in either set .it goes to show you some companies will milk it, until the cow is long dead.", "This set came in good condition, It a little tricky in removing the discs from the selves that they come in, but can be done. the video on my 55" television looks good, not all movies are in 5.1 sound, but still seem pretty good on my Bose 3.2.1 . The book is coffee table size, so you do need someplace to keep the oversize set. Because of movies rights, one movie is missing, but can be brought by it self from amazon. It would had been nice to have this set done for blue ray.", "I have seen this set for much more than I paid with Amazon and I'm so glad I picked it up when I did. It was beautifully packaged and will make a great gift for my Dad. Thank you Amazon", 'Fun to watch, loved that era! It was neat to watch the different characters change like the different James Bonds...', 'I own the Pink Panther 5 movie set and the PP Classic Cartoon Set, as well as Inspector Vol 1 and Ant / Aardvark AND the Steve Martin Version of "Pink Panther" as well as "Return of the Pink Panther" on a separate DVD. Now at the time of this writing I got it from a seller at 65 dollars so getting the 5 "other DVDs" I dont own was still a great bargain to finish off the set. The surprise was I also got the hardcover 150 page book which I didnt know came with it and a very large outer case. I got lucky that only 1 DVD fell out and was scratched but it still played perfectly even with about ten scratches. Two of the disks had glue on the edges but came off easily. Those were probably the main reasons the set is now so cheap (assuming). Definitely worth buying even if you own the other stuff I mentioned at first. The "addition" to my collection "Inspector Clouseau", "Son of", "Curse of", "Roland", and "Inspector Vol 2" makes the whole set complete considering some of those Cartoons that I needed to complete the set are not available elsewhere. So what it doesnt mention "Return of the Pink Panther" openly in the book or the fact that DVD wasnt with the set. Thats not the fault of MGM. Blame Columbia. BTW the book does mention "Return" in some obscure pages, but you have to find them.', 'The original movies have all been available before. One of them is the rancid 1968 film without Peter Sellers. Two of them are poorly assembled clipfests from the other movies. Another is a rotten 1993 spinoff. Yet another is the atrocious Steve Martin remake. And then the set is filled out with tons of cartoons. The original theatrical stuff has some flair, but the TV cartoons are big stink bombs. And of course (while MGM couldn't help it because of rights issues) Return of the Pink Panther isn't here at all. Feel like shelling out a bunch of money for this yet? The only thing of interest at all in this set is the original movie with "over 60 minutes of never-before-seen footage." 60

minutes of Peter Sellers outtakes? That's worth lining up for! Hopefully it will be available on its own at some point.']

## B001JOXWD8

[this is quite a pleasant disney film well acted with some magical effects thrown in.this is a good story for all the familt to enjoy', 'Just about anything with Olivia Newton-John is going to satisfy my fancy.....Just the best type of family film.. Great Movie.', 'This movie was not what I expected it to be. It was ok.Do not look to be in the Christmas mood after you watch this.', 'This is one of my favorite Christmas Movies and I have been waiting a long time for it to be available. I paid a little more then I wanted to and wish it was cheaper, but the movie was brand new and very rare to find. I wish someone would put A Very Brady Christmas on DVD :)', 'excellent movie for family to enjoyThis is one of the best holiday movies I have ever watched.So glad I bought it', 'nice job Have a very nice holiday season with out any problems, & may next year be very good for you!!', "I first saw this movie years ago as a wide world of Disney presentation and I fell in love with it-I use to bring it to the homes of children I babysat and the kids all loved it too-a great classic that should be on your holiday watching list up there with It's a Wonderful Life. I'm 52 now and I still enjoy watching this movie-buy it for your kids but I bet the adults will love it as I do....", "This is one of my favorite movies. A movies that's totally impossible to ever come true in the real world, but on film anything is possible. Olivia Newton-John was the perfect choice for a mannequin to become real. Granted, parts of the movie are silly, but that's what's makes you laugh at the silliness of it.", "First of all, you can get this DVD cheap through the Disney Movie Club. Second of all, why bother?At worst, this is a lame fantasy complete with magic and lessons to be learned (not the least of which is why you don't put lighted candles on a Christmas tree!). It's earnest but a tad too simplistic. Life just doesn't work like this and why should it? You want a new mom, get your dad to start dating, don't go wishing on a dummy in a store. (Which brings up the movie's biggest question: why was this little girl spending every waking moment loitering in a department store?)Not exactly a timeless tale worth repeating.", "When i first saw this movie, back when it was on tv on the disney channel, i then became obsessed with finding this brilliant film on VHS or DVD again.my thoughts of this film is this.Even in the midths of economic hardship that most americans see in their lives, it just goes to show you that this movie was (in it's time) and still is the best of movie making out there. it shows that with love, understanding and hope, one can have anything happen. even within the smile of stranger (a mall-doll or not). this movie gives its viewers reasons to reflect upon their own lives, i know i did. to find the best in it, despite the darkened policies and decisions that our government hands us. this film is about hope, in the finding of that innocence within a child, renewed faith, in the belief that if one wants it bad enough, it comes to pass, and in the belief, that within hard work, love, believing in ones self, nearly anything is possible.these days we as a world, lack that. we spend our lives with the scurry and worry of everyday life. when see the ones on street corners holding up those signs (and you ALL know what im talking about.. ya'll seen them too) we pay them no mind, we brush them off as if they were as common as the trash that lays along the curb in the street. we close our minds and hearts to each other. we have become complacent and self centered and yes, even the holy rollers are this way, sometimes even more so. but if you see this film, look at the message, look at the presence and look at the love that is so deseperately apparent in this movie.every child without a mother, longs for such a fairytale such as this to come true for themselves. they too, as did jessica, wish with their heart, wish with their love and wished with the innocence of childhood for the mother they so long for in life. its rings true as does the poem from the NYC Post "Yes, Virginia, There Is A Santa Claus". however, now a days, that kind of magic, that kind of miracle, that kind of fairytale, is mere hollywood magic.i think this film SHOULD BE A MUST for any family, struggling internally or not, a must for teaching their children about life, about love and especially about hope.', 'We had this movie on VHS recorded from the Disney Channel and my kids loved it. Was thrilled to find this on DVD for my Grandkids.', 'The story follows a young girl, Jessica, whose mother died years ago. She envies the others girls who have moms to take them

shopping and talk about girl things. At a department store wishing well she encounters an "employee" (played by Doris Roberts) who is more likely an angel of some sort. She helps Jessica get her wish to have a Mom for Christmas. She sends mannequin-turned-human Amy (Olivia Newton-John) to Jessica's home, where she poses as the housekeeper Jessica's father was intending to hire. There is some humor as you see Amy adjust to being human. Of course, Jessica's father begins to fall for the beautiful stranger, but she causes some major chaos in their lives. She is only supposed to be there for the holiday, and when she has complicated things by causing a fire, being picked up for suspected shoplifting and embarrassing Jessica in front of friends, she decides they would be better off without her and returns to the department store. When it is discovered that she has left them they set off to try and get her back, but can they overcome the magic that was only to work for Christmas? When my children were young we had taped this from the TV and frequently enjoyed it over the holidays. As they got older it was a little too corny for them. But if your kids are young it is a good family Christmas fantasy, with a little romance thrown in. I think Doris Roberts turns in the strongest performance, but my favorite scene is in the department store after hours when Amy is trying to get her mannequin friend to drive a car that is on display so that they can go get a Christmas tree. They have a funny encounter with a security guard.', "My daughter has loved this movie from the very first time she saw it and at the age of 28 still cries. It's a warm, caring and sensitive story that can bring out any mom sensitive emotions. My daughters mom has been in assisted living for 10 years now which is partly the reason she loves the movie but also emotional. I recommend it especially for anyone who loves Christmas. It's worth the \$25-\$50 price tags as its getting harder to find.", "I had this movie on VHS & really enjoyed it at that time. To be able to receive it on DVD was really even better. The vendor shipped the movie on time & it was packed to really protect it until it arrived. A wonderful movie to add to my Christmas pleasures. It's really great to add to the original movie-A Mom for Christmas #1.Thank you to the vendor & Amazon!!!!", 'I first saw this movie when it came out, I just loved it, it is cute, heart warming and all and all good, I loved it from the start and have been looking for it every since, I was so happy to have found it. There is magic, and love. Hope you get to enjoy it as much as I have, I just love Olivia Newton John. Maryse', 'I liked the movie because it brings me back to when I was living back home with my foster family', 'I got this for my wife she has waited so long to see this again i enjoyed it to. thank you', 'Christmas is about the birth of Jesus. But it is also about FAMILY. Grab a box of kleenex when watching this movie. It is funny and sad at times and it offers HOPE that Christmas is a time for MIRACLES!!!!!!']

B002O4J4E8

[I KNOW YANNI AND HE IS ONE OF THE BEST, THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH ALL OF YOU!!! KEEP GOING MY FRIEND', 'We were highly disappointed in the quality of this DVD!!!!!! It had so much popping and cracking in the background that it made listening very difficult. I WOULD NOT recommend this DVD at all!! I hope Amazon will take note of how disappointed we are in ever ordering this DVD at all!!', "Well, it is Yanni on hormone shots. I tried to like this I really did. I am a huge Yanni fan and have bought all of his CD's and DVD's, but this one was, well just boring. I was expecting a full two hours of Susan Amato's type of singing renditions of Yanni songs, yes, I was prepared for vocals to the melodies, but it just left me empty. It was formulaic and just predictable. I will keep it and put it in the library, but it is not something I am looking forward to watching again anytime soon. It is too bad, I have been to his live concerts, and you leave walking on air, it is quite an experience, the DVD, historically, while not as moving as the live experience, are still good, this ... something is just missing. Sorry Yanni, you can do and have done better ...", 'This is Yanni and yet so different, I loved it. These young people are terrific, voices is Yanni, yet filled with beautiful young voices.', 'Ok, it has vocalists. Not like those two lovely divas from Yanni Live. This show has actual singers. Now wait a minute. Before you automatically dismiss this, hear me out. Some of the vocalists are worthy of your ear. Take Nathan, a powerful tenor, who completely owns the stage with '\Unico Amore\' and '\Amare Di Nuovo\''. Words fail me to describe his voice. It felt like a warm blanket wrapped around me. His voice doesn't fail him during high or low notes. His tone and pitch

is spot on. Watching him is like watching a young Andrea Bocelli. Before going on, I have to mention 'Our Days' by Leslie Mills & Chloe. It is, quite possibly, the most erotic song in Yanni's vast inventory. I say "erotic" in a good way. Watching Chloe perform to the music was nothing short of breathtaking. She has a dancer's body and displayed the flexibility that comes with it. Her robotic, jerky movements were in time with the music -- which added to the allure. Leslie comes out halfway through and her vocals are just tantalizing. I found myself stuck staring at the TV unable to move. Leslie captures the mood with her vocals as she stretches out on Yanni's piano. The song is almost hypnotizing. Yanni even got into the act and appeared to be directing Chloe with his hand movements. The entire song and act was nothing short of brilliant. Another highlight is the violin duels between Anne Marie Calhoun and Samuel Yervinian. This is Ms. Calhoun's first appearance in a Yanni show but you couldn't tell that by her performance. She brought a flourish to the performance that was missing from earlier Yanni shows. When she unfurls her hair as she stands up to begin a dual, for example, riles up the audience. When she is dueling with Samuel, you can see her smiling throughout her performance. I swear she only looked at her violin maybe five times during the entire duel! Samuel, as usual, didn't disappoint and even got into the stage antics by making faces at Anne Marie while he played. During the second duel, he really let loose and was playing just crazy fast -- faster, I think, than he did during Yanni Live. A final highlight for me was the horn solo. I didn't catch the horn player's name but the effort he put into the solo was astounding. You could see the effort in his face due to several camera closeups. He nailed every note and put on a memorable solo. Are there forgettable parts? Sure. It's a new format for Yanni so he's trying new things. There is still enough great music here to make it worth the price. Recommended.', 'Saw this in person and the DVD did not disappoint. If you love vocals and pure talent you must see this concert.', 'YANNI NEVER DISAPPOINTS ME!!!!', 'Yanni has taken a twist finding great, new singing talent on this album. This album showcases different types of music and singing talents of these young people he has discovered. Will be hearing from them in the future.', 'I have most of Yanni's instrumental CDs and all DVDs from which the selections in Voices were taken. While I prefer the original instrumentals, the Voices DVD was different but still good. I would not recommend the CD version without the DVD video because seeing the performers on DVD makes the music more appreciative.', 'If you like Yanni's music then it's no doubt that you'll enjoy this concert. You can see how his concerts progress and transcend his previous ones in a very pleasing way. This concert is made up of the finest musicians playing and the singers are excellent in their performances as well. For anyone to compare this to hip hop or complain about the languages the songs are sung in obviously have no understanding of what beautiful music is. This is, once again, another great work by Yanni and company...thank you Yanni!', 'I fell in love with Yanni ever since the Acropolis concert. I love his music....but I can't seem to warm up to VOICES. I realize that artists, composers, actors, all grow and improve with age. But I've somehow missed the intrigue about setting Yanni's beautiful music with lyrics. Spanish lyrics at that, so non-Spanish speaking fans have NO idea what the singers are singing. On the plus side, the four singers in concert have beautiful vocal instruments. I missed Yanni's last concert here in Las Vegas---but looking forward to his next concert in May of 2011, hopefully without the singers, (sorry Chloe and Ender....) TERI', 'IF YOU ARE A YANNI FAN. . . you will often reflect that that the last performance, whichever it may be, was undoubtedly the very best. But, if you'll continue to follow The Man . . . this Gifted musical Creator, you'll recognize that this line of thought is just a puff of smoke --- in a strong wind. The Final Evaluation of this Artist may not be delivered . . . NOT in Our Lifetime . . . He is Amazing . . . And the icing on his cake is that he surrounds himself with some of the FINEST singers and players that the Entertainment world has EVER known. I've Never been able to get over him."]

B0058O1FIY

[I refused to buy the T&J; Spotlight collections because they were censored. Now, finally, they are totally 100% uncut and uncensored. Since I do not have a blu-ray player, I purchased the DVD set. The remastered transfers are absolutely gorgeous.. so I can only imagine how beautiful they look on

blu-ray. In short, I am thoroughly pleased and impressed with this collection. Will definitely be buying volume 2.', "WOW GROWING UP I USE TO LOOK FORWARD TO GOING TO THE MOVIES ON SUNDAY. GOT TO SEE TOM AND JERRY CARTOONS. I WOULD LAUGH TILL I CRIED AT THESE TWO SILLY GUYS. I WOULD HURRY HOME AND TELL MY MOTHER ALL ABOUT THE ADVENTURES OF TOM AND JERRY..MOM WOULD SMILE AND I AM SURE BEHIND THAT SMILE SHE WAS TRYING TO UNDERSTAND WHAT I WAS SAYING MY WORDS RUNNING TOGETHER IN MY EXCITEMENT AS I TOLD MOM THE ADVENTURES OF TOM AND JERRY. MOM'S NO LONGER HERE BUT I WILL BE ABLE TO THINK BACK AND REMEMBER THE LAUGHES AND SMILES THAT CAME OUT OF MY HOUSE BECAUSE OF TOM AND JERRY. IF YOU LIKE CARTOONS YOU WILL LOVE THESE TWO. TOM AND JERRY THANK YOU", 'We have two DVDs of Tom & Jerry and our great grandson has just about wore them out. He watches them over and over.', 'I first saw Tom & Jerry cartoons on tv in the late '60s, and thanks to my parents, I knew they were "old" cartoons because my folks had seen them in their younger years. But there was something about them that didn't seem right--they just weren't as bright and colorful as the Warner Bros. and Disney cartoons that were also on tv. And those faded old prints, along with other unwelcome blemishes, kept showing up in the '70s, '80s, and '90s. For some reason or other, the Mammy Two-Shoes character was "sanitized" in just a few of the syndication prints that played in our market, but the old robust Technicolor hues faded down to weak pastels. And when Cartoon Network came along, we had cuts to deal with. And then the laserdisc set perpetuated the weak colors and bizarre idiocy like "His Mouse Friday" with music intact but all dialogue removed. The "Spotlight" collections were heartbreakers, and the recent "Best of" dvd was almost an insult. BUT FINALLY, we have "Tom & Jerry Golden Collection," and if the succeeding volume(s) are as good as Volume One, then Tom & Jerry and their creators have finally been treated honorably. Most of my enthusiasm is due to seeing the content intact: no "remedial voiceovers," no cuts to remove violence or blackface gags. The comedy content is Tom & Jerry straight up. Most of the prints are very sharp, color-wise. Some exceptions have been noted by other reviewers. While these particular titles don't look as duped-out as they have in the past, viewers will note a grainier texture in the image which tells of substandard material being tweaked-up as far as the elements will permit. It's not terrible, but it is noticeably inferior. The absence of original title cards for several subjects is a bit easier to overlook in light of the completeness of the shorts, but it's still a bit of a sore point, given the artistry that frequently enhanced the openings. It's something like the original illustrations of a book. The text might be complete, but a completist wants the original enhancements, particularly in the case of Mark Twain or Charles Dickens, who actively collaborated with illustrators (or, to use a movie analogy, the opening titles of Laurel & Hardy's "Blockheads," which were drawn by comedian Harry Langdon and are now permanently restored in both the British and American dvd collections). As far as I can tell, most of the supplemental material in the this dvd set was previously released in the "Spotlight" sets, which will make those atrocities all the easier to part with. My only gripe with the new featurette, "Vaudeville, Slapstick and Tom and Jerry" is that a couple of the cartoon scenes are from Chuck Jones' Tom & Jerry cartoons; this documentary is supposed to focus on Hanna & Barbera's original creation. These nits aside, this collection's overall quality is long overdue and thrice welcome. I hope it's a portent of good things to come not just for Tom & Jerry but for the MGM cartoons of Tex Avery as well.', 'Great cartoon from youth and great gift idea. Some classic episodes on the video. Got as a gift but might buy one for myself. Good gift for fans of Tom and Jerry.', 'Tom & Jerry Cartoons are classic because they are not only well done visually, but they also have great soundtracks. The scores/music on most of these Tom and Jerry cartoons is better than anything you can find today. This was a gift to my musically talented Nephew who can appreciate the orchestration and artistry these cartoons hold.', 'i like tom+jerry a lot,so does my sister.i read some of the reviews on this collection.even though everyone is entitled to their opinion about this collection.i think it is pretty good.i was\'nt around in the 40\'s when these cartoons on this collection were originally on tv.i love these cartoons and anyone in this generation want a good laugh and they enjoy tom+jerry anyway they should purchase this dvd collection.i and my sister who watches them with me laughs at their antics just as much and as hard as i do.to make a long story short if you like tom+jerry you\'ll love and enjoy them as much as my sister and i do.so go ahead

and buy this tom+jerry collection you'll have a good laugh like we do watching them.your's truly chrisfan and sibling oop"s i mean my sister.', 'I've liked Tom and Jerry since I was a kid right along Woody Woodpecker and all the Looney Tunes Charators. Tom and Jerry although third to them were still good as are these episodes cartoons or shorts whatever you want to call them. They're all good and you should get them.', 'This series is all about animals and humans sadistic torture, enslave, bullying, enact revenge against each other without anything good coming out of it.', "Tom & Jerry might be the best cartoon ever! And this is a terrific release. Where is the Golden Collection Volume 2?? I've been waiting for it for over a year. I thought it'd be released by now.", "I had refused to buy the old DVD collections and am now glad I did! I am NOT a PC type of guy (seems people go out of their way nowadays to be offended) and won't bother with edited/censored stuff. Here they are in all their glory the way they always should have been. Plus the shows themselves look great AND I have the DVD NOT the blue ray so I can imagine that the blu ray looks even better!", "Absolutely delightful, screamingly funny, with beautiful artwork. A complete, uncensored collection, unlike the upcoming Golden Collection Vol 2, it seems. I am delighted that someone at the studio had the backbone to publish the full set of cartoons. The only thing that's missing in these old cartoons is Tom & Jerry chasing around the PC types who think that cartoons should be censored. Quality of the transfers (and originals) is impeccable, free of dust specks, scratches. Colours are vibrant and beautiful. Couldn't recommend this set more highly.", "At long last; the Tom and Jerry set to end them all! Don't be fooled, this isn't your ordinary Tom and Jerry set because this 2-disc set features the first 37 shorts in chronological order uncut and uncensored and restored and remastered for the first time (I understand the transfer will be remarkable)! Plus, some of these shorts include their original title cards for the first time anywhere on any format! Plus bonus features including 9 commentaries and a new retrospective documentary. Truly the ultimate Tom and Jerry set...ever!", 'I do have the spotlight collections, but my hubby bought this for me to, I just love tom and jerry, and classic cartoons all together! I love how this is unedited and everything is together! A must for any tom and jerry lover! But get this over the spotlights, you miss things in them!', 'According to the "On Video" web site, "Tom & Jerry: The Golden Collection, Volume Two", will be released on 12-17-2013 by publisher Warner Brothers, and have 42 shorts (cartoons) on two disks; the SRP is \$26.99 for the set. It was not revealed if the set will include the two cartoons which were originally to be excluded from this release...and which angered 99.99% of their customer base. Hopefully, they have been included (along with the other shorts) in chronological order, un-cut, and remastered conditions. As soon as Amazon has a preorder listing (better sooner than later...please) I will order it ASAP on the standard DVD format...a gamble that I am willing to take :) :) Hopefully a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year...have fun !!!JWC II', "It's so great to have these classic cartoons. I've watched them and I've laughed and giggled. They are so cute and just as I remember them. WB did themselves proud with this set of Vol 1. They are uncut and in order.", "Tom and Jerry is one of my favorite cartoons, these cartoons never get boring. So when I was browsing amazon and saw that they were releasing a brand new remastered collection of the classic cartoons, I simply had to buy it! The quality of the cartoons is great, the picture is clear and crisp. However there are some shorts that have a bit of a grainy quality to them. It's like some shorts were really remastered and some shorts were not very well remastered. But most of the Tom and Jerry shorts on here are very clear. If you own previous collections of Tom and Jerry, then I don't know how interested you would be in buying this. But for me, since I don't have any of the previous collections, this was a must have. I love the Christmas one, it stands out amongst the rest for me, because it's very heartwarming. I'm looking forward to volume two (I want more episodes with Spike and with that duckling, I don't remember if it had a name lol). Hilarious classic cartoons, presented in their original form", 'I bought this dvd so I can watch it over and over on saturday mornings. It has a nice menu, a booklet with all the episode names and brief description, 37 of the best Tom & Jerry shorts and special features include: How Bill and Joe Met Tom & Jerry; Vaudville, slapstick and Tom & Jerry; The Comedy Styling of Tom & Jerry; The Worry Song From Anchors Aweigh; Hope you enjoy it as much as I do', 'My grandkids love Tom and Jerry and I was happy to watch this with them as they are really great award winning pieces of art.', 'My grandchild loved this movie. I thought that this being an older cartoon, that he may not like it as

well as some of the newer cartoons. But he watches it over and over.', 'While i still havent bought this collection (i have to economize for the moment) i think it's great news for classic cartoon fans and another proof that Warner can release full (i understand this to be the first of the series), unedited and chronological collections, even of previously released ones like Tom and Jerry-and resuming my mantre: please, Warner, do the same with the Looney Tunes! thank you.update: I have bought it some months ago. i remember some of the cartoons in the collection from childhood, like "The bodyguard" (if you need me, just whistle!) and "Million Dollar cat" (but I'm happy!). its amazing how these cartoons look so great even after 70 years. my personal treat is to see signs of the time they were made: WW II references (like a picture of Tom turned to Hitler in "The Lonesome Mouse"), jazzy music, an african american maid (I understand her voice was changed in previous releases; how hypocritical!). I understand vol.2 will be released in 2013 and will contain "Mouse Cleaning" (not on previous US collections) and other edited or censored cartoons.All of those edits and censorship (which were applied also to Looney Tunes and Popeye) is both stupid (trying to make believe the past didnt exist) and wrong (cartoons, like all art, should be released in the exact same way their creators made them). why can't american corporations, Like Turner and Disney (which still have not released the unedited 'Fantasia' or a DVD of 'Song of the South') leave people to decide for themselves what they want to see? \*It should be made unlawful to mishandle cartoons for whatever reason, or prevent them from being broadcast or relaesed on home video!\*, "I've been a fan of Tom & Jerry since I was about 4 years old (I'm 23 now) and still just as big of a fan of the show as I was when I was little. I owned all of the VHS tapes that came out in the early 90's but had to get rid of them since they had a lot of wear. I do own the Spotlight Collection but the shorts were edited and not presented as they were originally released. I'm so glad I held out on the last two sets of the spotlight collection. This is the way the Spotlight Collection should have been released. I really wish I knew how WB remastered these shorts because the picture quality is absolutely beautiful even on the DVD copy. There's only one DVD case with a beautiful shiny slip cover. Inside, it comes with a small booklet episode guide and two discs. The original opening and ending credits are included in each episode.Note: The DVD does warn you that these shorts are intended for the adult collector. I added a screenshot that shows the warning. There's also a warning on the back of the DVD. So parents with children, you have been warned.

List of Shorts

Disc 1: Puss Gets The Boot, The Midnight Snack, The Night Before Christmas, Fraidy Cat, Dog Trouble, Puss N' Toots, The Bowling Alley Cat, Fine Feathered Friend, Sufferin' Cats, The Lonesome Mouse, The Yankee Doodle Mouse, Baby Puss, The Zoot Cat, The Million Dollar Cat, The Body Guard, Puttin On The Dog, Mouse Trouble, The Mouse Comes To Dinner, Mouse In Manhattan, Tee For Two

Disc 2: Flirty Birdy, Quiet Please!, Springtime For Thomas, The Milky Waif, Trap Happy, Solid Serenade, Cat Fishin', Part Time Pal, The Cat Concerto, Dr. Jekyll And Mr. Mouse, Salt Water Tabby, A Mouse In The House, The Invisible Mouse, Kitty Foiled, The Truce Hurts, Old Rockin' Chair, Tom Professor, Tom And that's it! Let's hope that Collection Two will be released next year!", 'I love this product and think it is a shame that they have decided not to continue releasing this set because of the two cartoons that are racial!!! Give us the rest! I am a black woman and believe it is my right to show my children the humor and cartoons the way they were when they originally aired! I want them to understand the AMERICA I grew up and not WHITE WASH it! UGH! Release the rest!!!!!!', "My kids love these cartoons. This is high quality artwork of the 40's and 50's I guess; it's not that watered down stuff from the 70's and beyond.", 'One of the greatest duos ever this DVD starts from the start. Enjoy these early favorites of Hannah and Barbara.', 'Tom & Jerry, Golden Collection: Vol.1 is easy to tell others about. Simply put, the animators of the 1940's & 1950's did a great job in these old classic cartoons. They never had today's C.G.I. .... THEY DID THEM BY HAND AND THE OLD TECHNIQUES in those back lots of Hollywood. I love the old cartoons! I remember when I was a little kid in the 1950's....wake up Saturday morning....Mighty Mouse...Heckle & Jeckle...Bugs Bunny! Of course, there was Tom & Jerry! They get my HIGHEST rating!', 'Wow. My two Granddaughters, age 4 and 6 would much prefer to watch these old classic cartoons, than any of the current junk that is bring churned out today. What fun!', "I grew up with this and it is still entertaining to me and you can't go wrong with the kids on this.", 'TOM & JERRY GOLDEN COLLECTION VOLUME ONE is essentially what we should have been getting since day one. Tom & Jerry: uncut, uncensored, and in chronological



order. No skipping around, no elimination of Mammy Two Shoes (the black maid seen in many a short), no versions edited for TV. This is also pretty much every T&J short worth owning, as almost all of the series' strongest entries are present and accounted for. On top of that, these are newly remastered from second generation CRI elements. Quick recap: the original negatives to the MGM cartoons were destroyed in a fire decades ago. So there's no chance of any MGM cartoon release looking as excellent as the LOONEY TUNES GOLDEN COLLECTION or WALT DISNEY TREASURE releases. But, the best CRI elements can look as close as possible to the original negs as possible. For the most part, the best CRI elements were used for the transfers seen here. They look absolutely stunning, and easily the cleanest and colorful transfers of the T&J shorts ever issued. Unfortunately, not all of the CRI elements are good. I should be clear that there isn't a single set of CRI elements, but several, and as many as two or three per cartoon. The lesser of these CRI negatives can look serviceable to absolutely putrid because they were made on the cheap for early syndication. (Hence these versions having later Metrocolor title cards with no reference to Technicolor, as there was no intention of them ever replicating it.) Seeing these versions mastered for Blu-Ray is akin to if WHV decided to remaster the old Turner material of the 1940s Warner shorts in high-def. The offending shorts are as follows: "Puss n' Toots", "The Bowling Alley Cat", "Sufferin' Cats", "The Lonesome Mouse", "The Zoot Cat", "The Million Dollar Cat", "Puttin' on the Dog", "Mouse Trouble", "Quiet, Please!", and "The Milky Waif". This may seem trivial, but a lot of these are some of the best T&Js, and it's like night and day when you compare them to the absolutely brilliant transfers that dominate this collection. I sincerely hope Warner Home Video will be more careful, as this ineptitude ruined what could have easily been a 5 star release. Regardless of the flaws, the majority of the cartoons are \_perfect\_, as I've stated. No cuts, no DVNR, and in order of release. For barely \$20, how could you possibly go wrong?]

## B005CFC0E2

"I like Jack Palance but do not want a movie where he has to die to make some else's Christmas happy.", "I like the pretty young daughter, the long ago girlfriend of the widower, and the story. It was just what I like for going to sleep or relaxing.", "Christmas is my favorite holiday of the year. I have a good collection of movies and music and this was a good one to add to it. I love to see Jack Palance act and he did a good job in this movie. It was mailed on time, good condition and I would recommend this seller again", "I watched it only the one time. Didn't think much of the plot and really did not like the Grampa. Not a very good movie.", "This is an older film that still holds up. The message of the film, that you can go home again, plays out well in this story. I've always liked Robert Hayes and he plays his part as a widowed father very well. Jack Palance is wonderful as Hay's dad and his daughter's grandfather. This is a feel good Christmas movie that can be watched by the entire family.", "I have seen this movie and I really like it it is a good movie and I really love this movie", "What is a good Christmas movie? It should be a good story, a good cast and make the viewer feel warm and misty- this hits each mark with gusto. In this age of dozens of dreck (remember when there were but a decent few gems, instead of the Xmas movie of the day from Hallmark or ABC Family Channel) "IBHFC" should be on your calendar each year. Featuring a venerable cast including a curmudgeonly, but surprisingly great Jack Palance, Ann Jillian, Robert Hayes and Ashley Gorrell the plot centers around the widowed Hays as a doctor whose lost his mojo and returns to his small hometown of St. Nicholas, Iowa with his daughter in tow to visit his aging dad Palance. The town is in desperate need of a doctor to replace the deceased physician or its hospital is in jeopardy of closing, foreshadowing the demise of the town, so the town led by the Mayor (and local veterinarian) Jillian, Dr. Mike's childhood sweetheart joins together to woo him and his daughter to return and stay forever home for the holidays. Facing professional struggles and having lost his way, Dr. Mike finds support and love and a renewal of faith and his daughter- "former child of the big city" discovers a relationship with her grandfather and love for small town life and values. Surprisingly warm and fuzzy, IBHFC generates a warm holiday glow and enough drama and warmth to make the viewer teary eyed yet not morose. Great that it is now available at a

reasonable priced general release on DVD. This one has become a staple on our holiday viewing list and it should be on yours. Fun to see Palance - known for his evil incarnate movie persona in such a warm role.', "I'll Be Home For Christmas stars Ann Jillian in a tale of a small town looking for a new doctor. A feel good film of friends and neighbors helping each other out. This is one you can watch with anybody.", "This is a great Christmas movie. I love it . . . more like the old fashion type. If you don't have it, buy it.", 'I loved this movie for awhile but they stopped playing it on TV. I decided to see if I could purchase it instead.', "I love anything with Ann Jillian. I also thought it had a good plot, very plausible, something a bit different. What I was waiting for was some convincing acting that the male lead even 'liked' Ann Jillian. She did a very good job showing all her emotions. I loved the daughter/grandfather emerging relationship, and the town's Christmas Eve tradition. All in all, not something I would constantly re-visit like my other Christmas movies.", 'this movie is a special kind of Christmas , one that everyone needs to see about how we touch each others lives', 'Like I said before, I just like good clean movies, and this is one of them. It is just a great movie.', "We enjoy watching Christmas movies during the holidays. We have also had really good experiences with Hallmark, and have rarely been disappointed. What a wonderful way to teach a child that even if a person is old, doesn't mean he can't be loved. It is also good for grandparents to see the way the Grandfather dealt with his granddaughter in patience and understanding. Just a good, clean fun movie that we will enjoy over and over again.", "This movie is certainly an enjoyable movie for all ages of the family. I thoroughly enjoyed it and have watched it twice since receiving it. Although, I didn't have any info about this movie - I ordered because I think Jack Palance is a wonderful actor and he didn't disappoint me in this movie. I would like to have a little info on movies before ordering and I know if I did - I'd likely be ordering more.", 'I loved that movie. I am purchasing most movies I have been purchasing movies that I have seen before. I love the family, down to earth movies!', "I haven't seen this yet but I'm sure it's good. It has a good cast and I just love Christmas movies", 'This gives you just a bit of Homesickness! If you are not on your way home you want to be. I love all Christ Movies', "Again, another terrific Christmas film when they still made these for network television--it's always a treat to see Ann Jillian again and the great Jack Palance is wonderful in an uncharacteristic role as a small town farmer who's lived in the aptly named St. Nicholas all of his life. The whole cast is great and even the minor roles of townspeople are perfectly cast, and they all look like they're having a great time. The struggles of Robert Hays' hometown boy-who-made-good trying to decide his future is a bit familiar, but well written and you can't blame him for wanting to go home again and try to make a life with his old flame (wonderful Ann Jillian). I wouldn't mind living there myself.", 'i love this movie i finely found it on amazon it is a great christmas movie for the whole family to watch the acting is good by all the actors ill be home for christmas.is a very good movie you will enjoy it.']

## B005RVF5XE

["We love the stories in the Death in Paradise series. Were it not for Amazon we would not be able to watch them from our own DVD library. They are shown on American TV but they don't come out for region 1 in DVD. I bought a region 2 DVD player so that I would be able to play foreign shows here.", "We have viewed this program on PBS and missed one, perhaps two episodes. We can't wait for the DVD release of season 1 & 2 in 'Area 1.'", "You would have thought that police series have been done from every conceivable angle over the years, and it is almost an achievement in itself to come up with one which is at all out of the ordinary. However, the script writers have managed to achieve just that with Death in Paradise which is quite an offbeat drama. The series is set on the fictional Caribbean island of Sainte-Marie, but was in fact filmed in Guadeloupe. Episode 1 sees DI Richard Poole of the UK Metropolitan Police seconded to the exotic island from less than exotic London suburb of Croydon, to assist the local police in investigating the murder of an ex pat detective. We quickly get the Caribbean flavour of the island with an under resourced and often laid back police force - as an example, in the first episode we have a goat wandering around the local police station, presumably to emphasise the informal nature of the operation. Poole is quite

unaffected and goes about business in what one presumes is his normal modus operandi whilst constantly mopping his brow. How he survived the climate decked out in a dark lounge suit without going down with heat exhaustion is quite a mystery in itself! Murders appear to abound in this tropical paradise. However, it is hard to take it all too seriously between the stereotypical locals and the quintessentially British Poole. I think that some of the plots are so convoluted that they are often more humorous than tense which I imagine is intentional and does make for quite reasonable entertainment. Although in a very different time and setting, Poole's style put me in mind of Poirot - carefully taking everything in and then employing the 'little grey cells' to analyse and pronounce his verdict. This first season consists of eight episodes and we have a second season and hopefully more to come. The final episode finishes with Poole softening his straightlaced outlook somewhat and being reluctantly set to stay on Sainte-Marie.", 'Absolutely love this series on PBS. Only sad that there are apparently no more shows after Series 2. Great fun to watch.', 'the other reviewers gave all the information you might need on background of "death in paradise" and I agree. I just want to add that I have never laughed so long and loud at antics in an English production and that includes "absolutely fabulous." death in paradise's humor is sometimes subtle and, then wham, I am falling on the floor. I have seen both seasons and it has not slacked. from what I gather from the bbc grapevine, death in paradise will return for a third season but ben miller WILL NOT be among the cast. I will watch the first show to see how they pull that off! anyway, sit back, put your feet up and enjoy!!', 'As my wife & I huddle in our living room, with windchills well below 0 F. outside, we love to watch mysteries set in tropical climes. Death in Paradise is our newest discovery and we love the show. A Caribbean island cozy (mystery) you might say. The stiff, formal Brit police officer is very much a fish out of water, and thereby hang the humorous tales.', 'This is entertaining, fun, hilarious! The characters are excellent.', 'It's the small Caribbean Island of St. Marie, hot and sultry. In the city of Honor&eacute;, Lord and Lady Solcombe are holding a pool party at their mansion. All of a sudden, a shot cuts the air. Then an alarm rings. Cut to the Honor&eacute; police station, where a constable takes a call and tells his coworker that the Solcombe "panic room's gone into lockdown. We've got the codes to open it in our safe." They rush to the house and open the room, only to find the British Chief Detective, their boss, dead on the floor from a bullet. But there's no gun in the room, and no way in or out that wasn't locked down tight. A new temporary Chief Detective is needed, and the London Met sends Richard Poole. Poole makes it clear that this is a temporary assignment, as the sun is too bright, the beach too sandy, the heat too brutal, the police station too antiquated, and, worst of all, about 30% of the people and lots of the culture is still French, from when the island was a French colony. What's an Englander to do? Well, for one thing he insists on wearing his wool suit, buttoned up, shirt and tie and polished shoes. When he has time, he searches for a decent cup of tea. Poole may be initially pedantic and inflexible, but he is also a brilliant policeman. In the first episode, he solves his predecessor's murder. By the end of the 1st season, he and his 3-person staff have learned to appreciate each other and work together well. There are lots of comedic moments as well as good mysteries, and the recurring characters are wonderfully portrayed. The series is filmed on the island of Guadalupe, in the Caribbean's Lesser Antilles, and its vibrant culture is like a fourth cast member. Season 1 premiered on air in England in October 2011, and took until January 2013 to air in the U.S. There are 8 episodes for a total run time of 466 minutes. It's presented in 16:9 aspect ratio with English subtitles. My DVD's give the episodes no names, they're just called Part One, Part Two, etc. The show as aired did not have episode names shown either. For convenience, though, I'll give the episodes title names that are popularly used. There are no DVD extras whatsoever, which is a real shame. This series is EXCELLENT viewing, highly recommended. The biggest question is - where did they find a lizard with such great acting skills? When you're done with it, start in immediately with Season 2. That's what we did! You get two DVD discs with four episodes each. PART ONE: Arriving in Paradise. Poole asks the police sergeant to describe the murdered detective. She replies, "Not your typical Englishman. You know, charismatic." Trivia: To explain a MET police officer on the island, they have St Marie be a British territory. However, it's filmed on Guadalupe, a real island that is a French territory. So, vehicle drivers are on the left. PART TWO: Wicked Wedding Night Dan and Lisa have a beach wedding at a big resort on St. Marie. Unfortunately, the bride shortly afterwards falls from a 5-story hotel balcony,

skewered by a spear gun. Poole's personality and culture clashes are a real irritant to his staff.

**PART THREE: Predicting Murder**After dark. Dwayne (Constable Myers) and a lady friend join a group sitting around a fire pit on the beach. An elderly woman stands next to the fire and speaks with a style to raise the hair on the back on your neck - and that's watching it safe from your living room. The party breaks up when she scares everyone with her last words: "The scarred man... He's coming... He's a killer... He's killed before... Silence me. I'm to be murdered. I'm to be MURDERED!"The next day, our heroes are called to a school, closed for break, where an old woman has been killed by cyanide. Yes, it's the same woman as the night before. The Voodoo connection/prophecy makes the very British Poole most uncomfortable. Even when the school headmaster turns out to be the victim's son-in-law. With a scar on his cheek.

**Detective Camille to Poole:** "You are the most annoying man I have ever met."**Poole:** "Well, it's a small island."

**PART FOUR: Missing a Body?**On a dark beach, a man sneers, "You haven't got the guts. Little mousy Megan. If people only knew. That gun's not even lo..."And the woman holding the pistol shoots him.The next morning, after spending the night collapsed near a pier, she wanders into the Honor&eacute; station, saying, "Can someone help me? It's my husband. He's dead. I shot him."Unfortunately, when they take her back to the beach, there's no body. The normally stern Poole almost melts into a puddle at her feet, Megan is so sweet and innocent and soft-spoken. riiiiiiight!

**PART FIVE: Spot the Difference**St. Marie is too small for an airport. People fly into the near bigger island, Guadalupe, and then take a ferry to St. Marie. Poole is at the Guadalupe airport to meet Vincent Carter, prison guard, and Leon Hamilton, prisoner. Hamilton is to serve the last part of his prison sentence on St. Marie, the place where he defrauded hundreds of people. Poole takes custody of Hamilton by being handcuffed to him, though, to be safe, Carter will escort them to the Honor&eacute; jail.Unfortunately, there's a little problem on the ferry, as the Commissioner later booms to the humiliated Poole: "I could understand if he was secretly poisoned. In fact, secretly anything. I could even forgive a gunshot from another boat or a jet-ski or a helicopter. But no. A knife was plunged into his back while YOU were standing next to him, JOINED at the wrists!"

**PART SIX: An Unhelpful Aid**Camille is in Paris on an IT course. Poole has come down with tropical fever. It's up to Constables Dwayne and Fidel to figure out how a scuba diver drowned in a few feet of water. This episode has some great comedy with the feverish Poole insisting that he still can work.

**Trivia:** Sara Martins, who plays Camille, was originally a bigger part of the script. Unfortunately, she had an injury and missed most of the filming.

**PART SEVEN: Music of Murder**Camille and Dwayne have dragged Poole to the biggest musical event of the year. The group, The Venerators, hasn't been on stage for 10 years, and this is their big come-back. The excitement is crazy, so crazy that Poole attempts unsuccessfully to escape. But at last, the show is about to start. Just like in the old days, the charismatic lead singer is carried in, inside a closed and decorated coffin. The crowd cheers as the coffin is set upright on the stage, opened, and there he is, in his dance of death make-up. But something's wrong. He's not moving. For a good reason - there's a bullet hole in his temple. Good thing Camille forced Poole to stay.

**PART EIGHT: Amongst Us**It's a balmy evening, and Poole is relaxing at home in his jammies, doing a crossword with the lizard. In the meanwhile, Dwayne, the charmer, picks up a woman at a bar and walks her home. She invites him in for coffee and this leads to that, etc.Unfortunately, the next morning, her neighbor finds her dead, lying in bed with coins stuffed into her mouth. And Dwayne's police badge under the bed.Other clues point to Dwayne, too, and Poole is hard pressed to figure out who is framing his constable.

**Trivia:** I didn't want to believe it, but Harry the Lizard is 100% CGI. I'm heartbroken.This is a great series with lots of humor and heart and well-plotted mysteries.', "Take a frozen English detective and put him on a warm tropical island and watch him slowly thaw. Delightful! I love it that the main character is brilliant, socially inept, yet still a caring human being, learning as he goes. He's a bit cranky from home sickness, but soldiers on, solving cases as best he can and taking small risks as he slowly adjusts to his new environment and co-workers. The supporting cast is fun and although bewildered by their new boss, they do their best to help him adjust. This is a great team, with lots of rapport and loyalty toward one another. (They give you the feeling that they all hang out together after a day's shooting is done!) I'm looking forward to the second season.", "Perhaps THE best and freshest mystery I've seen. Wit, humor, murder and puzzles galore. I like a dialog that keeps me

guessing, and with this show, you seldom see the responses coming. For instance: Camille says with teeth gritting frustration "You are the most annoying man I have ever met!" and Richard responds, "It's a very small island." You do not get this unpredictability in US shows, at least not since Bob Newhart. The only predictable thing about the show is that Richard will figure it out and nab another killer at the end. I cannot believe they would not make a third and fourth and fifth season of shows. I will be very sad if they stop at two seasons.", 'I love this show and have been waiting for it for almost a year. Thrilled to finally have it. However, the box was crushed, the cardboard sleeve bent badly, and so was the case itself. Fortunately, the DVDs were not damaged. So, I recommend this for the series which is great fun, but watch that packaging! (This comment is here because I did not find "packaging feedback" with the order.)', 'Who is an excellent comic, shines in this series; his side kicks are also very good. All-in-all, the whole enterprise is very funny despite the fact that they are about murder investigations. Ben Miller can make anything funny and great.', 'THE ABSOLUTE BEST MYSTERY T.V. SERIES EVER MADE ~ with a sense of humor!', 'Really enjoyed watching, went on to Series II. Binge watched the whole thing and it was great escape fare with a small exception. The detective does a bit of robotic mental gyration and hands waving in air as he gets an inspiration and solves the case. It happens in every episode, but after his Sherlock moment is over I go back to enjoying the interaction between British stiff upper lip and lyrical, laid-back Caribbean Islander.', 'Death in Paradise is truly wonderful! I am hoping to purchase every season of it.', 'PBS picked it up and I am so glad! This is a wonderful Saturday night show, I totally agree with the other reviewers a lighthearted version of Poirot with more humor and tropical vistas! I wish all the CSIs (that I don't watch but that abound in prime time TV) would stop trying to outdo the gore and bring in some humor for once! The problem lays in the acting too, all the "pretty faces" that can't deliver a pun! By contrast a low keyed Danny John-Jules (remember Cat from Red Dwarf anyone?!), is great to watch in his exchanges with Gary Carr as the local police. And can I say enough about Ben Miller? He is superb, he makes the show possible and carries it brilliantly! Just watch the way he can be incredibly funny, inspire awe and be completely pathetic at the same time! All with a very British stiff upper lip! Watch him wearing those suits on the beach! I noticed him in Primeval, then in Doc Martin, Johnny English, etc... Now I can't get enough of him, there is something about the way he keeps his face straight as he delivers the quirkiest things ever! It was about time he got a show to revolve around him, he can definitely step up to the challenge. It is great that PBS is offering now the US version! I am disappointed that Ben Miller is leaving the series, I am not sure of what will become of it without him!", 'When I was little, I read pretty much the complete works of Agatha Christie--and so the comparison between her usual formula and this show immediately hit home. Quirky detective falls into an interesting story where the clues seem random and the suspects are a tight group of people who all have motive. Then in the final ten minutes, said hero pulls everyone together and reveals all. Kinda like Sherlock Holmes in that regard, except this isn't a show really about intricate plot twists or even the "clues" necessarily. Each episode is a character study, both of the suspects as well as the detective and his three officers (They live on a small island--and this contributes mightily to the whole series, what could otherwise be a boring police procedural turns into something really fresh as there isn't many of the modern police norms that you see in say CSI all the time. But not like in a "wow they live in dark ages way", more like in a "wow, they have to send the DNA to a bigger island with a real lab and will have to wait on the results for a few days instead of instantly magically knowing.") This show really works for me. It's similar to Christie's works (which I love). It never gets too dark even when dealing with murder, rape, betrayal etc. The chemistry between the detective and his three police officers is simply delightful (proper English fellow with no social life slowly gets pulled out of his routine yet his officers also really develop a lot of respect/affection for him as well). And between him and his gorgeous police partner--goodness gracious, it's the perfect romantic situation where two polar opposites are forced to spend large amounts of time together and then realize that they're not so opposite and actually they kinda might like each other. I sincerely hope this show gets renewed enough to finally see those two kiss or even just hug for that matter. This is just fun. Not too serious, kinda different yet engaging and with occasional moments of hilarity and real feelings. Would love for this to be released in the US!', "The quality of the recordings is great! I screwed up on

the previous version of this review. I thought the package only had 4 episodes and actually opened the box again to verify my first impression and I was wrong. There are 8 perfect episodes in the box and I am now extremely pleased with the set. Just can't hardly wait to get the 2nd season order!!!", 'If you ever need a reason to purchase a multi-region DVD player, they don't get any better than this. I purchased this sight-unseen from Amazon UK based on recommendations, and I definitely hit the jackpot with this one. This is one of those fun, old-fashioned whodunits with twisty plots and clever detectives. None of the grit and darkness and realism you see in most modern cop shows. It is without a doubt a breath of fresh air for those of us who really want to just kick back and ENJOY watching TV. I watched the eight hour-long episodes over a rainy weekend, and knew I had found a real gem. But the magnitude of how much I enjoyed it didn't hit me until afterwards ... when I kept going over it in my mind, wishing there were more episodes to watch. Rarely have I wanted to put the DVD back in and start over, but this was one of those times. In a nutshell, the show is about an English detective who is sent to an island in the Caribbean to solve a tricky (read: impossible) murder. In truly predictable fashion, he refuses to stop wearing a suit and tie, complains about the heat, finds a tree growing through his living room and a lizard that keeps popping up, and clashes (initially) with his fellow cops. But he is truly brilliant, solves the case, and promptly gets assigned there permanently, much to his dismay and the sergeant who has to work with him. It's such a simple, predictable premise it hardly seems likely to work as well as it does - but it does, due in no small part to the talents of the actors. DI Poole is somehow completely likeable, despite his obstinate refusal to "loosen up" and his complete lack of social skills. I give Ben Miller full credit for this. His comic timing is perfect, and he manages to be charming even while he's incredibly frustrating. Huge thumbs-up also for Sara Martins, who was previously unknown to me. Flamboyant and belligerent, she manages to be somehow sweet and thoroughly likeable. The "minor" characters Dwayne and Fidel are likeable also, and all of them very easy on the eyes. Lots of very well-known British actors make appearances, among them Nicholas Farrell, Colin Salmon, Miranda Raison, Danny Webb, Clare Holman, Rupert Graves, Sarah Smart, Shirley Henderson, and Paterson Joseph. And who can blame them? Perhaps the real star is the location. Paradise? Personally, watching poor DI Poole sweating and nearly passing out every five minutes doesn't exactly encourage me to visit the Caribbean myself, but it makes a really fantastic backdrop for some very clever whodunits, and provides most of the humor along the way as two very different cultures continue to clash. I don't know when or if this series is going to be released in the US, but for those of you out there who enjoy good, FUN British mysteries and have (or are thinking of getting) a multi-region player, you really CAN'T go wrong with this. Only buy it direct from the UK, it'll cost you a lot less. 10/10', 'I've been waiting for this to be available for a very long time and am thrilled it's finally able to be purchased. This is a splendid example of that type of police procedural that uses unique, well-developed characters to elevate it above the standard clichéd offerings of the genre. I am keeping my fingers crossed for the remaining seasons to arrive!', 'This is season 2 and just as wonderful as season 1. If you ever want a mind vacation watch this series.', 'IMPORTANT NOTE: As I post this review there are already 47 reviews posted here. But many are of other versions of this release. That is because Amazon combines ALL reviews of ALL formats (broadcast TV, Streaming, Non-US region versions and US DVD) when they list the reviews. I always recommend that prospective buyers sort by 'newest first'; and then look to see what format is being reviewed. With that said, on to my review of the US DVD release (2014) It's a good thing that the town of Honore; on the French Island of Saint Marie, where this delightful 'mystery series' from the BBC's French Division (Yes, the BBC has a French division as well as one in Ireland and another in ) is a fictional town on a fictional island, because there are so many folks being murdered there. In the first season of the series which aired in 2011 in the UK, but just now making its US DVD debut, there were eight murders in the the course of eight episodes. What makes DIP unique is that, while it takes place in the Caribbean (actually filmed in Guadeloupe), the main character is a British detective who gets transferred there and becomes a 'fish out of water'. If you've read my other reviews here on Amazon, you will know that I am not a big fan of 'spoilers'; especially 'mystery series'. Too much info takes the fun out of discovering what happened, who did it, and why.

I also never understood why there are lengthy plot summaries; for each episode posted. Again, this spoils the fun. So you won't find those in my reviews, yet I hope I can provide some basic info to guide you and my reviews of DVDs are always of the US releases on Bluray and DVD. So with that in mind: Each of the 8 episodes here runs about 58 minutes. The series was shown on US TV on regional PBS stations, not nationally, so it was new to me. If you saw the show on PBS, it was probably edited because they need time for promotional; and funding; spots. But there is no nudity or strong language or graphic violence more than is usually shown on PBS. The lead character; played by Britisher Ben Miller; is sort of a hybrid (in my opinion) of David Frost and John Cleese. They play up his need for a suit and tie (when it's always in the 90s) or a regular cup of HOT tea. Miller is great, especially if you enjoy British humor. For each episode, there is a murder in the first few minutes and it is solved by the end. The private lives of Miller's character and his police team are covered too, and this creates a thread through all episodes. While; and I hope this is not a real spoiler; the series continued into for at least four series (I'm not saying any more about that!), this series ends with all the loose ends; tied up. No annoying cliff hangers; to deal with. I really appreciated that! The DVD set in the US has English subtitle option but; unlike many British mystery DVDs, I didn't have any problem understanding every word and the characters do not have heavy accents. There are no bonus features on this set either, though a short one with the cast might have been fun. This series was a nice change of pace from some of there darker; crime series I've been watching and there is a lot of friendly humor here. I'm glad I found it and am hoping that BBC Home Video moves up the release dates for the next couple of seasons. I'm really looking forward to them! I hope you found this review both informative and helpful. Steve Ramm; Anything Phonographic; 'I love this show, the first two seasons I was blessed to catch on Public television. Season one will be available for US viewing in region one around mid September. I can hardly wait. Funny and entertaining.']

## B006JN86Z8

['Should have retained all the original promos and musical introductions to each cartoon episode. Video is OK. If you are a true collector and nostalgic get it.', 'In the set I bought, the episode "Monster from Another Planet" on Season 2, Disc 2, is incomplete. When Tennessee & Chumley decide to see Mr. Whoopee, the screen goes black for a commercial break and the episode just ends without showing the conclusion. The timer on my DVD Player has the episode listed as being over 5 minutes instead of over 9 minutes like the other cartoons. Does anyone else have this problem, or do I just have a defective set?', "we're just happy Shout Factory put all of the shorts with Tennessee Tuxedo in them on DVD. Don Adams is in his first successful TV role as he was a standup comic before this. enjoyed the educational value where the good guys learn from Mr. Whoopee and his animated chalkboard. he does drive that zookeeper nuts to some degree i must say but it has more educational value on it than like 99% of TV.", 'OMG, this is a remarkable set. Tennessee Tuxedo And His Tales: The Complete Collection, is superb. The audio-video transfers in most of the toons on here is done quite well. Yes, there are some episodes that the picture quality is a little shabby on but given the fact that these are all from the 1960s that's to be expected. Tennessee is one busy penguin in episode after episode along with his pal the walrus Chumley. Watch them foil zoo keeper Stanley Livingstones attempts to keep them in check time after time. Don Adams shines as the voice of Tennessee and the wonderful Larry Storch is the voice of Tennessee and Chumleys pal Mr Whoppee. Go ahead and buy this, you won't regret it...', "I bought this in a fit of childhood nostalgia. TTAHT was already out of production by the time i was watching it (the very early 70s) but we actually learned a good deal from Professor Knowitall. i was pleasantly surprised to be reminded that what I knew about certain things, like how cameras (using film) and internal combustion engines worked, were factoids I had learned 40 years ago watching Tennessee

Tuxedo and his misadventures with Chumley. I'm not sure kids today would relate to it or enjoy it, the PC/Apple generation is more technically sophisticated of course, and the humor is very dated.", 'Still love this cartoon after all these years.', 'I got say this is a classic cartoon and the extras include of this collection are pretty good too. If you enjoy the oldies but goodies this is well worth the money and is done right however some original cartoons are missing and are replaced with another episode to substitute for the missing toons.', 'I am giving this set 5 stars for the effort that was put into restoring and preserving this timeless classic television series but there were a couple of flaws that they should have corrected before releasing this set. As other reviewers have noted, this series is about as complete as it's going to be. All the original background music for each cartoon is intact which is extremely important when releasing any classic TV show. This set includes most of, if not all of the Tennessee Tuxedo, The King and Odie, The Hunter, a few Tooter the Turtle and Klondike Kat Cartoons. The remaining Tooter the Turtle and Klondike Kat cartoons are on the Underdog DVD set, which was released recently. All the cartoons on this set are broken up individually, rather than being shown as a 30 minute program such as with Underdog or Rocky and Bullwinkle. I am not completely sure why Shout Factory chose to break up the cartoons individually but it's pretty safe to say that there were some missing elements of the series that are now gone forever. The DVD set includes many of the 30 second Tennessee Tuxedo riddles but they are all in Mr. Whoopie's office. There are no cartoons of the three Tuxedo characters telling a riddle as they going up in the rocket. This set also include the original beginning and ending titles for Tennessee Tuxedo, King and Odie and The Hunter. However the original titles and Tuxedo riddles are on the disc as bonus material. There is a note that appears at the beginning of the DVD that says the picture quality may change from episode to episode because some elements were missing and that they have had to use they only available source. The "only available source" looks like it came from a second or third generation VHS copy. Most of the cartoons, however, are in excellent picture and sound quality. I noted only one Tuxedo cartoon that had degraded picture quality. The remaining elements with degraded picture quality are the before and after titles for the other cartoons such as The King and Odie, The Hunter, Klondike Kat and the end title for Tooter the Turtle. Here is the only flaw with this set: It was discovered that one King and Odie cartoon was missing, after the packaging for this set went to the printers. There is a message on one of the DVDs noting this and that they could not locate the audio for the missing cartoon. Instead, they replaced it with an alternate cartoon. The Missing King and Odie cartoon, "Bye Bye Bees" was actually the second part of the cartoon "Honey Hungry", which IS included on the DVD. I was able to locate the missing cartoon, "Bye Bye Bees" on YouTube. They also noted that they were not able to locate the Tooter the Turtle cartoon, "The Unteachables". I found the cartoon, "The Unteachables" on YouTube as well. I believe there was also a missing cartoon from The Hunter but don't remember the title. The problem with the missing cartoons is that some of The Hunter and The King and Odie cartoons are similar to the Underdog or Rocky and Bullwinkle cartoons in that they are in parts. You need to see all the parts to find out how the story ends. It probably would have been better to have removed all the cartoons with missing parts rather than include pieces of a particular story and leave viewers hanging. Alternatively, they could have included these fragments as bonus material. I bought this set to show to my children because I enjoyed these cartoons as a child back in the 70's and wanted my kids to enjoy them as well. Despite the few flaws, I am still very pleased with this set and would highly recommend it to anyone who grew up with Tennessee Tuxedo.', 'Before "March of the Penguins", there was Tennessee and Chummily. I remember watching Underdog on Nickelodeon about 20 years ago and Tennessee was always my favorite. (Apparently though, the Tennessee series originally aired apart from Underdog) so now we have this new stand-alone set! I previously purchased the single-disc Tennessee DVD, but now I'm stoked to be able to watch every single adventure! Escape from the "zoo" at your house and buy this DVD before Stanley Livingstone "skins you alive!" :)', 'I've pre-ordered Tennessee Tuxedo and Underdog. I'm just curious if TT will include The King & Odie, Tooter Turtle and The Hunter or is it all TT? Update: I've been told that this is Tennessee Tuxedo only. Hopefully that means that The King & Odie (along with The Hunter & Tooter Turtle) will get its own box set.', 'These are the shows that i grew up on. Setting in front of the tv early saturday morning so as not to miss a single show those were the days.', 'Fantastic package!! Of course, the



TTV quality survives the decades well, but the extras (other shorts & commentaries) earn this my highest rating.', "I loved this cartoon as a kid and it still provides me with joy as I watch the episodes today. I like the additional features of 'The Hunter' and 'The King and Odie'.", 'This six disc set contains all the 70 episodes of this great show. It is about a penguin - Tennessee Tuxedo (Don Addams), Chumley a walrus (Bradley Bolke), Phineas J. Whoope (Larry Storch) with his 3-D blackboard (three-dimensional), Stanley Livingston the zookeeper (Mort Marshall) and his assistant Flunky (Kenny Delmar). Stanley found Tennessee and Chumley at the South Pole, wishing they were some place hot, and so as the story goes, they ended up at the Megalopolis Zoo, where they are always trying to escape. Every one of his projects are done half-hearted and gets him into all manner of trouble. Mr. Whoope is there to give him knowledge of all kind, but Tennessee is in a hurry and only get half of the knowledge needed to succeed. He also tries to improve life at the zoo by scheming behind Stanley's back which ends with disastrous consequences. There are also 20 of the 104 episodes of "The King and Odie" (King Leonardo and Odie Cologne), 20 episodes of "The Hunter", 5 episodes of "Klondike Kat" and 12 episodes of "Tooter Turtle". Also there is a special feature "Tennessee Tuxedo Never Fails", and a booklet on the history of these shows with an episode guide for the discs. This is an amazing collection of animated cartoons as I have only seen Tennessee Tuxedo and The King when I was a kid, and relished the chance to see them again. I gave this set five stars as it is a great collection of very old cartoons, that in my opinion, are still as good today as they were back then, and I recommend it to anyone who appreciate good cartoons of an age gone bye.', "I bought this for my kids, because I remember liking it as a kid - and who doesn't love Don Adams! My 6 year old daughter likes it, and gets interested in the tutorial sessions to learn how things work. Some of the technology is obviously dated, but she likes watching with us because she has more questions. I expect the interest will last a few years, and she will revisit these shows as she learns more about stuff; and it makes more sense.", 'Growing up, I enjoyed Tennessee Tuxedo quite a bit. I loved when Tennessee and Chumley would visit Mr. Whoopee as I knew I'd learn something interesting as well. So, when this DVD set was announced, I immediately pre-ordered it. This set gives you all 70 episodes of Tennessee Tuxedo, as well as some episodes of The King and Odie, Tooter Turtle, Klondike Kat, and The Hunter. For most fans, this is all you need to know. But for those interested in the minute details that Amazon's blurbs tend to overlook, please read on. While I would say this is likely the most thorough collection of Tennessee Tuxedo that we'll likely get, there are a number of issues that keep it from being the truly definitive collection fans had long hoped for. The most obvious change that fans will notice immediately is the theme song that the first episode kicks off to is \*not\* the original recording - even though the visuals are correct. The original theme features the voices of Tennessee and Chumley, as well as a chorus of male singers. The theme that starts more than half of the episodes here sounds like one taken from a children's record, with a female singer, \*no\* Tennessee & Chumley vocals, and no sound effects to go with the visuals (sound effects the original opening had). Thankfully, the original audio \*can\* be heard as part of a collection of bumpers, promos, etc. that is on disc three. (This collection of various odd and ends is sourced from bootleg video tapes, so the quality ranges from mediocre to quite poor.) (Personally, I think it would have been nice if the producers of this set had added the original soundtrack audio to the clean visuals and used that to open each episode instead of the non-original theme, which gets old really fast...) The alternate opening sequence (used on about half of the episodes) seems to have its original audio intact, but the visuals include an on-screen "bug" in the upper left corner. (A "bug-less" version of this alternate opening is on the aforementioned collection of bumpers/promos, but from a video source.) The closing credits sequence uses the kiddie-record audio (with the female singer), but the original-audio version (an instrumental) is part of the promo/bumpers collection. As for the episodes themselves, most seem to be taken from the original film masters, but one short ("Helicopter Hi-Jinx") was definitely sourced from video. Twelve of the seventy Tennessee Tuxedo episodes are missing their original title cards. Visually, the cartoons are quite colorful. However, each and every cartoon on this set (and the Underdog set too) suffers from very heavy-handed use of DVNR (digital video noise reduction). (For those who don't know what DVNR is, it's a process companies use to remove film grain when they "restore" old footage. (For some reason, producers must think that film

grain is inherently "bad".))The problem when DVNR is overused - like it was here - details and lines (especially black lines on a white background) are often obliterated. When shots are over-processed, small things (like Chumley's whiskers, or the lines that make up Tennessee's eyes) are nearly processed away, and occasionally entire shots are ruined. (Towards the end of "Tell-Tale Telegraph" all that's left of the black telegraph wires is a series of jagged broken lines.)In addition to the 70 Tennessee Tuxedo cartoons, this set also includes 11 Tooter Turtle episodes, 38 shorts featuring The King and Odie, 35 episodes of The Hunter, and 5 Klondike Kat cartoons. (The supporting cartoons seem to have all been mastered from film, but their openings are all mastered from bootleg videos (except Tooter Turtle's, although his closing segment was sourced from video.)As with the Underdog set, there are a number of oversights and lapses in quality control that might be minor on the surface, but ones that make you wonder if the producers of this collection really did all they could to make it the best presentation possible.The biggest oversight is the fact that a whopping \*five\* cartoons listed on the cases and in the booklet are not included.In each case, a disclaimer pops up on the DVD telling us that the affected cartoon's audio could not be found after the packaging had already been printed. (For some reason, a sixth disclaimer also tells up about an \*unlisted\* cartoon being AWOL as well...)In some instances, the affected cartoon was replaced with an alternate title, but mostly this was not the case. (Here's the list: (disc 1) "Big Birthday Blast" [The Hunter] (replaced with "Raquet Racket"); (disc 2) "Bye Bye Bees" [The King & Odie] (replaced with "Nose For The Moose"); (disc 3) "Record Rocket [The Hunter] (no substitution); (disc 5) "The Unteachables" [Tooter Turtle] (no substitution); (disc 6) "Lincoln Tunnel Caper" [The Hunter] (no substitution); (disc 6) a disclaimer for "Grand Canyon Caper" [The Hunter] not being included pops up, but this wasn't listed in the first place (no substitution).)Lapses in quality control can also be seen with \*many\* titles being misspelled on the cases and in the booklet, and a few being totally misidentified. (For example, "Teddy Bear Trouble" was identified as "Koala Caper" in the booklet and on the DVD case.)The bottom line is that if you want every episode of Tennessee Tuxedo, this is the set that you would have to get.But, the non-original theme song, overuse of DVNR, AWOL episodes, and lapses in quality control keep it from being the absolute superlative collection fans had long hoped for.(For those people who also buy the Underdog DVD set, here's a tally of the TTV cartoons you'll get when combined with this one:Tennessee Tuxedo - all 70 episodes (TT set); Underdog - all 124 episodes (UD set); Go Go Gophers - all 48 episodes (UD set); Commander McBragg - all 48 episodes (UD set); Tooter Turtle - 23 of 39 episodes (12 episodes on UD set, 11 episodes on TT set); The King and Odie - 38 of 104 episodes (TT set); The Hunter - 35 of 65 episodes (35 episodes on TT set (the UD set has two episodes, but both are also on the TT set); Klondike Kat - 19 of 26 episodes (14 on UD set, 5 on TT set)', 'all the classic adventures in a well developed collection... was pleasantly surprised by the quality and the vividness of the sound and images. For those who wish to experience a renewal of their childhood favourites or just wish to enjoy some vintage animation, this a superb collection to add to yours.', "We have waited so long for a collection like this why are some people complaining? Yes, there are missing titles. Yes, the opening credits do not have the original music. Yes, they used heavy handed DVNR, but it's all there, every cartoon and many extras. It's better quality than faded 16mm prints!", 'I begged Mark Arnold and Shout! that they not use DNR/DVNR way back when Underdog was first announced. It nearly destroyed the Underdog set and has succeeded in Killing Tennessee and Chumly! Heavy handed DNR/DVNR was used on this set and the effects are crap. I've never seen a case where it made anything look better regardless of issues that exist on the source material. DVNR has nearly ruined this set. Very disappointing!The folks at Shout! should talk to Dennis Rood's [the master!] crew at image who did Twilight Zone DVD and Blu-Ray for they are true professionals who do some of the industry's best mastering/transfer to digital work.1 Star - Why did they drown this in DNR/DVNR which is never needed and never makes anything truly look better. Why wasn't the original theme audio used it was present as an extra so if does exist. I don't min lower quality if that's all that exists what I do mind is revisionism and DNR/DVNR to try to make something look modern when it isn't.Given those involved I had high hopes for this set which were crushed by the result. Unlike Tennessee this set from Shout! has failed. All involved should be ashamed of themselves!To quote Michelle S."Visually, the cartoons are quite colorful. However, each and every

cartoon on this set (and the Underdog set too) suffers from very heavy-handed use of DVNR (digital video noise reduction). (For those who don't know what DVNR is, it's a process companies use to remove film grain when they "restore" old footage. (For some reason, producers must think that film grain is inherently "bad".)) The problem when DVNR is overused - like it was here - details and lines (especially black lines on a white background) are often obliterated. When shots are over-processed, small things (like Chumley's whiskers, or the lines that make up Tennessee's eyes) are nearly processed away, and occasionally entire shots are ruined. (Towards the end of "Tell-Tale Telegraph" all that's left of the black telegraph wires is a series of jagged broken lines.) "Edit: For those who are thumb's downing this review have you really looked at the picture on this set. If you are somehow actually happy with the result then congrats I'm sure Mr MacMillan will be glad to churn out more of the same cheap shoddy amateurish transfers/masterings.", "Excellent set to include all the Tennessee Tuxedo shorts. Nice commentaries on some of the episodes. The quality on most of this set is very good, there are some places where they just didn't have a good master to work with. The set also includes King Ode and episodes of The Hunter. Only bad thing I found was that they were missing many of the King Ode Episodes and since the plots were always spread over two shorts, you miss out on some story lines. Still I would recommend this.", 'I loved this series and these collections. Not only do you get Tennessee Tuxedo, but also get all the spinoff cartoons such as Klondike Kat, The King & Odie (King Leonardo of Bongo Congo), etc. The Hunter, Tootie Turtle & more. There are many good documentary special features and it has many hours of great cartoon footage! Some of the older episodes are poor in quality, but not unwatchable.'

## B006OALDLA

[I really liked this film but I'm a geezer and I loved the great black comedies that have sadly gone out of style: the Alec Guinness films of the early 1950s, "Dr. Strangelove," "Catch 22," "Being There" and the all-time champ "The Loved One." A black comedy takes realistic situations (the opening scenes lull you into believing this will be a classic Western) and realistic characters and stretches them to absurd conclusions. Some of the reviewers here show they tried to take this film as a serious "High Noon" type of western and dissed it because it wasn't: "There's not enough words" (there were exactly enough). Look: The gunfighter (Cohen Holloway) kidnaps the pretty Englishwoman (Inge Rademeyer) and takes her out on the prairie to rape her. He tries but he can't get it up. THAT scene right there should have been your signal because it set the tone for the whole rest of the movie. So, dragging her along, he begins a quest to find a cure (for you younger viewers, Viagra didn't come along until more than 100 years later), consulting MDs, Chinese herbal doctors, an Indian medicine man, all the while being pursued by a very inept posse with a leader so dumb he shoots his scout ("I said I was a scout. I didn't say I was any good at it.") and the posse then becomes hopelessly lost. The final big gunfight between the gunfighter (who has by now won the sympathy of both Inge and the audience) and the posse members (who, after rescuing the girl now want to rape her) hits a hilarious snag when all of the participants run out of ammunition at exactly the same time. It's black comedy, people, and a very good one! Even Larry McMurtry didn't have the guts to tackle ED on the Frontier! HIGHLY RECOMMENDED', "I'll admit, I'm not a fan of Westerns overall, but I really do like films such as "Jeremiah Johnson." Naturally, however, when you have an actor such as Robert Redford, you should be able to make a very good movie. Even if it is just a western. And I didn't intend to watch this drivel-fest, but it was on "free" TV, and unfortunately it was on television today -- on the same channel in which my HD box was already set -- and more unfortunately, I didn't change channels. It was probably that I was simply too lazy. I thought at first that this film starred Jennifer Connelly, but unfortunately that suspect Academy Award-winning actress is not in this film. Or is that fortunately? Either way, I guess the "star" here is Inge Rademeyer, but no matter. No one could have saved this disaster, even an "Oscar winner" such as Ms. Connelly. The writing is probably more atrocious than the acting, but I may be splitting hairs. And the director surely wasn't far behind. Everything is manipulative: the situations; the music; you name it. And so I'll have to

recommend the following: when something calls itself 'Good for Nothing,' take it at its word. And steer clear, or maybe better yet, spit out that chewin' tabacca, yell 'Giddyap,' and get that horse o' yours movin' in the other direction. 'Bye, ya'll, hear?'; 'I could not recommend this film to be seen. too violent and abusive to the woman in the film. the only good part of the film is that the bad guy becomes the a good guy in the end. The woman is a good act rice and showed believable courage and fear. Charles', 'I thought this movie would be Good For Nothing but it turned out ta be a watchful movie. I wasn't real familiar with the actors but I thought they did a good job. Like I say about most westerns, you have ta like westerns to enjoy.', 'A good film for western buffs! The landscape, acting, and plot keeps you glued to the tube through out the film!', 'I read the review quotes on the cover-art of this DVD and laughed... they were either bland or outlandish... even comparing it to "Unforgiven".The second that the movie ended, I literally said "wow". And immdiately it is obvious, the dialogue, acting, seriousness, tone, musical score, scenery, realism, originality and more, were ON-PAR, if not above almost any western I can think of... even, (gasp) Unforgiven.I was drawn in to the professionalism of the production... attention to every detail was given, cinematography and locations shot were amazingly beautiful yet harsly barren, the characters were impeckable, the sincerety, drama, details, everything. This movie really brings home the true dangers of those lawless times. Everything in this movie is not only believable, but draws you in, and puts you right there with the characters. This is REALISM at it's best.I applaud the producers and directors for making a modern day western that isn't a hollywood shootem\up, or re-hash of a half-popular old western. This movie will have your heart pounding, leave your jaw dropped, and put tears in your eyes. There is suspense and surprises all along the way. Well done, casual pace, but not a single boring moment. THIS is how I envision the wild west must have really been like.This should be a western everyone should see.. I know you will be impressed... too bad this didn't have a marketing budget for the big screen... then again, I know what big money does to westerns, so I'm glad the production was left alone. It's AWSOME! A++++', 'Starts off slow and stays slow. Starts off with a rape scene that does not work out for the attacker. His pocket buddy will not work and you kinda of see where the movie starts to go. Waste of my \$\$', 'i don't like traditional westerns because the characters always seem so one dimensional. i have to admit though that starting with 'unforgiven' there have been quite a few that have broken out of the usual stereotype.this is one of those films. overall i really enjoyed it; it was quirky and funny and the shootouts were probably more accurate to the times than any i've seen. someone else here mentioned that it was unrealistic that isabelle would be walking round in her knickers and i concur with that. she would have been embarassed and humiliated and try to cover up at every opportunity.the chemistry between the two leads was steamy, however i thought that she ended up being kind of a bitch. no he was no saint but it was obvious that he loved her and he protected her. his e.d. was plainly due to the fact that she was more to him than just a shag.without giving it away, i thought that the ending was ultimately unsatisfying, that is why i did not give it a five star.', 'This movie is unusual. The ending was not what one would expect which is a good thing. It was different.', 'It's hard to review this movie because I didn't hate it but it had a lot of issues. It was okay to watch even though it was a bit slow but I enjoyed the characters and the scenery was nice but to me there just wasn't enough happening.The movie starts off with a bang. Isabelle is kidnapped by The Man and taken off into the desert where he tries to rape her. He can't because he has ED but instead of letting Isabelle go, he drags her along with him to a lot of meaningless spots and destinations as he tries to find a cure for his ED so he can finally get it on with Isabelle.The plot was definitely different from most westerns but there wasn't enough going on. Once Isabelle and The Man started on their journey the film comes to a standstill. The Man doesn't even speak to Isabelle until twenty minutes after the movie is on and he doesn't say a word for the first ten minutes so you wonder if he's a mute or if something else is wrong. Then all of a sudden The Man murders the sheriff's brother or son or whatever so the sheriff and his gang spend 90 minutes galloping across the desert to find The Man and Isabelle. This part seemed just thrown in because the writer realized there wasn't enough going on.It's like the writer just ran out of ideas. He had the basic plot but with tons of empty space which ends up making the movie unnecessary.I couldn't get Isabelle. She didn't act frightened in the least. She only tried to get away from The Man

about twice then gave up. I understand she was in the desert but wouldn't she try her best to get away? It was so unrealistic. I couldn't understand how emotionless this woman was. People get shot around her and she doesn't shed a tear or show any fear. The Man tries to rape her and she isn't even shaken up! What does she do? She ends up traipsing (looked like willingly) around with her almost-rapist draped in her underwear. This is when my eyes rolled into the back of my head. Back in those days women didn't even show their undies to their husbands. A woman (especially one as prim and proper as Isabelle) would never have walked around half-naked with a man who not only she didn't know but that tried to rape her. Where was her fear? She acted like she was on a picnic. She wasn't terrified at all. I didn't understand that. I also don't understand why this is classified as a romance. There was nothing romantic between the two. The Man just wants to rape Isabelle and Isabelle hates him. Where is this romance? Sure they "kinda" bond at the end of the film but then it's over. There wasn't any obvious signs of a romance brewing especially on Isabelle's end. She keeps the same scowl on her face when she speaks to The Man that she had when he first took her. So the romance is lost on me. I wish the movie had spent more time on building a romance (even though it would've been weird) than having these two ride around mindlessly with no point. Also I have an issue with how the men are depicted in this film. I'm a woman but I was still kinda offended. This movie makes all men look like barbaric rapists. Every single man Isabelle encountered except three tried to rape her. I found it ridiculous. Sure back in western days you had men who preyed on women but this was just too much. I could buy The Man stealing her away and trying to rape her, fine. But after that it became tedious. Even the deputy tried to rape her! It just didn't make sense and was just offensive. I can't see how any man who watches this movie wouldn't see that fact. I thought the acting was well done but there needed to be more action and more things happening besides The Man riding around to cure his ED for 90 minutes. And the next time this writer/director wants to make a romance he needs to make sure it actually is one.', 'It was a low budget film done in New Zeland (i think) With the low budget there were some things that did not measure up to hollywood mega films but. It was extremely well done and not overly verbose. The humor was subtle. I loved it.', 'I read about this movie a while back and looked for it, I bought and watched it. It is very good and entertaining well worth the money and time.', 'The film opens with some beautiful scenery and music. It lulls you into believing this is going to be a classic western. A British woman (Inge Rademeyer) travels out west to live with her uncle. In route she is kidnapped by a quiet gun slinging murdering cowboy (Cohen Holloway) who attempts to rape her, but realizes he is not functional. The cowboy drags her around the countryside seeking a cure for his "broken" manhood. Our woman who is refined and educated provides a stark contrast to the overly stereotyped slow talking dim witted cowboys. As the two characters get to know each other we expect the predictable Stockholm Syndrome to set in when things take a slight twist. It is an interesting and unconventional western. It has action, drama, and humor. Clever, but not spectacular. PARENTAL GUIDE: No f-bombs, no sex, rape-like scenes, male rear nudity (Cohen Holloway)', '"This is not the place you read about in books, this is no place for a lady." Isabella Montgomery (Rademeyer) is new to town. Against everyone's wishes she moved and wishes to start her life in the wild western town. While out on her own a cowboy (Holloway) sees her and attempts to have his way with her. Frustrated when he isn't able to, he decides to kidnap her and keep her until he is able to function again. This is another in the long list of unimpressive and drawn out westerns. I'm not sure what happened to this genre but why is it so hard to make a good one anymore? Unlike most of the recent entries this one isn't really cheesy, just seems to have no point. The closest I can come to thinking what the plot is is a cowboy tries to rape a strange woman...then they start to fall in love. Not really sure what else was going on but I was really bored with this one. I am still waiting for a good western to come out. To me "Open Range" was the last good one. Overall, drawn out and boring, much like the last 10 or so westerns that have come out. I give it a C-.'

B007FFWJIE

["If you're a fan of grind house cinema then you have to get this. No exception. You'll see things in this set that will blow your mind. Essential viewing. Don't think about getting it, just order it and sit back and let the filth fly.", "If you are a fan of exploitation films, this is a must have. I especially enjoyed the commentary (which clocks in at 3.5 hours...the length of the feature). Can't imagine sitting and watching in one sitting but great in short bursts or as something to have on during a party or gettogether. If you don't like the trailer, wait a couple of minutes and there will be more.", 'This is a collection of the best of this fine series showcasing the glorious sleaze that was the grindhouse film. It is a collection of trailers showing the best of the most awful of this gutter trash that is just so much fun to watch when you are in the right mood. It covers all the genres: Crappy Slasher, Weird Comedy, Outlaw Biker, Teen Rebel, Blaxploitation, Chop Sockey, even more adult entries. If you want to get a feeling of truly crappy cinema that is absolutely NOT to be missed, the "so bad it's good" stuff, this is a perfect introduction to what you can expect. Robert Rodriguez and Quentin Tarantino seem determined to bring this small theater sleaze back with Grindhouse, Machete, Hobo With a Shotgun, Hellride, and other fine pieces of cinematic sludge. I am not being ironic or hyperbolic in my comments. I love these movies when I am in a certain mood. Check out this collection, and you'll laugh, gasp and say to yourself disbelievingly, "My God, we were louts back then. I gotta see that!'", 'Exploitation fans, drive-in buffs, and aficionados of cult and obscure cinema have long regarded Synapse's 42ND STREET FOREVER compilations as some of their favorite video releases. A retrospective of movie trailers culled mostly from the '60s and '70s - some for independent films, some for obscure studio product, and many hugely entertaining - this bestselling series has finally released its first Blu-Ray edition and the results do not disappoint. If you're a series fan, the content here won't be a total surprise, the bulk of it coming as a mix of trailers previously released on the first two DVD editions. However, a few new surprises have been added in, with of course the enhanced benefit of having 1080p AVC encoded transfers that further transform your home theater set-up into a cavalcade of politically UN-correct gore, sleaze, sex, and comedy. At nearly four hours and with 89 trailers on-hand, it's difficult to comment on them all, but here are a few of my favorites:-Raiders of Atlantis: Hilarious "Road Warrior" rip-off with one of the all-time funniest decapitation scenes ever - and it's in this trailer! (Incredibly, the film itself just surfaced on DVD, in 16:9 no less, as a part of Mill Creek's 2011 "Sci-Fi Invasion" 50-movie bargain pack).-Skatetown USA: Scott Baio, Epstein from "Welcome Back Kotter," Marcia from "The Brady Bunch," Ruth Buzzi, Flip Wilson and "introducing" Patrick Swayze? Someone tell me why this disco-skating flick isn't on DVD!-The Crippled Masters: A favorite from the earlier compilation, in full scope widescreen.-Wicked, Wicked: Early '70s MGM B-movie offered the first - and last - usage of "Duovision," a two-camera set-up that failed to sell this bizarre looking camp horror outing.-Welcome Home, Brother Charles: '70s Black exploitation outing with a particularly memorable trailer. As with the prior 42nd Street Forever retrospectives, the trailers are grouped together by category, from sleazy soft-core sex flicks to biker pictures, martial arts outings, sci-fi and horror, with the occasional big-studio film worked into the mix (like, say, MGM's hysterical Japanese co-production "The Green Slime"). The transfers are all superior to Synapse's admittedly terrific DVD sets (with many in anamorphic widescreen), but are also a mixed lot in terms of their condition, as you'd anticipate from materials that aren't pristine - but that only adds to the disc's inherent nostalgic, and overall entertainment, value. In fact, I've found that playing just a few minutes of these trailers is perfect for certain houseguests and friends you might have over, who are certain to get a kick or two out of them. Commentary by exploitation fan/webzine authorities adds some insight to the fun as well. Here's hoping Synapse doesn't wait so long to bring us a second volume!', 'Straight to the point, this is an outstanding collection of beautifully remastered exploitation/horror film trailers. Synapse have collected this "Best Of" together and offered up some gorgeous transfers. I'm pretty well-versed in genre cinema and I was shocked to discover a few films on this release that I'd not seen yet! I love it when that happens. There are a ton of trailer compilations out there but very few have made it to Blu-ray and even fewer have made good use of the technology. Synapse's 42nd STREET FOREVER: THE BLU-RAY EDITION though is exactly what it says and it gives you the very best visual quality for your dollar. If you enjoy watching old film trailers like I do, this will be a must-buy.', "This Blu-ray combines most of the first two volumes of '42nd Street Forever', with a few

deletions and additions. However, the real selling point, besides the nearly four hour running time, is the audio commentary. While you circle the globe a couple of times with these trailers, three exploitation experts - Edward Samuelson of AV Maniacs, Micheal Gingold of Fangoria magazine, and Temple of Schlock's Chris Poggiali - go through the endurance test of trying to find something to say for 89 mostly crappy movies. They succeed, for the most part, due to their immense knowledge of all things sleazy. Things do flag a bit during the second hour but when the horror section comes up, they rally and sprint to the finish. As for the trailers themselves, they are the cornball exploitation material, full of boobs and blood, violence and politically incorrect commentary that we all love. So the commentary gives the disc a reason for repeated spins, since it acts as a virtual encyclopedia of all things exploitation.", 'Wonderful collection of exploitation trailers grouped into different subgenres. Put it on, pick a mood and party!! So many films shown need full-fledged releases, specifically THE GREEN SLIME!!!', 'Not all of the coming attractions are interesting, but I had a lot of fun watching this since I have seen most of the films. Not for all tastes, but if you are a fan of horror and grindhouse cinema, see it.', 'Oh man, where to begin. This is one of the most excellent blu ray releases ever, from one of the leading providers of cult film cinema, Synapse Films! 225 mind numbing minutes of trailers, from some of the most insane genre films imaginable. Nothing more, nothing less (well you do get a commentary track with folks from Fangoria and the like, which is pretty entertaining). A good number of these films I have never even heard of, while other ones I feel I saw the whole movie before the trailer ends! We're talking a good time here folks, moreso if you are a horror, cult, sleaze, action junkie. Perfect for a long night of drinks and hanging out. Synapse rules.", 'I always loved the trailer compilations of movies from the past. My favorite being Afros, Macks, and Zodiacs hosted by Rudy Ray Moore. With that, I would always purchase the 42nd Street Forever comp jobs (exception: the Triple X edition since I never cared for that genre) This edition of 42nd Street Forever consists of the first two editions with a random sampling of at least a dozen or so extras. The commentary on this disc make up for the fact, I'm watching a rehash of parts 1 and 2. Anyway, a good way to spend a dull evening in front of the Blu-Ray player, but where was Charlie and the Hooker? I would have been curious to hear a commentary of that trailer. Can't wait for part 6", 'Synapse's awesome 42nd Street Forever series finally makes its Blu-ray debut, and we should all be thankful for it. A best selling and beloved series that collects a smorgasbord of bizarre grindhouse-era movie trailers and presents them in all their nasty glory, the Blu-ray edition of 42nd Street Forever features trailers for a whole mess of horror, science fiction, exploitation, blaxploitation, and other assorted unsavory flavors of trash including The Deadly Spawn, John Carpenter and Dan O'Bannon's Dark Star, David Cronenberg's underrated Rabid, They Call Her One Eye (Thriller: A Cruel Picture), Ms. 45, Sugar Hill, Chained Heat, Flesh Gordon, The Italian Stallion, They Came From Beyond Space, and tons, tons more. Outrageous, gratuitous, ridiculously over the top, and featuring a bevy of familiar faces peppered throughout a number of the films advertised here (including Tommy Lee Jones, William Devane, Sharon Stone, Ernest Borgnine, Linda Blair, Marilyn Chambers, Sylvester Stallone, Sybil Danning, Kennan Wynn, and lots more) all help make this collection an excellent pick up. If you already have the DVD's that Synapse released originally, there's no real reason to rush out to pick up this Blu-ray edition, but if you don't have any of the 42nd Street Forever series and any or all of what I said sounds right up your alley, you need to pick this up.", 'this is simply a great overview of all grind-house cult exploitation films from various decades. I was highly entertained watching this for hours over 80 movie trailers for the price of this blu-ray is well worth it. Maybe this could be the best purchase i've made in 2012. 42nd street rocks 4ever."]

## B00B2TWDWG

[I love the fact that each workout is only 20 mins yet you feel like you got a great workout in. I can do most of this with some modifications and I am 28 weeks pregnant. I love the fact that its bare foot and that Jessica does the easier workout but you can follow the other girl to take it up a notch.', 'I have noticed changes in my body, inches coming off in the right places. I would highly say get

this dvd&#34; worth ever penny', "This DVD has 4 sections, all 20 minutes long. Cardio Flow, Sole Sculpt, Core Strength and Cardio Dance Sculpt. Enjoyed all 4 chapters. Easy to follow, moderations available for a bit more of a harder workout. Loved the setting, its easy to follow and enjoyable for all ages. Even though I did this in one go its easy to break up throughout the day or 20 minutes here and there as your time allows. You can also use these as add on's to other workouts. Highly recommend.", "This is a really good workout, all of the shorter workouts within this DVD are all great. The reason for my 3-star rating is the distracting scenery in the background. The corner of the pool where they are working out has trees in the background. When they move around in front of the trees it really makes a person dizzy. At first I thought it was just me, but I've loaned this DVD to 2 different friends & they both said the same thing. Great workout, just wish she would have been set-up in front of a more solid, less distracting background.", "Just received my first Jessica Smith DVD yesterday & worked out with it today. DVD consists of four workouts approximately 20 minutes in length = Cardio Flow, Sole Sculpt, Core Stretch and Cardio Dance Sculpt. I managed all but Core Stretch today. When reviewing the DVD yesterday, the workouts looked easy but boy did they work up a sweat. I thought the indoor setting for Cardio Dance Sculpt would annoy me when working out what with the light coming through the window behind Jessica being very bright at times. But I really did not notice it while I was working out today. I was too busy concentrating on the moves, and being a non dancer, I was busy thinking: I'll bet I look like the Tin Man while doing these dance moves because I sure feel like him! :-\\ Jessica has a lovely, gentle & encouraging personality. She's AMAZING at cuing her next move - Jessica and her workouts on this DVD remind me of Ellen Barret but on x2 fast forward! Still very easy to follow thanks to her AMAZING cuing. Did I mention she's amazing at cuing? hahahaha - I just really appreciate that after working out with instructors who expect you to be psychic about their next move - so frustrating! No frustration here. And no strained neck from turning it to see what she's doing next. She even tells us a few times not to look at her because we know the move and she'll let us know when it's time to change. Such consideration and care for her viewer. Really really glad I bought the DVD even though it's pricier than what I would normally pay for workout DVDs on Amazon - but hey - still cheaper than regular live classes of any sort and if I love a DVD the regular use will make it worth it. This DVD and all of EB's are really about honouring the body. Not killing yourself to get fit/toned. Not sure what Jessica's other DVDs would be like though. Five stars for the DVD and A+++ for the instructor - Thank you Jessica Smith!!", "I've been doing Jessica Smith's YouTube videos and jessicasmithtv.com's challenges for about five months now and decided it was time to try a DVD (this and 10 Pounds Down Better Body Blast). I was not disappointed! While some of her online videos were much more difficult I thought this DVD was a solid series of workouts that weren't hard on the joints but still made me sweat. With four separate 20 minute segments it makes it easy to mix and match depending on what type of exercise you're looking for. Cardio Flow: I was surprised that this had me sweating as much as it did because it was very low impact and done with minimal space and movements that weren't difficult (she does offer options to make things tougher). I enjoyed it because I'm not a fan of HIIT or anything that incorporates jumping, jogging, etc. It may not be as intense but it still got the heart pumping! Sole Sculpt: I did this with 5 pound weights and thought it was effective but not too challenging (we'll if I feel the same tomorrow morning!). She targets most areas but I wish there had been more work done on the biceps; most seemed to focus on the back muscles and triceps. If you're looking for more of a dumbbell workout she has a lot on her website to choose from. However, on days where you just don't have the energy this is a good option. Core stretch: I really enjoyed this segment as it was both relaxing and I did feel it in my core. I've always liked standing or yoga inspired abdominal routines and while this didn't include standing there were many unique moves. Looks easier than it actually was as I had to modify a few to get through them! Cardio dance sculpt: This one was really good for the legs as it was very ballet inspired. Once again low impact but I found myself sweating despite that. The arms didn't get quite as good of a workout but I am used to using weights. The main draw of the DVD is Jessica. She is absolute delight, unlike drill sergeant instructors (Jillian Michaels, I'm talking to you). She's sweet and encouraging, doesn't annoy you with mindless chit chat and is feeling the burn along with you. The music fit perfectly for each routine and the scenery was lovely but not distracting. While not as difficult as Better Body Blast, which has more intense



cardio bursts, this DVD did what it should: got the blood pumping, was easy on the joints and gave me a well rounded workout. I did all the routines in one shot but depending on your mood or level of soreness you can just do or two one if you're short on time. Highly recommend and am looking forward to Jessica's two new DVDs that will be released soon!", 'Jessica Smith has put thought to every aspect of this DVD....and it shows with the exceptional scenery, production, variety of moves and her lovely way of motivating you. I Love it. Those of you have done her utube videos....this has new innovative moves.', "I bought 2 Jessica Smith DVD's recently, my first. This DVD was good for stretching and toning and a mild cardio workout. I felt good when I was done. That said, her new Walking DVD, Walking for Weight Loss was my favorite. I wanted a low impact (bad knees) that would get my heart rate up. Her second segment the power walk, was terrific. I was a little disappointed after that DVD, that this cardio was less intense. Also the heavy emphasis on squats I had to modify a lot. If you have no issues with your knees, squatting is a great exercise, but I can't do it as often as she suggested. I can jog a little, walk, etc. but it was a little to top heavy in that area for me.If you want an overall exercise DVD that incorporates a little of everything, that you can break up into 20 minutes segments, this is great. If you want more cardio, check out her new Walking DVD.", 'I just discovered Jessica Smith and love her! This DVD is so wonderful, the music is great, and the scenery is beautiful. I love the way she instructs you. She is very encouraging throughout the entire DVD and you hear her saying &#34;Beautiful&#34;, is such a nice touch. I also like the 20 minute segments so you can break up your routine. You really get a great workout from head to toe and not wearing shoes is such a bonus.', 'This DVD has 4 workouts to choose from . They are so excellent! I love Cardio Flow so much-all standing flowing cardio moves with a lovely poolside backdrop. The music is so perfect and the moves get the blood pumping and the heartrate up without killing you! 20 mins of Bliss. Sole Sculpt is a fabulous flowing sculpting routine using 3 or 5 lb weights-LOVE! Core Stretch is also lovely and graceful and Dance Sculpt is high energy fun that really gets a lot of bang for your buck! The back ground is a bright white spa setting with scenery outside of the window. It just gives a crisp and clean feel to the workout and is perfect. Jessica is simply wonderful as the instructor and creator of all these innovative routines. She really shines and her talent for creating and instructing workouts for women is really her gift! She is informative, fun , caring and not annoying at all! You can mix and match the workouts or just do one. I really am so happy with this DVD and think it is among the best of the best in home fitness! Thanks Jessica!']

## B00CQRNLLU

['Nobody other scotsman on CBS at night is as funny as Craig Ferguson. Actually he is my all time favourite Ferguson.Would have loved to see the warm up show as well - maybe as a bonus on the DVD?!', "I'm such a HUGE Craig Ferguson fan so how could I possibly NOT love it!! Not like seeing him live but next best thing.", 'I thought he would be funnier !! I love his show and wanted to see his standup. Good, but not great.', "you've watched his TV show then you've pretty much seen this stuff. The only thing missing is the &#34;Ai Carramba!!&#34;, the Robot Skeleton & the 2 man Horse (and the guest stars). If you don't watch the show, then its fine. On second thought, just watch the TV show.....", 'Mr. Ferguson is unique (in the definitive usage of the word). He is the host of THE LATE LATE SHOW (CBS, 12:35 PM,E). Once there was only Carson -- now, about a zillion late night shows. His is simply the best and most sophisticated of them all -- even going back to "Steeverino," Paar...Letterman...Leno and the many "Jimmies."Letterman is superb and I have watched about two-thirds of both his programs over the past 30 years. He began on NBC by deconstructing this venue. Now, Ferguson has gone far further in the deconstruction effort.His sidekick is well... not a human being -- but rather a dead gay skeleton as they both converse during each program. So, the specter of the Grim Reaper is always part of the ambiance. Then a third regular -- again not human either is a make believe horse played by two guys in some sort of outfit. He converses with the non-speaking horse and translates the horse\'s physical motions for all of us. Bizarre? Yes!He is constantly using blue material and dances (quite well) with either the horse or a few sexy ladies in ultra sexy outfits.Then, he talks about his alcohol and drug addictions openly. Did

I mention his attempt to commit suicide? This man born on Scotland has a European-existentialist approach to life and his ingenious comedy. Didn't someone say that tragedy and comedy are the same -- intertwined? Who else on a network TV broadcast would allude to Nietzsche, Sartre, *Brideshead Revisited*, and... No one! Yet, the gig has lasted to date and he has a cult following. For me he is always appointment television via the CBS feed to my TV set or DVR. He is rumored to replace David Letterman (whose company, World Wide Pants), is the producer of the nightly program. Well he can be effective at 12:35 -- but I have my doubts that he can maintain a large enough audience at 11:35 -- with his seemingly and probably improvisational style using a stream of consciousness technique. He is the best! As far as his DVD goes... First get a copy. On CBS which is regulated by the FCC he codes his off-color comments. If you want to see him as he has the complete freedom to speak about anything he thinks or wants to say. There are few working humorists and comedians presently working who are close to him. He has taken comedy to be an art form. (I guess you can say that I like him.}, 'Yes it is indeed a great day for America with this latest release from TV's Craig Ferguson. Ferguson's live show is something of an extension of his monologue on *The Late Late Show*, but without any pixelated swear words. Live and in person Craigy Ferg is completely unleashed, sharing his thoughts and observations with us. I've seen him live twice, and this DVD nicely captures the live Ferguson experience. Classically stream of consciousness and subtly intellectual, Craigy Ferg's standup act is amazing. On this DVD he runs the table on topics, including of course his battles with addiction (the raw edge and complete authenticity here is, as always, amazing), Hitler, shark penises, and the "celebrity culture" he experiences first-hand in Los Angeles. If you like Craig Ferguson's TV show but always find yourself wanting more, this is the DVD for you.', "Craig Ferguson is my favorite comedian and this DVD is a great showcase of his stand-up act. It's a definite must-have for fans but anyone who likes to laugh will enjoy it. Any time I need a little pick-me-up after a bad day, Ferguson is the perfect choice.", "I purchased this as a Christmas present for my mom. She loved it. If you are a fan of his TV show, you'll love it.", "We love Craig, and this special is very funny. But we're learning that we find Craig to be much funnier on his own show. We love seeing him push back against the censors and suits. That's when Craig is at his funniest. But this special was still good for a laugh, and we're glad we saw it. Craig is always funny.", 'but still hilarious. Craig remains an inspiration to anyone who is goofy. And I love that he offends people with no sense of the ridiculous', "Truly enjoy Mr. Ferguson's brand of humor and think he is the best late night entertainer on TV. People like Jimmy Kimmel & Jimmy Fallon can't even come close to this man's genius.", 'we love all things craig ferguson. he truly is the best late night hose ever. If you agree, you will love this stand up routine.', "First off, I really like Craig Ferguson. He's very funny on his show and really enjoy his irreverent character. But this DVD started off slow, he pandered to the liberal DC crowd and seemed to try really hard at swearing allot. Not sure if the Scottish vocabulary is littered with American vulgarities because it did take away from the show. Being a party animal & back in the day can really appreciate Craig's brand of humor on those matters and the show picks up mid-way and ends with a few good laughs. Still want to see him live and continue to be a fan. Just wish he wouldn't try so hard to carry on like some sort of trailer trash", "The DVD isn't released yet, but I have seen this on the internet streaming service it was already released on. It is so funny... I was laughing to the point of crying the whole show. And I'd already seen it when he preformed the same show live before. It is honestly, just like all Craig Ferguson's other stand up specials, absolutely hilarious and worth every penny."]

## B00I3LDEFQ

["There are quite a number of 'Maria Stuarda' DVDs in recent years. There was the La Scala Devia/Antonacci/Meli, and then there is one by in Florence Cedolins/Ganassi./Bros even more recently (on bluray, too). Neither production is 'perfect' in a demanding score such as this one. I have been wondering why Joyce Didonato sings as mezzo-soprano for some time. Here, as in her Covent Garden 'Don Giovanni', she assumes a role that is higher than mezzo-soprano, though in a lower

key (they say one tone down?). The result isn't as bad as one reviewer remarked, but certainly, had it not been at MET, Joyce would have been even better. The voice is what some would describe as Soprano Falcon (not mezzo-soprano). The upper register has sufficient heft to take the fach into the soprano department, and the low register is comparatively not as significant as the middle and high ones. She would probably be a good Princess Eboli, though she has not tried her hand on the role yet. Then, perhaps some day, she can even sing Tosca. It is quite a revealing joy to hear Didonato in a new fach, and her acting is beyond criticism. Joyce has always been a 'lady' singer, so I loath to watch her in trouser roles. Here she is, regal and dignified, utterly lady-like and beautiful, as she should appear on stage. Her rival is the young South African soprano van Den Heever. A singer of good vocal technique, van Den Heever is one of those sopranos to watch out for in later stages in roles such as Elsa in Lohengrin, Tosca, Minnie in 'Fanciulla del West', and many other light dramatic roles. Why does she take on a limp in this production is some thing totally beyond me. 'Maria Stuarda' is a thankless opera for tenor, and Matthew Polenzani did all he could in the role of Leicester. He is sympathetic, but characterless, both in singing and portrayal, alas. The two low male characters fared better, but on the whole, the spotlight is all on the two queens, and rightly so.", 'I didn't know this opera, only for references until I saw it on PBS a year ago. At that moment I found this performance and the music very well done and beautiful. When I saw that the DVD was released I bought it. The cast was very good with very good singers and a very convincing acting. The two main characters: Maria Stuarda and Queen Elizabeth played by Joyce Dinonato and Elza van der Heever respectively were done very successfully, they showed very strong personalities very well, for instance the encounter of both characters in the field (at the end of Act 1) that according to history never happened but for the opera is a turning point because reflects the conflict between them and defines the rest of the drama ending with the death of Maria Stuarda 10 years later. The direction and chorus were very good as well as the costumes and scenery.', 'What can one say about perfection? The trio of principals is fearlessly awesome. This is finally the equal of the Caballe/Verrett recording, which I consider the best ever. I saw Sills in all three roles more than once, and have forever lamented that only her Robert Devereux survives on DVD, but now I can rest easy. Thank God, in my senior citizen status I can still enjoy the peerless Met performances without paying through the nose or standing in line for welfare tickets. As I watched I kept thinking: "there is Bellini and there is Rossini, but Donizetti is absolute!", 'Other reviewers note the foibles in this production, and they are real. But there is simply no question that the Maria Stuarda realized by Joyce DiDonato for this Met production is something wonderful to hear and to behold! My first DVD was defective. It kept cutting out, and my DVD player kept announcing that it was 'skipping the damaged parts'; which turned out to be nearly every part. But I witnessed enough to know that this performance was worth paying double for, so I ordered another one from Amazon. The second DVD has so far played without incident, and I am really pleased.', "Great opera is a living thing that is constantly changing and Donizetti's 'Tudor Queen Trilogy' is no exception. I've seen dozens of productions over the years and have more than a dozen CDs DVDs and BRs of each one. Some of these performances were nice at the time but faded away over the years, others were quite moving but all share two moments that rivet attention; Maria's confession to Talbot, a priest, (she did know about the Babington Conspiracy) and her aria and final prayer that close the opera. These are among the most moving and convincing passages written by Donazetti in any of his works. The opera can be done in traditional settings as the Sutherland, with Bonyne conducting (Canada National), Gnassi with Carminati conducting (Bergamo), modern, but not too modern Ganassi, with Carminati conducting (Le Fenice), English (and in English) Janet Baker, with Charles Mackerras (English National Opera). The present recording with Joyce DiDinato is the best yet of this last decade. I have rarely been so moved by any opera as by her aria-finale in this opera. Ms. DiDonato is able to convey the hapless girl enmeshed in political upheavals and bad fate into one horrible marriage, plot, intrigue, and love affair after another but by conviction, survival skill and pride has managed to survive...until now. Her resolute determination has carried her this far but time has run out. The willful pride that has served her this far has run up against Elizabeth, another willful Tudor woman (played beautifully and skillfully by Elza van den Heever). She has the upper hand but fellow Tudor woman Maria cannot submit to it. Even after the 'bastarda';

insult (pure fiction) Elizabeth waits ten years and the Babington Conspiracy (historical truth) before committing Mary to death. In the death scene, the transformation in Maria is phenomenal and Ms DiDonato is in top acting and vocal form. She faces the reality of her execution by wiping clean her peccadillos/sins in confession, losing her pride and as a human being rising above the fray. Great acting and vocal command! It's the most moving finale I've seen for this opera. She carries it all on her small, gentle, fragile frame in this excellent production. A special cheer for David McVicar designer and Maurizio Benini conductor. The supporting cast is excellent also. Deep-voiced Mathew Rose as Talbot was effective and moving as he tries to appease Maria's pride. The Cecil of Joshua Hopkins was a blood-thirsty defender of the Queen's honor. However I thought the Leicester of Mathew Polenzani somewhat weak compared to past performances by Joseph Calleja or Jose Bros. All in all, it's a great recording and a joy to play and play again.", "I was beginning to give up hope that this would appear on DVD. For those of us old enough to remember the 'glory days' of the great bel canto singers of the 50s, 60s and early 70s, and who bemoan the state of current opera singing technique, you can, no MUST buy this DVD. Joyce DiDonato's final scene contains some of the most beautiful singing I have ever heard. Such a tiny 'heroine', with a vocal range that astounded me. If you enjoyed 'The Enchanted Island', this is even better. The rest of the cast is outstanding as well.", "I don't understand why this performance is not released on bluray. There is no excuse for this. I have suffered enough waiting for performances to be issued on bluray. This is 2014.", "Simply magnificent! When I read the New York Times' glowing review of this opera I have been eagerly waiting for the DVD., and it was worth it..... Tremendous sound recording and vivid clear image make this standard DVD presentation a real treat. The director did an interesting thing by making the second act take place 10 years after the famous confrontation scene that ends the first act. This gives a facet to Elizabeth that is not shown when it seems the beheading happens 24 hours later as in other productions of this opera. The acting by Joyce DiDonato as Maria Stuarda may be the best job of physical acting I have ever seen in an opera of any type. It along with her singing and the singing of the entire cast raise this production to a level one does not often encounter. This is bel canto opera the way it should be done! The Backstage at the Met interviews are particularly interesting..... the director goes into the decision to extend the action by 10 years..... good stuff. If you love bel canto get this DVD ..... highest possible recommendation.", 'The Met's belated foray into the complete Donizetti "Tudor trilogy" began inauspiciously in 2011 with a season-opening David McVicar production of ANNA BOLENA showcasing Anna Netrebko. Hobbled out of the gate by the pregnancy-necessitated withdrawal of mezzo Elena Garan (whose Jane Seymour had been the best thing about a recent-past production from Vienna, now on DVD), it was further undermined by an Anna whose temperament only partially compensated for a smudgy florid technique and a big lyric rather than truly dramatic voice, hoarsening toward the end of the work's two long acts. The director, too, was largely unsuccessful in his attempts to make a long and oft-static work dynamic, and costume and set designs were notably dreary. The prospect of a new MARIA STUARDA the following season helmed by the same director did not inspire great enthusiasm, but this was as much a hit as the BOLENA had been a miss, and a standout of the 2012-13 season. Joyce DiDonato at the time of this writing is the sort of singer one is encouraged to see and hear in anything. She chooses her assignments wisely; she seems incapable of giving a performance that is less than meticulously and intelligently prepared; she has a brilliant technical facility, and she has an appealing and ingratiating personality that she takes with her on the stage, whether she is Cenerentola, the Composer, Sycorax, or Maria Stuarda. There were some complaints when it was announced that the music here was lowered slightly to accommodate a mezzo-soprano heroine, but most listeners will not be following with a score, and I cannot imagine that Donizetti (who lived in a time when composers countenanced far greater liberties) would have been anything other than thrilled with her assumption. To hear DiDonato confront this music with her awesome technical arsenal is to understand why bel canto is still worth performing and hearing. One becomes aware that everything Donizetti wrote is there for an expressive purpose, not only for pretty display -- that a trill can mean anxiety or excitement, that a grand scalar flourish can mean pride and haughtiness. DiDonato cheats nothing in this fearless, generous, all-encompassing performance. Perhaps her

fundamentally sunny-American presence militates slightly against one's acceptance of her as a beleaguered woman from a long-distant era, but she is immensely likable and sympathetic, giving a performance of great feeling. My only serious complaint is one that should be laid on the director rather than the singer: The historical Mary Stuart was executed at 44, but McVicar plays up the heroine's encroaching age and frailty, saddling his star for the opera's second half with what looks like a Parkinsonian tremor. DiDonato could have played the passage of time and Maria's diminished circumstances as poignantly with less of a clinical demonstration, and at times one sympathizes with her need to carry out this stagy shuddering and rocking while meeting her considerable musical responsibilities. But she does it. South African soprano Elza van den Heever made a memorable Met debut as Maria's rival and captor, Elisabetta (Queen Elizabeth I). The basic vocal material may not be called lovely, but she uses it with shrewdness, force, and technical security, as a component of a well-worked-out performance. Van den Heever is a tall and commanding figure on the stage, and she spoke of having studied the films of Bette Davis and working what she saw into this queen -- butch and swaggering but with occasional flashes of saucy humor (mostly in her opening scene set in the Globe Theater, which features amusing byplay with performing clowns). But Elisabetta too is ultimately diminished by age, and Van den Heever effectively (and affectingly) makes the weight of the queen's responsibilities, not to mention the weight of her costumes, tell. Behind the elaborate painting and rouging, the ostentatious gowns, this is an insecure, suffering, very lonely woman. The historically dubious confrontation between Elisabetta and Maria crackles with electricity, a tribute to both singers and director. This is decidedly not a men's opera from the standpoint of the singers, but Met tenor favorite Matthew Polenzani, who can be a phlegmatic performer, is unusually incisive and engaged as Roberto, phrasing beautifully as the man coveted by the rival queens, and Matthew Rose brings warmth and gravity to his small role as the clemency-encouraging Talbot. Joshua Hopkins is less convincing as his antipode, the bloodthirsty Cecil, but it is an even smaller, one-note role. The reliably wonderful Maria Zifchak adds another to her gallery of Met comprimaria roles as the loyal Hannah. The stage production features much of David McVicar's best Met work, alertly directed with great care for details of personality, beautifully designed and costumed, and with a knockout of a final stage picture (Maria mounting the steps, at the top of which the executioner looms). Conductor Maurizio Benini accompanies with style and flexibility; both chorus and orchestra sound as though their experience in this score extends considerably beyond five prior performances of it (this high-definition broadcast was the sixth of a run of eight). Expectations, then, are reset for the trilogy's conclusion with ROBERTO DEVEREUX. In the meantime, this outstanding performance gets an unambiguous recommendation.', "This is a FANTASTIC DVD opera download from the Met's 2013 season. Joyce DiDonato carried this production over the moon. It took forever for the NY Met to put it in production but it was well worth the wait. Thank you one and all for this super production. I will enjoy it for many year to come.", "¶Maria Stuarda¶ is my favorite of the Elizabeth trilogy; and this is a magnificent interpretation of it. Joyce Didonato is a lush and appealing Mary Stuart. To me, however, the star in this production is the new (for me, anyway) South African soprano, Elza van den Heever as Elizabeth I. Her acting is intense and her eyes have the power to cast Mary forever into Hell. The Act I, Scene 2 dialogue between Elizabeth and Mary (which never happened historically) is operatic drama at its finest, and these two divas do it marvelously. Palenzani as Leicester is excellent as are all the male singers without exception. However this is an opera which centers on two women, and they steal the show in this production. I felt the portrayal of Elizabeth and Mary in the Act II was a bit too much. They were portrayed as old ladies with Parkinson's Disease. That is definitely not historical. Be that as it may, the final scene leaves us breathless as Mary ascends the stairs for her execution. The Metropolitan production is tops, as usual.", 'The Met is staging Donizetti's 3 Tudor Queen Operas. Their plan is to stage each opera individually and then culminate with a trilogy starring soprano Sondra Radvanovsky in all three roles: Anna Bolena, Maria Stuarda, and Elizabeth I in Roberto Devereux. Radvanovsky has recently made a stunning debut as Elisabetta I in R. Devereux with the Canadian Opera Company to prepare for this demanding upcoming trilogy at the Met and she sang Anna Bolena at the Washington National Opera a few seasons ago. So far at the Met we have only seen Anna Bolena starring Anna Netrebko and this Maria Stuarda Starring Joyce DiDonato. In my opinion, the weakest

portrayal is DiDonato as Maria Stuarda. Netrebko was spectacular a couple of seasons ago as Anna Bolena and based on Radvanovsky's past performances (of Bolena and Elisabetta) I am sure that she will shine when the time of the trilogy comes. However, DiDonato really gave a weak performance both vocally and in terms of acting. The role of Maria Stuarda is simply beyond Ms. DiDonato. DiDonato is much better suited to singing Rossini's grateful mezzo soprano roles like La Cenerentola and Rosina; roles where she can please the audience by singing some silly rapid Rossini coloratura. As Maria Stuarda DiDonato OVER-ACTED and I simply did not enjoy the lower transpositions that she used (and I don't care if they are true to the score) because they were so bland coming from her because she has a voice that can do so much more. Since DiDonato was overacting and pushing her voice to its limits as Maria Stuarda I constantly heard an annoying bleat and tremolo as she tried to sustain long "soaring" (???) legato lines over the orchestra. Whatever, I just don't get why she was cast to sing this part. The rest of the cast is not very special. They sang as well as they could but I have seen and heard better in this opera. The rest of the cast is fine, but the problem is that the woman singing the title role is so bland here that I wouldn't bother with this DVD.']

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["This review can be also found on my book review site [sparereads.blogspot.com](http://sparereads.blogspot.com) So it seems that my misfortune continues. If reading Rouge was a mistake led on because I misjudged its contents by the fancy cover, then picking up Chrysalis was a mistake caused by the exact opposite reason. I wish I had judged the cover more, that way I probably would have saved myself from this miserable read. I always try my best to support self published books and authors, but Chrysalis is perhaps the epitome of why self published books have such a bad reputation. In one line, Chrysalis is a cheesy teenager romance trying to disguise itself as an epic fantasy. There is hardly anything else in this book other than the romantic relationship between Ayda and Adrian. But even the romance is poorly constructed and as cliched as one can possibly imagine. The thing that amused me the most is Michelle Jordan's pathetic attempt to justify the instalove between Ayda and Adrian through the voice of another character in the story. (quote) Adrian looked at Ayda and said, "It started for me when I first laid eyes on her." "Awww, now that was sweet, even if I don't believe in the over sentimentalization that they feed teenagers in film, music, and books. I believe this to be sincere and very touching." she (River) said as she finished up her pizza. (quote) I don't even know if I should laugh or cry when an author is so desperately trying to convince me that the romance between these two MCs is real. Another big disappointment I have with Chrysalis is the lack of action scenes. Ayda is supposed to be the best soldier ever existed, but from her failed assassination attempts to the few fights she had with Wem, I cannot see how she excelled her trainings at all. There are simply not enough details to make it believable. The world building in Chrysalis is extremely confusing as well. Even though the book used some pages to explain the past conflicts and the struggles remained, it still had me bewildered most of the time. As for the part I did grasp (or I thought I did), a lot more work is required to make it less illogical and unrealistic. I cannot really complement the writing either as it is so very plain and stiff. I had a hard time finishing it and often found myself skipping through sentences. I wish there are more descriptions that could bring me a better sense of the atmosphere and a clearer picture of the world. Chrysalis is the first novel in Michelle Cornwell-Jordan's The World of Bid'Aben series, though I don't think I will be reading any subsequent installments. It started quite promising with a world that is now roamed over by humans and supernatural beings together, but the story went downhill quickly when the romance took over the plot. Hopefully, I will have better luck next time on my reading journey.", "Ayda is sent to kill Adrian, but after several failed attempts, she is forced to rethink her plan. As she takes time to figure out what the problem is, getting closer to the enemy brings new light and feelings to her duty. Adrian knows that Ayda has something to do with his tragedies and when he is determined to get to know her better and find out what she has to do with his "accidents", he finds that there is much more to Ayda than meets the eye. What happens when love finds its way? Chrysalis is

a wonderful story of love and changing the world as you know it. It's very well written and the characters are just so loveable. The only thing I wished, and it's my own thing, is that there would have been a little bit more tension leading up to Ayda and Adrian's relationship. I think if I could have felt just a tad more excitement leading up to that first kiss...well, I'd have been a tad more happy. Aside from that, this is a perfect, YA Romance and I highly recommend this to ALL YA lover's. It will not disappoint at all and the ride is thrilling, the plot is driven, and the characters...well, I'll let you decide for yourself, but just know you will fall in love and be seeking more. Well done Michelle Cornwell-Jordan. Well done.", "Firstly I'd like to thank Michelle Cornwell-Jordan for giving me this book in exchange for an honest review. Ayda is an Achina, half human and half Thunderkin. A being which is created and not born and whom are created for a specific purpose. In Ayda's case Cheveyo (ruler of Taawa - One of the three Territories) orders Ayda to be created to assassinate Adrian, the heir to Kuuyi one of the three territories in Bid'A Ban so that Cheveyo may rule both territories and unite Bid'A Ban once more. However after 2 failed attempts Ayda begins to realize that she no longer wants to end Adrian's life, which then leads her to believe that she is somehow defective since Achinas don't question anything they only carry out their purpose. She then decides to protect Adrian instead which also complicates things once they start to spend more time with one another and fall for each other. With the help of Al her Cheveyo's secretary she will do everything she can to make sure Adrian lives even if it means sacrificing everything. I enjoyed reading this book however for me there were a quite a few things I disliked which brought my rating down. For instance: The unpronounceable names and places - I understand Michelle was world building but every time someone or thing was mentioned I became tongue tied. Inconsistencies throughout, such as Ayda being the top Achina Assassin created and yet in the first sign of battle she didn't focus and when trying to get everyone to safety was too focused on God only knows and didn't make sure they weren't followed. The relationship between Ayda and Adrian wasn't detailed enough for my liking. Yes they liked each other then suddenly they were dating there was no description of how they got to know one another. Only 4 weeks later.. However after listing those things I didn't like I am still looking forward to book two and to see how Ayda and Adrian progress on their journey", "I was thrilled to be asked to beta read this book by the author having read other work by her and really enjoying her writing style. I really liked this book. The world and characters of Chrysalis came alive for me with a storyline that was fresh and unique. As it states in the synopsis the story begins after a war between man and the supernatural and the world is now at peace with the races coexisting in harmony. There are those, however, who have never accepted the changes and the intermingling of the races and strive to return to the previous way of life and glory of the Bid'A Ban. Ayda is created; she is a supernatural being that is constructed from the DNA of a human and a supernatural. She is educated and trained with the goal and sole existence to assassinate the heir of the current Thunderkin ruler. As the story progresses Ayda begins to think for herself and step out of her programming and the roller coaster ride takes off with lots of twists and turns that kept me glued to the pages wanting to see what was going to happen next. There is a little insta-love and some teenage angst, but this was not really inappropriate for the storyline and in my opinion it does add to the enjoyment of the read. The story culminates with a bit of a cliffhanger, but it is not one that is glaringly frustrating, and it does leave room for the imagination to wonder and crave to read what happens next. As the copy I read was an ARC there were some small typos and grammatical blips, but they were minimal and I anticipate further editing will be done prior to release. Overall I enjoyed Chrysalis very much and look forward to continuing the journey.", "The fantasy backdrop and Native American element of the mythical Thunderbird drew my interest from the get-go. I liked hearing snippets about vampire hunter Angel from the Night School novellas and how her life and actions connected to the world of Bid'A Ban. There is some terminology to get used to at first. I read the glossary of terms at the start of the book, but after a few pages, I became familiar with the new words anyway. These days we're used to vampires, werewolves and witches attending high school. Chrysalis was a lovely change of pace with Thunderkin, Fairies, other supernaturals and regular humans all attending classes together. In this world, humans know about the magical races and they live side by side, though of course not everyone is prejudice free. Cheveyo, a dictator figure, is not content with the alliance between the races. He creates an Achina, Ayda, who has the

appearance of a beautiful teenage girl. Her sole purpose in life is to eliminate Adrian, heir to the Thunderkin, but she soon finds her life mission thwarted when she starts to fall for her target. Of course, I'm a sucker for the star-crossed lovers theme so I was rooting for these two to make it. I warmed to Adrian immediately. He's a decent guy; you can see that when he's hanging out with his friends. Ayda similarly has a warmth about her that really shouldn't go with a trained assassin. When she stops a Wendigo (vicious monster type) from feeding on her friends, her quip, "Well we all need to cut back here and there" made me laugh. The descriptions of the secret hanging gardens in the mystical forest were gorgeous. Having whatever you want - clothes, food, etc magically appear before you when visiting these lush garden sounds great. I look forward to reading more about the world of Bid' A Ban. An enjoyable, easy read.', "Chrysalis is one of the best books that I have read in awhile. Having read other books by this author I knew this was going to be a good one too. I just didn't realize that I would love it so much. I loved the supernatural world that the author created. I think it would be a fun place to visit or even live. The characters were very real and the story flowed right along. Ayda is a supernatural being, an achina. She is part human and part Thunderkin. She was created for one purpose, to kill Adrian, the Thunderkin heir. After a couple of attempts she comes to realize that she has feelings for him and she can't kill him. So instead she decides to become his protector. Once his uncle Cheveyo finds out things get turned upside down. Then there is this weird supernatural, Wem that has gone rogue and is out to destroy Ayda, Adrian, their friends and family. There is a lot going on throughout the story. Action, suspense, friendship and romance. There are lots of twists and turns that will leave you wanting more. I could not get enough of this story, it was so good. This will appeal to fans of fantasy and/or dystopian. The way the author combined the two really made the story unique and something special. I continue to be a fan of this amazing author. I can't wait to see what is in store for book two. This e-arc was provided to me by the author for review. This did not affect my review in any way.", "Bid' A Ban is a world that captures your imagination. I very much enjoyed roaming the world with Ayda and Adrian as their relationship grew. The battles were secondary to the relationship, which I liked. To me the people interactions were much more important than the battle scenes. There were some difficult names in the book but as long as you give them your own pronunciation, you'll remember them. Look forward to the next book!", 'Initially I wasn't really sure I liked this book. It is written in a different style than I usually read and it took a while to grasp the different words for the types of people/mythological creatures in the story. However, the further I got in the book, the better it got. I can't wait to read the next one to find out what happens next. I really enjoyed that the author kept surprising me with new twists that I totally didn't see coming. I especially enjoyed the fact that this group of "Kin" had a human in their friendship circle. It was nice to see realistic reactions from a "normal" person and how they/I would react if this kind of stuff started happening in my town. That bit of realism helped ground the books and keep them honest. I give this book 4 out of 5 clouds. This product or book may have been distributed for review; this in no way affects my opinions or reviews.', "I was given a free copy of the book from the author for my honest opinion. Ayda was created to assassinate Adrian a ThunderKin. Adrian's uncle, Leader Cheveyo had Ayda created for this purpose and this purpose only. But after a couple of failed attempts she made while trying to kill Adrian she began to wonder why she was failing at the one thing she was trained for her whole life. After she gave it some thought she finally came to the conclusion that she was developing feelings for Adrian. She realized that she could not harm him ever. She would now become his protector. She would keep him safe and would not let anyone else harm him even if it meant her own life would be taken away. After having someone make a couple of attempts on his life Adrian begins to wonder what was going on and why was someone trying to kill him? One day right before an attempt was made he felt someone watching him and began looking around and spotted Ayda watching him. She thought Adrian had seen her but she was like that was impossible. She was starting to have feelings for Adrian and he was also starting to fall in love with her as well. So now Ayda had become his protector and not his killer. Later after another failed attempt he began putting two and two together and came up with the fact that it was Ayda trying to kill him. He was like, Ayda? Why would she do this? She did not seem like the kind of person who would do something of this nature but she was doing it. Ayda has wanted to know more about her culture and who she was with her being half-human and half- ThunderKin, her



father was ThunderKin. Ayda has confessed that she has always wanted to fly. Adrain offers to take Ayda on a Kii flight. She is not sure at first but he tells her that he is an expert. Ayda can't resist the chance to fly even if she is not doing it herself. So she accepts; Adrain changes and Ayda climbs on his back and he takes her up in the sky for the ride of her life. Ayda is like a kid on a roller coaster ride; she throws her hands up in the air. After the ride is over and Adrain takes her back to the ground and lets her off and changes back into his human form Ayda realizes how much she has fallen in love with the man that she as an assassin was sent to kill. Anyone that would climb on someone's back and go soaring through the air on their back has got to have a lot of trust for that person and be totally and completely in love with them. I was asked by Michelle if I would like to be one of her beta readers for Chrysalis and of course I said yes and I am very glad I did. I really and truly loved reading Chrysalis and can't wait for the second book. Michelle did a fantastic job of creating and describing a whole new world. She described it in a way that you wished you could go visit Bid'ABan and sit down for a chat with Ayda, Adrain, River, Al and all of the characters.", "Ayda is an Achina, half human and half Thunderkin, who was created with only one purpose. To kill Adrian, the next in line to rule one of the three districts of Bid'A Ban. She was molded for this purpose, trained for it from the minute of her creation. She even makes a few attempts to accomplish her mission before she discovers something she never expected, something no one ever anticipated. She falls in love with the handsome Adrian. But it's more than just physical attraction. Ayda knows he will make a good leader. So she deserts her mission and decides to protect Adrian from the other monsters being sent to destroy him and his family. And he'll need protection because Adrian's uncle won't give up until Adrian is dead. Chrysalis is a unique and engaging young adult story. The author brings us a futuristic world where paranormal creatures have merged with humans. Even though there is much displeasure on both sides, Ayda and Adrian work to bring unity to a divided world. Both the characters and the world they live in are well developed. I loved the little details about the new world, like the tele-orb that allows people to view holographic images when they talk on the phone. Even the food is described. There was one scene where one of the girls was eating a fire-bird and when they find a feather, it creates a burst of light that temporarily blinds everyone at the table. Details like this really bring the fictional world to life. But the really amazing part about this story is the unquenchable love between Adrian and Ayda. A love that defied her very nature and that will hopefully allow him to overcome his anger when he learns her original purpose. Throughout the book you are introduced to diverse paranormal beings, many of which are taken from Native American myth. Some of the creatures Ayda encounters include fae, wendigos, golems and so many more. There are fast-paced battles, tests of friendships, and sweet romantic scenes. The book does end with a major cliffhanger, which only means I'll be counting down the days until the sequel is released. If you are looking for a fantasy story that stands out from the norm, this is definitely the book to read."]

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[A very useful book for the beginner using WordPress. The content is presented well and is very readable and easily understood. I would certainly recommend this item.', 'This book is 109 pages in length according to my Kindle Fire HDX. Those are very brief pages that scratch only the most basic surface of Wordpress - the information given is so shallow and generic that it's ludicrous - and nothing worth paying for. You can find much better info just Googling your question (despite what this author says); there are TONS of great websites and blogs with Wordpress info and instructions. Just Google "Wordpress" and a question stating your problem. You'll be amazed with the number of people who have taken the time and energy to post detailed instructions for every Wordpress problem and situation imaginable. If you really want a book, buy the current incarnation of "Wordpress for Dummies"

([http://www.amazon.com/WordPress-For-Dummies-Lisa-Sabin-Wilson/dp/1118791614/ref=dp\\_ob\\_title\\_bk](http://www.amazon.com/WordPress-For-Dummies-Lisa-Sabin-Wilson/dp/1118791614/ref=dp_ob_title_bk)) or similar book. At least you'll get a decent amount of information. Truthfully, I bought an older copy of Wordpress for Dummies and another Wordpress book. I never read them, and I put off

making my first Wordpress website for a year because I thought it might be hard to learn the interface. When I finally sat down to Wordpress, I was sorry I'd put it off for so long. The Wordpress interface is easy and intuitive. And, despite what this book says, having your own website is very inexpensive. Go with someone like 123ehost that will cost you \$50-\$100 a year for hosting (and one-click Wordpress install), plus another \$10-\$12 for your domain name. Wordpress itself is free, as are thousands of themes that spruce it up for you. Frankly, on bigger commercial sites, just to make it easier, I use a commercial theme, Weaver II Pro (\$30-\$50 one-time fee), that lets me just stroll around its interface to customize my websites just the way I want them. But for most people, the theme that comes with Wordpress is more than adequate. Hopefully no one ever really paid for this book, because it's pretty worthless. If you don't know \*anything\* about Wordpress and this book is still free, it's worth downloading and skimming, I suppose. Frankly, you're better off messing around with the Wordpress interface yourself. Even if you buy your own website and install Wordpress, it's usually a one-click install from your website control panel. Creating a website is not rocket science any more. Well, it never was "rocket science," but it used to be a lot more painful. Thanks to the power and flexibility of Wordpress, anyone can create their website without cracking a book.', 'This book provides detailed step to step guide on how to use wordpress.org in a straight to the point manner which I prefer. If you are looking for a Tell-me-what-it-is, Show-me-how-to-do-it kind of book to start a website, this is THE book for you. I have not contacted the author but I have a gut feeling that he or she will be more than happy to entertain questions that we readers have.', "This book delivers as promised. This book is direct to the point and doesn't waste any time. I was able to follow the steps in the book to start a website for my business. WordPress is a lot easier to use than I thought, or maybe the author just makes everything seem so easy. If you want to learn WordPress yourself and easily create websites fast, then this is a proper WordPress book. This book isn't complicated and it's direct to the point which is what i was looking for.", "I have a few WordPress books, and this is the best book. The pictures are really clear, and the book is very easy to follow along with. I was able to create my WordPress website within a few days using the information in this book. I even emailed the author, and he helped me troubleshoot a few issues. If you're new to WordPress then you should download this book. You'll love it and the support from the author is great. All the information and pictures in this book are up to date and its a simple step by step system. I've told all my friends about this book.", 'Loved this book even though I had already mastered the concepts. The book was easy to understand with clear instructions that will help someone not used to WordPress', 'By design the graphical presentation along with the step by step illustrative instructions put the reader on a successful track to building a blog using Wordpress. This book entails plenty of web resources that are sensitive to the quality of the blog, consideration of your time, and cost of implementation. The author makes a good point that even if you outsource parts of these processes this book will give you an exact idea on what to expect and the implications of your choices.', 'I bought this book because I was interested in starting a blog. This book received great reviews from others so I bought it and I am glad I did. I found it easy to understand and the fact that I can follow the information given is a great help to me as I am new to blogging. I would suggest anyone read it who wants to understand how to build a website.', 'The book is well researched and is very clear in the instructions. The author gives advice on plugins and widgets that I never understood. The alternative to ask me is great and free! My website is looking better now and I am able to handle comments that look like spam. Now I am working on site optimization using the plaguing tools. I never understood how to use these tools until now. Good read and good investment for beginners like me.', 'This book is really wonderful, even if you have already created a Wordpress website. It explains concepts clearly and the instructions are easy to follow. Whether you are a beginner or not, you will find very useful information that you can apply immediately. Thanks for a job well done.', 'Please update to the latest WP 3.9[...] It will make user easier to build a website. especially the kindle version ebook you can update it easily']

[ 'Nice stories but the proselytizing got tiresome and took away from the enjoyment of the stories. The artwork is very nice and the cover is well-done.', 'I loved these stories. They were very uplifting and heartwarming . They showed the intelligence of the animals and how loyal animals are to there owners.', 'I thought "Hidalgo", "Seabiscuit", and "Black Beauty," were classic unsurpassable equine stories. Now enters, "Horses With a Mission," a fine collection of true stories about horses making an impact in the lives of everyone around them. There is Pegasus, Molly, Avenger, Piper, Rocky, Diana, Cherokee, Butch, Saki, fascinating, intelligent, spirited courageous horses demonstrating overcoming fear, getting past traumas,giving unconditional love to those who care for them, and performing amazing feats of strength, and endurance. Molly\'s visits to hospitals, nursing homes, and a summer camp for children with cancer allowing herself to be touched, stroked,offering hope, laughter and comfort, standing on three "good" legs and one prosthetic leg as an inspirational example of survival is amazing.This book is well written and packed with unique accounts of the many ways in which horses serve. The authors, the Andersons contend that every horse has a mission either as symbols of courage, wisdom, hope,forgiveness or in the entertainment arena of action, the sports field exuding athleticism, grace, and single-minded focus, - or to help us remember history, preserving the type of freedom we all aspire to attain - or offering emotional healing. I thoroughly enjoyed reading about these unique beings. Perhaps you will too and you may find yourself agreeing with the authors. You might find yourself actually dancing to the rhythm of the mighty hooves of "Horses with a Mission."ENJOY THE RIDE!', 'It was a truly inspiring, interesting book. I would recommend it to anyone who like horses and also to those who have never been around horses.', "These are stories very similar to Chick Soup HORse Lover's. I still love reading them. Mostly, I'm using it for research as I am working on a novel aobut horses and I haven't had a horse in a long time.", 'bought this book for granddaughters but read it first. it is informative about how to train and learn from horses, heartwarming.recommended it to a young lady who is just learning to ride and connect with her horse.it also shows how to deal with the death of a faithful friend.', 'This is an excellent book for anyone who loves horses, it has heart can gladly recommend it to anyone who likes a good read', 'It was a nice book but it seems to me that all horses have such missions, or are capable of being therapist, friend, doctor, teacher, and all the other things that the horses in this book are/were. The relevance of this statement to the book is that I was somewhat disappointed; I was expecting more earthshaking stories than the general wonderfulness of horses, which is a thing I have experienced myself and whole-heartedly believe. Still, I think many would enjoy the book, especially those that are willing to accept anecdotal proof of the astonishing power of horses. I do not mean to say the book was dull or stupid. Maybe it is just that I already know a horse is a miracle on four legs. It is a pleasant read though, and I would recommend it.', 'gave as a present to my wife and she loves this book very very much and will keep this one for sure', 'Great book full of very moving stories. I cried through most of them. I would recommend this book to anyone that loves horses or animals in general.', "Found this so boring and maybe a bit too detail oriented (who cares about some of the details, I thought) so didn't finish reading. I might pick up on a rainy day and finish, but I doubt it. So far what I read was not worth passing on or continuing.", "&#34;God put the horse on Earth to teach us about life and love&#34;.Words cannot describe how much I love this book. This little bundle contains quite a few remarkable horse and human love stories. This is not the average novel, though; these stories are real, and it makes it all the more enchanting to read.Each author in this book have stories to tell about how the horses they knew and loved healed them, taught them important lessons, and brought joy and hope to them all.It's an amazing and inspiring read; I highly recommend this to every avid horse lover out there, or those who simply want an amazing piece of non-fiction.", "Amazing stories of horses and humans who don't give up on each other. Enjoyable book even for those who have never owned horses.", 'Very touching book with stories about the loving and amazing animals. Gave this as a gift and the recipient loved it. Highly recommend to any horse lover.']

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["I was so disappointed with Ms. Hailstock's book. Terribly predictable and boring, 1-800 wife was not a book that I would recommend for a book club. The high of this book was that it was set in Newport Rhode Island and the description of setting and scenery was very vivid. The idea was unique in a time when most writers are covering the same topics. Ms. Hailstock should have taken another route to finish this one. Definitely a &quot;No Reader.&quot;;", "I've read other books by Ms. Hailstock and truly enjoyed them. This one just did not hit the mark. I found the reasoning behind Catherine and Jarrod dilemma weak. They could always move to another state or country for that matter. I finished the book because it did have some redeeming qualities that's why I gave it 3 stars instead of 1.", "Catherine is tired of her mother and sister trying to set her up on dates, so she decides to set up a 1-800 number to find her a husband. Everything is going fine until she receives a call from someone who knows it is her. Jarrod can't believe that Catherine is looking for a husband this way. When he approaches her for an explanation she asks him to be her husband for six months. Once they are married it is hard to hide their true feelings for one another. Shirley breaks her tradition by not writing a suspense romance. But she comes strong with a true romance novel. This book will make all the romantics smile. I hope to see more on Catherine's friend Elizabeth. Thanks Shirley for another excellent book.", "This book is excellent! If it wasn't a shame I would read it again! Shirley girl, you done good! Catherine and Jarrod are simply fabulous together and seperately. I highly recommend this book. Read it and enjoy!!", "&quot;Oh what a tangled web we weave when first we practice to deceive&quot;;, is what Catherine Carson should have remembered when she placed her 1-800 ad and Jarrod Greene should have considered before he became her willing partner in the ruse. Jarrod's childhood pranks and Catherine's constant irritation with him for them masked underlying feelings from their youth. Catherine feeling pressure from her mother and sister to get married has the perfect plan, 1-800 &quot;temporary marriage&quot;. Jarrod now back after working the last 5 years in England recognizes Catherine as the voice behind the 800 number. After a party at Catherine's sister's, Jarrod reveals he knows about her scheme it is there she expands her deception to include him, it doesn't take either of them long to realize they have deceived themselves. Masquerading in their role as friends turned lovers they soon discover the depth of those dormant emotions as they began to rise to the surface. As they both struggle with the terms of their arrangement, Jarrod is no longer able to deny his love for Catherine but she is disillusioned and afraid after her failed engagement and has no desire for a &quot;real marriage&quot;. Jarrod's attempts to win her forces them both into facing the truth about their marriage, their love and each other. I enjoyed this book, I hope to see Elizabeth and Robert as they finally accept the truth of their &quot;friendship&quot;.", 'i found this book in my high school library and i read it every year i was in high school. So i just got it for myself when i graduated from high school', 'This is a novel for those that believe love is just around the corner. What starts out as childhood teasing turns into a lifetime of true love. You will stay on the edge of your seat waiting for the couple to finally solidify the marriage. From the first kiss you will be hooked.', "Catherine Carson had a plan to get her mother and sister off her back, what she didn't expect was to fall in love. Jarrod Greene was suppose to be a temporary solution, but ended up falling in love. How these two will end up is anyboby's guess. A very intresting read.", 'I sorta liked the book. I wanted to read it for awhile, and when I read it...it turned out alright.', "HIS 1-800-WIFE is a very nice, fast read with not much of a plot. However, the writer has tremendous style and humor. She presents a highly unusual and improbable scenario, then spices it with lenghty anticipation and sensuality. This is the story of Catherine, a woman so tormented by her well-meaning family, that she'll marry for appearances' sake only, just to get them off her back. Her accomplice is handsome and successful Jarrod, who has secretly loved Catherine all of his life. The way the relationship unfolds is predictable. In fact, there's only one suprise in the entire book. HIS 1-800-WIFE is a pleasant book, but not one for the serious romance reader.", "I did enjoy this book. The entire story was enchanting and entertaining. I especially loved the way Ms. Hailstock brought the lovers together and the changes they went through which I'm sure any couple could relate to in order to stay together, but not only stay together, find true love and happiness. I'm glad in the end the couple were able to overcome the obstacles in their relationship especially after having there secret exposed. I guess if

it is meant to be it will happen..." , "Shirley Hailstock is a woman on a mission - - that mission was to create one of the best romance novels ever &quot;His 1-800 Wife&quot; is just such a novel. In the past Ms. Hailstock has generally written wonderful action-packed romance novels filled with lots of suspense/mystery but &quot;His 1-800 Wife&quot; is pure romance - - romance that will leave you breathless. I completed this novel within a 12 hour span and it definitely left me wanting more. This story of Catherine Carson installing an 800 number to find a husband &quot;in name only&quot; so that she can put a stop to her sister's and mother's matchmaking. Catherine's goal was use the 800 number as a tool in order to find a man, marry, then divorce within six months, which would result in a reprieve from her mother and sister. Unfortunately one of the callers to her 800 number is from Jarrod Greene, a man from her youth, to be exact her next door neighbor who made her life miserable as child (who at every turn plagued her young life with practical jokes and pranks which embarrassed her to no end) but Jarrod was also the brother/&quot;boy&quot; friend she never had, who had been living in England for the past five years and has just returned home. Little did Jarrod know when he called 1-800 Wife that Catherine would be the voice he hears on the answering machine. As fate would have it Catherine and Jarrod marry with the understanding that after six months each would go their separate ways and all parties would free to do as they pleased and their families would leave them alone. Unfortunately things do not always go according to plan, Catherine and Jarrod have had feelings for each other since they were children, the pranks and the jokes were just a cover and now with the two being married and thrown together in close quarters the love that for years had simmered below the surface has now exploded into a love which cannot be denied. The sparks are really flying now. This is truly a fantastic reading experience so don't pass on it cause you will miss one of truly great ones.", 'I really enjoy this author but this book was weak. The story starts with a ridiculous scenario and just gets worse. It seems as though the author changed the characters as she wrote the book. Catherine hated Jarrod from childhood, all he ever did was torment her. Then she has all these childhood memories of him coming to her rescue and being a great person. The characters, in general, were not well defined. But Shirley Hailstock is a good author otherwise!', "Catherine Carson needed a husband so her mother and sister would get off of her back. She needed to come up with a plan that would make her marriage look real, but she would only have to keep up with the charade for 6 months. After that, she could go on her merry way. Catherine sets up a 1-800 number in her home. She would scan the callers and choose the lucky man from there. Well one day she recognizes one of the voices. She couldn't put her finger on who the voice belonged to, but knew it was familiar. Catherine runs into her childhood enemy Jarrod Greene. Jarrod has been away for a while. When he speaks to her, she is reminded of the voice on her answering machine. Jarrod is indeed the caller from her 1-800 line. Catherine talks Jarrod into becoming the lucky husband. Jarrod was in love with Catherine. It seems he has been in love with her since their early teen years. He tries to prove to Catherine that maybe being married to him forever isn't too bad. His 1-800-Wife was not something you would normally see from the Mystery & Intrigue Queen Ms. Hailstock. This story was really wonderful. Jarrod and Catherine relationship seem valid. The secondary characters added to the story. You could even see a sequel in Elizabeth and Robert. My favorite Shirley Hailstock books are Whispers of Love, Legacy and Opposites Attract, novella in Island Magic was excellent too.", 'Shirley Hailstock\'s "His 1-800-WIFE" is Wonderfully Romantic. Catherine Carson has decided on plan to get her mother and her very married sister off of her case about not being married. She places a personal ad, 1-800-WIFE, in the local newspaper. She will find a man with the right credentials, get married for six months and then get a divorce. She is sure that there is some man out there who feels the same as she does about marriage and will agree to go along with her scheme. As she listens to her voice mail on her special telephone line, she is surprised to hear a man call her by name in a teasing manner. He knows her! The voice is very familiar, yet she can't place it because of the slight European accent. When Catherine attends her sisters lavish party, she is surprised to see Jarrod Greene whom she thought he was still in England. She had known Jarrod all of her life and he had teased and taunted her for that long as well. Jarrod was still as handsome as ever and as usual surrounded by women who held onto his every word. As she tries to escape, Jarrod sees Catherine and calls out to her. It was Jarrod's voice, he knew! Catherine continues to walk but he touches her

arm. This was not the touch that she remembered. This was new and unsettling. "Catherine" he says "It's great to hear your voice again." Nothing had changed, Jarrod was still teasing, but would he keep her secret? Since Jarrod had already recognized her voice Catherine tells him about her 1-800-WIFE plan, as they sit on the porch swing. She soon realizes that Jarrod does not want to get married either, and that he is her friend and he will keep her secret. "Jarrod, will you marry me?" As Catherine and Jarrod embark on their make believe honeymoon, she does not realize that Jarrod has always loved her and has his own plan to win her heart in six months. This is a wonderful love story with a great premise. Vannie(~~~)']

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[I mean it was okay. IT WAS short to me though. I liked it and all it was a good book.', "This was one of my first Great Depression books. I started reading historical fiction due to American Girl books and each story sent me on a research/related reading hunt (yes, I was one of those girls who read the historical tidbits at the end of all the books). Reading this to my sister I did realize that the story may seem a bit boring to some. Tomboy Kit is struggling to deal with the financial change around her and in her own home. The writing is as fresh and youthful as Kit typing on her typewriter. I like the idea of taking in borders that blooms in this first story. It isn't like the movie, but if you want an averaged paced heartfelt story by AG...here it is.", "didn't read this one yet, but my 7 year old step-daughter loves them. for american girl product, great value. the ones I have read are well-written and good message (be yourself, be kind to others, work hard to reach your goals, etc).", "My daughter (aged 4) and I enjoyed this book and plan to read more. We had just finished the Josefina American Girl series and really, really liked those books. While Kit is a fine story, for us, it was not as interesting as Josefina -- probably because Kit's life is so much more familiar and similar to our own. That being said, Kit is a likeable child and the book is well-written. It does teach good values. Kit learns to adjust in a positive way to change and to be a 'team player' under difficult circumstances. A positive aspect of this story is that it will give children the opportunity to ask grandparents and great-grandparents about their Depression memories.", 'If you enjoy the simple things in life, you will enjoy the simplicity in which Kit and her family lived in a very difficult time. The movie was great too. We have all the Kit books', 'The year is 1934, and nine-year-old Margaret Mildred Kittredge - better known as "Kit" to her friends and family - is going through a lot of changes. The Great Depression is taking jobs away from more and more people everyday, and in Cincinnati, Ohio, Kit's father is feeling the heat. Before long, he must sell his car dealership, and join the ranks of the unemployed surrounding him. This brings about problems, for now Kit's family must worry about making the house payments on time, and sending Kit's older brother Charlie to college. But things look up when Kit's mother comes up with the idea to turn the family's private home into a boarding house - that way they can make money without leaving the house. But Kit's unsure of whether this is a good idea, especially when a sick boy named Stirling moves in, and lands Kit in hot water with his overprotective mother, and her very own burdened mother. I read a mystery story about Kit before beginning this series, and loved her so much that I picked up the entire collection. Kit is one of the most exciting, adventurous, well-rounded, determined young character to hit the AMERICAN GIRLS collection in a long time. Her fiery personality, spirited determination, and love of writing make her an interesting character to read about. The many supporting characters such as Kit's mischievous best friend, Ruthie, and the straight-laced Charlie, Kit's older brother, truly bring the story to life, as will the many hardships that Kit and her family must face. Overall, this is a marvelous series for young girls who love history, and want to learn about the Great Depression through the eyes of a triumphant young girl. Erika Sorocco Book Review Columnist for The Community Bugle Newspaper', "Kit is definitely one of our favorite girls. We love the values of the 1930s. What a great historical read for girls who love history as mine do, or those who don't! Kit is resourceful, ambitious and a go-getter...all great characteristics for American Girls. The movie is also a great addition to your American Girl collection. This is great for unit studies for the Great Depression!", "This is another in the American Girls Short Stories series about Kit Kittredge, a

nine-year-old girl living in Cincinnati, Ohio. It is 1934, and the Great Depression is deepening. Fortunately, Kit's father has been able to keep his car dealership afloat, and her family has not had to suffer the losses so many other people have. However, disaster strikes when Kit learns that her father's dealership is now bankrupt, and he is joining the ranks of the unemployed. Instead of feeling like the center of everyone's world, Kit now finds that she must stay out of the way, and do what she can to help the entire family. This book really surprised me (so far my daughter has been reading the Kirsten books). This story is hard, but shows children that sometimes there are hardships that have to be borne, rather than simply gotten around. I enjoyed Walter Rane's illustrations, which tended to be small but plentiful. My nine-year-old daughter enjoyed this book, and I enjoyed the lesson that it taught.", "It is great I love it how about you huh? I haven't finished it yet but I hope to finish.", "I really like this book. It's super fun to read and super fun to navigate. Kit is clever and has determination. It has a 'looking back to 1934' at the end of the book. However, there are two different covers out there for this same book. Mine has a green cover. Otherwise, this is a good book to read.", 'Before I read this book I didn't even know there was a great depression! Neither of my grandparents knew anything about the great depression. I knew what hoboes were, but that was about it. Now I know all the details of the great depression. I loved reading about Kit, who is the kind of girl who impersonates Jo, from "Little Women" by Louisa May Alcott. Kit is boyish, loves baseball, books, writing, and anything boys do. Except running around screaming at the top of her lungs because she got an A on her report card. I enjoyed these books and I hope you will too.', "I read this book only because of that fact that when I was young, I absolutely loved the American Girls more than anything else in the world. And I'm glad I did, because they got me interested in history. Reading books like these will encourage young girls to move onto more challenging and realistic historical fiction as they grow older, such as the Dear America series. This book 'introduces' the newest American Girl, nine-year-old Kit Kittredge (who thought up that name, anyway?), who lives with her family in Cincinnati during the Depression. (Again, problem: the cover says the setting is 1934, the historical note says 1932. Not that little girls are going to notice.) Kit and her family are affected by the Great Depression, but her concerns are petty next to the larger problems facing most citizens of the country. Her dad loses his business. Her mom opens a boardinghouse. Kit has to give up her room to paying borders and live in the attic. Not so harsh when there were kids not much older than her living off their own wits. Kit wasn't exactly the most well-developed character, either - she's just defined as liking and disliking various things, and often acts selfish and spoiled, before suddenly realizing her mistakes. Still, I give the book five stars because it is sure to entertain the audience it is intended for.", "Despite minor historical inaccuracies beginning with the cover date, this book is a wonderful addition to all young adult fiction collections. Continuing the established tradition of the American Girls collection, this story examines historical events through the eyes of pre-adolescents who lived through pre-selected times themselves. Remaining underrepresented in our public schools during the supposedly enlightened 21st century, multicultural women's history promotion remains revolutionary for all ages. Although Kit Kittredge and her family admittedly fare okay during the Great Depression, teaching about this same time period (and imagining it) is difficult for many readers to take in because we have directly benefited from many federal and state government programs explicitly designed to prevent similar conditions. The social programs' ultimate effectivity has paradoxically left us unaware of what such conditions were really like and how people survived during these times. Public school American history's tendency to gloss over the disappointing portions and head straight into World War II (however important for its own reasons) means age-appropriate Great Depression information can be hard to come by. This situation disadvantages readers whose relatives are now deceased or unwilling to share their own experiences about this very same time period. To her credit, author Valerie Tripp never pretends the fictional protagonist and her family experience the worst living conditions (this is made quite clear throughout both the initial story and related series) during the 1930's. Hard as the Kittredge's 'new' life is, many other friends and acquaintances experience worse living conditions. Perspective and awareness of the larger world beyond one's self are timeless social skills. Having been first introduced to the series when there were only three girls (Kirsten, Samantha and Molly) I can unhesitatingly say I most closely relate to Kit's independence, admiration of famous

women such as Amelia Earhart, and journalistic drive.", 'Great story and introductory book to this American Girl classic. My daughter loved this story and loved the AG Kit doll.']

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["My wife read it and liked it. I really don't read this kind of thing so I have nothing much to say about it.", "While I've been reading Nancy Mitford's novels, I came across her younger sister's (Jessica's) autobiography, *HONS AND REBELS*. Jessica was more famous than Nancy in America because of her later ground breaking work on the American funeral industry, *THE AMERICAN WAY OF DEATH*. What is remarkable about *HONS AND REBELS* is that Jessica gives us the real story of the characters in Nancy's fiction, their family. These people are such idiosyncratic characters that it doesn't matter whether they are in fiction or non--they are absolutely fascinating plus uproariously funny. Front and center is their father, who can hold his own among any character real or imagined. If you are sick of today's politically correct, rather insipid men in charge, then you need to experience their father, the Baron. He was such an enduring character in England that upon his death in 1958, the writer of his obituary for the *TIMES* was himself confused, as he kept mixing up the real Baron with his daughters' literary creations in the obituary. Mitford also covers the way her family, like much of the British aristocracy, were all over the map about political affiliation. She became a Communist, two of her sisters became fascists and openly consorted with Hitler, one sister became the Duchess of Devonshire as part of the Old English guard. This takes us up to the beginning of World War II. J.K. Rowling, author of the *HARRY POTTER* books, considers this book one of the greatest influences upon her in becoming a writer. I would say Rowling's sense of the absurd was well kindled by Jessica Mitford plus also her family's political affiliations echo Rowling's account of the wizarding world's dealings with Lord Voldemort. For those into love stories, this is also a recounting of Jessica's whirlwind marriage to Esmond Reilly, the love of her life. There is also a very good introduction by writer Christopher Hitchens to this edition of the book.", 'Well, Jessica Mitford writes in a nice manner. But I thought that of all the Mitford sisters, her life, or rather, her book, was of lesser interest. I find the lives of Nancy and Unity intriguing. And I gathered that her husband, a cousin, was an opportunist, using her savings, and gambling away their life, in other countries, even the U.S. Also, just gambling. Book was in excellent shape.', "'I'm normal, my wife is normal, but my daughters are each more foolish than the other. What do you say about my daughters? Isn't it very sad?" Mary S Lovell has taken David Mitford's complaint to heart. She has a lot to say about his daughters. But after decades (it seems) of books on those mad, bad and sometimes dangerous-to-know girls, do we want to hear it? The six Mitford girls pursued lives which are footnotes to 20th-century history: Nancy, the socialist aristocrat, gentle satirist of the society she yet delighted in; Unity, conceived in the Ontario town of Swastika, destined to become Hitler's pet; Diana, whose marriage to Oswald Mosley set her at the fringes of acceptability; Decca, who ended up as a fiery Communist; migr in California; Pam, the country girl who married a scientist and lived quietly in Gloucestershire; and Debo, who declared her intention, and carried out the act, of marrying a duke. By drawing on new sources, Lovell presents a fresh version of the Mitford story. She fleshes out "Muv" and Farve" - the fictional Uncle Matthew and Aunt Sadie of Nancy's novels - and adds to our understanding of their progeny. David Mitford, "the most handsome man of his generation" according to James Lees-Milne, is as eccentric as his fictional portrait in *The Pursuit of Love*. He did regard almost all his daughters' suitors as "sewers"; but the word was Tamil, "soor", meaning pig. His wife, Sydney, achieves a *Daily Sketch* headline, "Peeress Saves Ha'pence", for her economies over home laundry (she used paper napkins).', 'Wodehouse always averred that he based all his characters (Bertie and chums) on actual characters he had known coming of age in an England roughly contemporaneous with the one Jessica (Decca) Mitford chronicles here. People, even ardent fans, have tended toward the skeptical side regarding Wodehouse's claim. This memoir should lay much of this skepticism to rest. Decca, her sisters and extended family come across as nothing so much as non-fiction Wodehouse - No, not an oxymoron! Above all, this memoir is full of the beauty, eccentricity, insouciance and joy of youth



which comes to know sadness and tragedy all too soon. The only way to effectively convey the rum atmosphere of the rural gentry in which Decca was nurtured - now completely vanished from England - is to proffer some select passages. Here, for example, is the family wending their privileged way to the parish church on a typical Sunday: "Every Sunday morning, rain or shine, we stumped off down the hill with Nanny, governess, Miranda, several dogs, Boud's goat, Enid, her pet snake, and my pet dove. Some of the graves in Swinbrook churchyard were conveniently surrounded by high railings for better preservation and privacy. These made good cages for the assorted animals, whose loud yelps, cooing and baaing blended nicely with the lusty voices of the village choir and effectively drowned out most of the ten-minute sermon." And we have eccentric Uncles instead of Wodehouse's eccentric Aunts, but again, real ones: "Uncle Tommy presided as magistrate at the local police court, and in this capacity doled out his own ideas of justice to the local citizenry. He was particularly proud of having given a three months' jail sentence to a woman driver who accidentally ran her car into a cow on a dark night: 'Clap 'em in the brig! That's one way of keeping these damn' women off the road.'" I'm afraid that such options are no longer open to us, fellows! Of course, most of this book is given to Decca's break with her Wodehousian upbringing, her elopement with Esmond Romilly and ensuing adventures in Spain, the time back in England in the commune on Rotherhithe Street (which, curiously, was the only part of the book which could have been set in England during the 80's when I was an adolescent - just mix in loud music and illicit drugs) and their final idyllic excursion to America. There's a piece on American and British English which is priceless. Americans, you do pronounce your "t" s as "d" s without being aware of it. Don't believe me? - Say "thirty-three" quickly, without thinking! - But that's alright; you remain a much friendlier people and more open society, as Decca and Osmond found. The ending is circumspect, as befits the onset of war and Osmond's death in it. And, of course, there's much to and fro amongst the Mitfords and their biographers about just how scrupulously honest Decca has been here. But the intrepid reader should put such quibbles aside. As Jessica Mitford puts it here: "It is perhaps futile to try to interpret the actions of another - one may be so completely wrong;" And this memoir is so filled with sparkling actions, enchanting circumstances and the wild joys as well as tumbles of any youth worth the having, that I can't imagine any reader not taking delight in it. --- I can't think of any laud higher for such a book.' "Every minute spent reading Jessica Mitford tends to be thoroughly enjoyable. I couldn't help falling in love with Esmond Romilly a little myself in these pages. I tore through the account of their runaway marriage and whirlwind adventures and surprised myself a little by bursting into tears at the end, which doesn't often happen. It's one of those books that seemed much shorter than it really was. Couldn't help turning the pages at a rapid pace even while I didn't really want it to end. The dismal picture of English aristocratic country life and the politics leading up to Britain's entry into World War II were quite illuminating as well. Highly recommended.", 'Hons and Rebels, a memoir of the life of the "commie" Mitford sister, Jessica, details the author's life from her childhood in rural England up until the time she lived in Miami in the 1940s. The Mitford clan of six sisters (Nancy wrote *The Pursuit of Love* and *Love in a Cold Climate*) and one brother was an unusual one, prone to playing tricks upon one another and outsiders. Jessica grew up to embrace the ideals of the communist party, while her sister Unity became a Fascist, hobnobbing with Hitler. Jessica then ran away with and married her cousin Edwin Romilly, later moving to the United States. It's a brilliant memoir, poignant and funny at the same time. Although Jessica's not always the most sympathetic character, she's always witty, touching her story every now and then with a hint of irony. Jessica describes everything in painstaking detail, from the Cotswold countryside to certain conversations she had with various people. The memoir is evocative of the time period in which Jessica lived in.', 'The Mitfords, the six daughters of Baron Redesdale, were inescapable fixtures of England's cultural life in the Thirties; as their mother noted, she needed only pick up a newspaper to see invariably a headline about "Peer's daughter" and she'd know one of them was in trouble. Eccentric, funny, intelligent and lively, one became a novelist (Nancy), one became a fascist (Diana), one became a countrywoman (Pamela), one became a Nazi (Unity), and one became a duchess (Deborah). The second to youngest, Jessica, became a communist and then a famous muckraking journalist, and wrote *THE AMERICAN WAY OF DEATH* as well as this very funny memoir of growing up Mitford.

Given almost no education while being raised in Gloucestershire and London, she eloped with Churchill's nephew Esmond Romilly to Spain, and then found work with him in America as the war began across the Atlantic. The memoir gives a fascinating account of what it was like to live as what her sisters dismissively term "a ballroom pink" in the Thirties, but is most memorable, of course, for its detailing of her sisters' hilarious observations about class, snobbery, sex and one another: when it is announced their King is going to marry an American with the unprepossessing name of Wallis Simpson, for example, the sisters refuse to believe it ("That cannot be her real Christian name!").', 'Though she was born into a wonderfully eccentric upper class English family, Jessica Mitford was set on escaping--she started a "running away" savings account at Drummond's Bank in London when she was twelve. At nineteen she eloped with her rebel cousin and they ran away together to the Spanish Civil War--an event that was Huge Big News at the time. Two of her sisters were friends with Hitler, and on hearing what Jessica had done even the poster child for evil was scandalized. (Well, that might have had something to do with her communist politics.)It's hard not to be captivated by this memoir--Jessica Mitford stopped at nothing to follow her dreams, and so is simultaneously both inspiring and shocking. She was smart and funny, but seemed to give little thought to how her out of bounds actions and petty larcenies would affect others. From reading other Mitford books I know her sisters took issue with some of her facts, and there is a too-good-to-be true quality to parts of the book that's completely forgivable because without them the book wouldn't be as lively or fun. It's maybe telling that, as Jessica reports, her husband regaled some their new American friends with truth-embellished versions of their adventures--to improve the stories, she says. There is a fascinating inner reflection in the last few pages where Jessica admits that though she and her young husband, Esmond Romily, believed they were entirely "self-made", free agents who had totally escaped any taint of their English aristocratic upbringing, their impatience, carefree intransigence, and supreme self-confidence could be easily traced to their backgrounds. Jessica Mitford ends this mainly happy book before her husband dies while fighting in World War Two. A great read.', 'If you ever think things in our world are messed up, check how we got here . . . the road was rough and sometimes perilous.', 'For those interested in the Mitford family and Jessica in particular this is a must read. It is full of sometimes touching and other times amusing, but always true, I believe, stories of her family, especially her sisters, friends, and others who cross her path. It gives us an insight into the life and times of an era of British aristocratic family life that is long gone. I also liked the fact that there is an introduction by Christopher Hitchens - a personal favorite.', 'Several things about this book were interesting. How alien to our current sensibilities for someone to want to go to school so badly, but have their parents consider it an unnecessary frivolity. Mitford also gives a real sense of what the lead-up to WWII was like. Again, I was fascinated that up until the Nazis invaded France, it wasn't clear if England would fight the Nazis or the Soviets. How strange sounding. And that some in the English upper classes admired Hitler ("We could do with Hitler in this country"). Wow, I didn't expect that. There were some problems with Mitford's biography. I really wanted more information on what happened to Boud and the rest of the British fascists once the war started. Secondly, Esmond's death is literally nothing more than a footnote, near the end of the story, which I thought was rather quickly brought to a close. No information as to what Mitford was up to during and after the war? I almost expected a sequel to cover the period from 1940 to the 60's.', "If you like Nancy Mitford's *Love in a Cold Climate*, you will love this book. This is the real story, told from the perspective of Jessica Mitford and is an absolute pleasure to read.", 'This book is where, like so many before me, my obsession with the Mitfords began. Mythic and absorbing and entertaining and wonderful.', "I haven't finished reading this book, yet. Sometimes the descriptions of the upper class is very funny. Their 'education' the girls got was shameful according to our standards. Some of Jessica's sisters were really odd and she herself, was quite the rebel.", 'A view into the always fascinating Mitford family written by family member, and best-selling author, Jessica Mitford. The personal observations about the totally diverse life choices made by the sisters boggles the mind and confounds the senses.']

[I don't often give a negative review but this one deserves it. I was very disappointed in this book, which I'd expected to provide new data that answered legitimate questions about pre-dynastic Egypt. There are a number of them, including from whence the classical culture came, when it arrived, where writing originated, etc. I expected discussions of climatic changes, the recent discoveries of settlements in the western desert, an ancient burial that exhibited what appeared to be among the first real embalmings in the area, etc. A lot of research has gone on in Egypt, particularly its oases regions, and I had hoped for a book that brought some of the data together in a coherent and meaningful way. I didn't get it. It seemed promising on first reading some of the chapters, and I even made an effort to suspend disbelief enough to gain some new perspective; the author just took a few too many liberties with my capacity to believe. This is a good book for anyone interested in aliens founding human civilizations, for followers of the Atlantis legend, or for those who think our ancestors knew "something we don't," etc. I'm not. The author sort of lost me when he started talking about some standing stones in the Egyptian western desert as providing information about the comparative recessional velocity of certain distant stars in the constellation of Orion. Not to mention the really stunning information that the Great Pyramid of Giza was actually not a burial chamber but some sort of transistor and power station that produced electricity. The book reminds me a lot of Erich von Däniken's *Chariots of the Gods*, or *Twilight of the Gods: The Mayan Calendar and the Return of the Extraterrestrials*, or Immanuel Velikovsky's *Worlds in Collision*, both of whom made wonderful light reading but didn't do much for history, religion or astrophysics. (I remember reading a book by Carl Sagan that said he told an historian he was impressed by the history of Velikovsky but not by the physics, and that person said he'd been impressed by the physics but not by the history!) Here again, anyone with any degree of understanding of both fields will smell a distinct odor in these pages! I suppose one should have suspected this by virtue of the author's vita. He is "a software developer and historical researcher with particular interest in how religious texts may serve as eyewitness accounts to historical events [from the cover]." While I do not mind reading well researched history by a journalist, even an amateur, I expect more than an attempt to write something different that panders to popular entertainment. I suppose I should have understood the genre the author was writing from the subtitle: "Egypt's Mysterious Prehistory." Lest anyone think I am unwilling to entertain alternative hypotheses, I have read Schoch's work on the sphinx and am willing to accept an alternative date to the features present providing others find similar supporting results, and it would appear that not many have. In fact, it would appear that there are now several theories as to how the sphinx became so eroded. I await a verdict. Since I have a nearly complete degree in geology, an MA in ancient history (I was a straight A student in Egyptian hieroglyphics), an interest in cosmology and physics, have lived in Arizona, Egypt, and Saudi Arabia which gives me a degree of understanding of these arid environments, and have seen the sphinx many times, I'm all ears when it comes to ideas! Though I find the subject interesting on many levels, so far the historians still have my vote on the subject. Similarly Mr. Malkowski's other ideas regarding history leave me a little surprised and doubtful. Mr. Malkowski tends to stretch his data to extremes. Approaching it with preconceived ideas, he finds what he's looking for; this is particularly apparent when he deals with the lithic remains at Nabta Playa. As other astronomers have often said of interpretations of Stonehenge and other early megalithic structures, you can find whatever you decide to find. Particularly in this instance, once the author defines what he wants to find, he then chooses the "age" at which this is most likely to have been, then decides that the early builders must have had this knowledge and built the configuration accordingly. This is very circular reasoning. Furthermore, it denigrates the actual accomplishments of our ancestors. It wasn't good enough apparently to have survived massive climate changes? It wasn't good enough that they created some pretty astounding foundations for later civilization? Not for the author. For him they must have understood high tech astronomy and used electricity. They did a lot and they did it by using their heads and available human energy. Technology and cultural advancements proceed in tandem. This is evident even in a popular series like James Burke's *Connections*, and *Connections 1* (5 - Disc Set). To diminish the opposing view in the reader's estimate, the author tends to use

emotive words. He denigrates the standard view as "conventional," their objections as "fevered," or the new ideas as "an academics worst nightmare." This could easily suggest that there is a collusion to prevent alternate ideas from being aired which isn't the case. Any archaeologist worth his salt would love to prove the Great Pyramid was a power station or something exotic--talk about immediate tenure and wildly lucrative publication rights!!!--but the data just aren't there. In general I doubt that the phalanx of creditable scientists and archeologists are in anyway intimidated by the findings the author cites in favor of some of his observations. Like most of the sciences--and even a social science like archaeology partakes hugely of the sciences these days--the proof is in the original data and in finding further evidence that supports it. Even Dr. Schoch's discussion of the sphinx data is proposed as a hypothesis to be discussed and supported or refuted. That's how science is supposed to be done. I give it a two for entertainment value only. 'This book is about the origins of the ancient Egyptian culture. It includes such issues as the erosion derived age of the Sphinx, the possible use of Khufu's Pyramid as a power plant, the Mediterranean valley culture theory, a Mayan origin speculation, a general stone age Mother Goddess society, the "Osiris" legend told via numerology (i.e. not really via general mysticism) and some other issues referenced. Over all, the inclusion and lack of topics appears to be quite arbitrary, resulting from the specific books the author had read rather coincidentally. As such, he focuses on these some half a dozen books, some of which are not that incredibly recent. Rarely does it become clear, whether the author/compiler actually agrees with the books he is recounting. Occasionally, he is even contradicting "himself" this way, apparently at least some times involuntarily. The very detailed start on the age of the Sphinx starts promising, actually updating that debate, not only re-narrating the respective other book, referring to the counter arguments and counter counter findings. At other times, the author failed to update his sources. For example the 19th (!) century book on the supposed Mayan origin of Egyptian culture. He didn't even include the 1970s classic "update" They Came Before Columbus: The African Presence in Ancient America, which is actually reversing the connection and that much more convincing. A natural reversing, as Egyptian culture gets dated ever more ancient, while Mayan culture stays as young as it is by comparison. It would have to be the preceding Olmecs to start with, but even they are too young. He puts that theory in question at the end of that chapter, yet, he is not really doing that issue a service either. Even by just referencing other books, this doesn't get clear in every instance and most certainly it doesn't excuse not correcting wrong assumptions or putting them forward himself. In this example, a Mayan queen's name, "Icin", meaning "Little Sister", would have morphed into "Isis" of Egypt. The meaning doesn't make any sense in the Egyptian context to begin with, but the major flaw is that the Egyptians never called Auset/Aset/Ast etc. "Isis". That was the much later Greek rendering of her name... Referenced Thor Heyerdahl proved the crossing of the ocean(s) all right. TO America, not FROM, which is a difference in chosen re-built ancient vessels and currents. The letter "m" is supposed to derive from a Mayan version. However, in reality, it is clearly derived from the hieroglyphic Egyptian word for "sea". In other European languages the sea is still called "mare", "Meer" etc. The "m" represented the wavy seawater surface. Yet Malkowski is doing a better and more sound job than the in some respects quite similar Technology of the Gods: The Incredible Sciences of the Ancients by David Hatcher Childress. The latter is more concerned with sensationalism. Which becomes obvious, when both books extensively directly or indirectly quote the same book, The Giza Power Plant : Technologies of Ancient Egypt. Hatcher headlines (and nothing else in this matter) that an H-bomb destroyed the supposed machinery inside the pyramid, while Malkowski elaborates that by that the gas hydrogen is referred to, which supposedly was pyramid-inherently used for chemical-physical processes, potentially igniting during an earthquake. Though I have to say, as intriguing as this theory sounds in general, as quoted in both books it lacks convincing evidence, but most certainly no amount of speculation. Which is always necessary to propel us forward in eventual knowledge - knowing that some speculation on the way will turn out to have been just that. I still haven't read, what exactly was supposed to get powered by in ancient Egypt and why any other pyramid canNOT be used for this theory... Also the Mediterranean valley culture theory is more convincingly presented in "Before the Pharaohs". However, not fully. There are significant differences between the Strait of Gibraltar and the Bosphorus the author is carelessly equating. The former

wasn't existing the last time more than 5.3 million years ago (that's more than 26 times the amount of time humans dwell on Earth). It's respective (dis)connections are a result of plate tectonics. The gap is 13 km (8 miles) at it's narrowest point and the ground level is plate edge ocean floor, between 300 and 900 meters (some 1,000 - 3,000 feet) deep. The Bosphorus on the other hand didn't exist before the end of the last more severe ice age: Melting ice made a river bed deeper and wider, then the rising sea level pushed through that river from the other way. It is 30 km (some 19 miles) long, but at places only 700 m (some 2,300 feet) wide and only 36 - 124 m (118 - 407 feet) deep. It is NOT representing the boundaries of plates, as the CURRENT European-Asian borders are nothing, but political constructs. True is that the sea level was much lower and as culture(s) usually settle at ports, there are a lot of ruins under water now. (Which will be the same case scenario with our culture soon.) The scenario illustrated in this book is highly exaggerated. In reality, the already existing Mediterranean cultures stretched a bit further into what today is under water. There wasn't this much land space during human times for an entirely different culture in some sort of huge valley. Under water ruins are true for other places on Earth, such as in western India. Flood stories are true not only for the selectively depicted "Old Known World" societies in this book, but also e.g. for ancient Australia. It may have been a tsunami of any possible source (earth quake, vulcano, meteor or: melted continental ice water as in a huge sea like lake breaking into the ocean at once, such as happened via Canada). In other words: We should stay with the existing land masses for theories of ancient cultures or if not, then at least address the geological evidence such as in this paragraph to make such theories at least potentially viable. By the way, there are ancient(-derived) maps in existence which must have been (originally) made during the very ancient times this book is talking about. So yes, those very ancients were much more sophisticated than their descendents. Those maps indeed depict a lower sea level - one that is consistent with what would have to be expected, i.e. no wild exaggerations. Read and see Maps of the Ancient Sea Kings: Evidence of Advanced Civilization in the Ice Age. There are books by specialists on special issues. They know, what they are talking about and the progressive ones undertake career killer science projects themselves with an open mind to gain ever more knowledge. And yes, once in a while, it is necessary for someone to put all those books in a holistic picture. This book is neither by such a specialist, nor a researcher other than researching books and neither really succeeding in synthesizing the latter. Which becomes clear at several points when the author of 2006 uses outdated sources with NO updates. For example, he is writing about the Venus of Dolní Věstonice. Supposedly in Czechoslovakia. But that is only true from the time his source book was written. That country doesn't exist anymore. Today, it's Czechia and the town's new name is Okres Bečkov. Yet, when the Venus was found, the country was Moravia. This may not really matter, however, the following does: The author entangles himself helplessly with the Homo sapiens issue. According to his respective source books he is correct in some chapters, but not in others. There must have been an old source, apparently still addressing a supposed "Homo sapiens neanderthalensis". Today, we know that the Neanderthals are a bit further related to us. But the confusion in this book arises, when the author avers e.g. that Homo sapiens first appeared in Europa, later in Africa. The Neanderthals (by the way stretching into geological Africa, i.e. today's "Middle East") really appeared in Europe, however, they were a variation only of Homo erectus, first appearing in Africa. Today's humans (Homo sapiens sapiens, sometimes abbreviated by dropping one "sapiens") appeared first in Africa and moved into Europe much later as well. The reader has to know all this and more in order not to jump to terribly wrong conclusions by reading this book. Sometimes the author may have phrased his sentences sloppy enough only to involuntarily insinuate a quite Eurocentrist (and wrong) picture, as in other chapters he is less confusing about this. Speaking of which, occasionally, Malkowski enters the racist path. Describing some facial features as delicate, some skeletal structures as graceful. As in opposition to "robust and archaic" (we all know that this is still a certain euphemism), or the "more primitive human type". Guess, who is meant respectively! He is talking about races, uses the N-word and indeed combines that into the "N\*\*\*\*\* race". (In reality, there aren't any races and skull measurements should be handled with care.) That gives food for thought for a potential, maybe involuntary bias influencing his theories. The bottom line is: Theories, even speculations are important, yet they should be worked through better

than in this book, amount to more than a few circumstantial evidence scenarios and be void of folk etymology. Neither is the book well structured nor consistently up to date for 2006. The most important map provided does show hardly any locality described, which would have been especially helpful as these are sites not easily found elsewhere. Yet, some parts were interesting to read and incite further research. For an essential overstanding in the ancient ancients being more sophisticated than the later ancients, one doesn't have to search for cultures as of yet unknown and entirely buried beneath sea level, but look into the issue of cyclical/spiralling history (instead of linear in terms of progress, with a catastrophe). For that read *Lost Star of Myth And Time*.', 'Arrived quickly and fed into a research project that I am conducting. Excellent questions and surprisingly a lot of sound answers. Good reading if you question the status quo of things.', 'Presents compelling evidence of far older age of the Sphinx than traditionally assumed. Very interesting.', 'The previous reviewer had a very reasonable complaint that the book was difficult to wade through because of the sheer volume of material devoted to seemingly irrelevant evidence. I would counter that many of the other books which delve into the prehistory of Egypt are sorely lacking in evidence. Saying something like "Aliens from Atlantis founded Egypt" would need a LOT of evidence to back it up, but a book which claims that would likely never go there. All of Malkowski's evidence may be difficult to wade through, but IMHO it's necessary if you're looking for a solid argument rather than a flight of fancy. Malkowski's book is also one of the few that begins to make sense of the mysterious prehistory of ancient Egypt and its environs (like Nabta Playa). His conclusion that a Cro-Magnon civilization preceded that of Egypt by thousands of years would be a flight of fancy, were it not for the volume of evidence he presents.', 'Theories that change what we know of as history are often interesting, if outlandish. Sometimes, they're just too incredible to believe; other times, they have a pretty good whiff of plausibility, making the book presenting these theories just that much more intriguing. Before the Pharaohs is an example of the latter. Almost fatally hindered by an extremely slow and boring first sixty pages, the book picks up steam and becomes a fascinating look at the secrets of the pyramids, the Sphinx, and Egypt in the time before recorded history begins. Malkowski takes a wide array of theories and ties them all together. He never hides what current theory is, instead presenting his own (or, quite often, others that he agrees with) in a way that makes the reader think about this all in a new light. With a couple of missteps, the book continues on this high level, never quite losing me once it had worked to reel me in. Malkowski begins the book by looking at the Sphinx. "Aha!" I thought. "Starting at the top and then working his way down." No, actually, he didn't. Instead, we get several pages of in depth analysis of erosion and how the differing levels of such indicate that the Sphinx must be older than is currently claimed. There is no way that the erosion the Sphinx has suffered, both via wind and water, could have happened in the period of time estimated. This is fine in itself, but half-way through the chapter I just wanted to grab him by the throat and say "we get it! Get on with it!" Instead, we get diagrams showing the different levels of the Sphinx and how far the erosion would go. What's even worse, one of the two experts that Malkowski spends a lot of time detailing actually claims that rainfall runoff could account for the Sphinx being built from 3000 B.C.E to 2500 B.C.E. This dating, of course, falls within the current projections. So what was the point of this? The other scientist that Malkowski heavily details claims that erosion and weathering on the Sphinx would mean that it must have been built between 7000 B.C.E and 5000 B.C.E. This could be an important point, but to begin the book with it? The next chapter is on climate change, as he tells us that the Sahara desert went through three cycles of climate change, getting wetter and then more arid and then back again, between 10,000 B.C.E. and 2800 B.C.E. He gives us much more than we could ever want to know about this, and then goes back to erosion rates, this time with graphs and tables! He uses all of this information to disprove the 3000-2500 dating for the Sphinx, stating that the other theory must be correct. He may very well be right, but by this time, I was ready to close my eyes. This was the most difficult beginning of a book I've had to get through in a while. Then, however, everything turned around. Malkowski begins talking about astronomy, time, and the various cultures in the Sahara desert area. He claims that ancient timekeeping was a lot more advanced than currently believed, with information on a circle of stones and various monoliths at a place called Nabta Playa, and he says that these could easily be star charts, based on the study of where the stars would have been positioned back then. It's

fascinating stuff, but what's even better is the extensive theory (and acoustical testing to "prove" it) that the pyramids were actually an ancient power source using the Earth's vibrations, channeled through mechanisms within the pyramids to produce electrical power. He states that none of the Great Pyramids have ever been found to contain funerary items, despite the fact that they are widely considered to be tombs. All tombs have actually been elsewhere, and thus they must be something else. It's an extremely interesting theory, and one that he supports well. He also, later on in the book, connects the Maya and the Egyptians, but not in the normal way. Instead, he uses a theory that some of the Mayans actually came to Egypt and settled down there, a trio of the great royal family actually ending up being represented by the three main Egyptian gods (Osiris, Isis, and Seth). Some might see one of the problems with *Before the Pharaohs* being that all of the theories in the book are actually somebody else's. Malkowski spends a great deal of time on each one, which makes the "Notes" pages interesting, with lots of "ibid" notations as he uses the same source. Thus, he doesn't provide a lot of corroborating evidence. For example, the Great Pyramid as electrical generator theory is all put forth by Christopher Dunn, a machinist who has studied Egyptian ruins for a great many years (he even has his own book, which is Malkowski's source for most of this, called *The Giza Power Plant*). His Mayan theories are based on a somewhat discredited archeologist named Le Plongeon, though he goes to great lengths to show that Le Plongeon's work was wildly misinterpreted and Malkowski tries to rehabilitate him. This does hurt the credibility of the book in my eyes, as it would have been nice to have a few more people actually agreeing with the theories he's presenting. Despite all that, the book really kept my attention once I got through the beginning, with Malkowski tying it all together at the end. For a while, I thought he was giving us divergent theories and asking us to pick one, as they didn't seem to go together, but he does succeed in making them mesh. He tells an interesting tale, and if you like this sort of thing, *Before the Pharaohs* will definitely be your cup of tea. Just don't give up on it. I probably would have, but I soldiered through and was rewarded. David Roy, 'The first part of the book deserves five stars; the second part gets one star, so I averaged them. In the first part of the book, the author explains science hypotheses and terms very well so that anyone can understand them. In the second part, he brings in the Maya (kicking and screaming?), and the book gets stupid. The pyramid-building Egyptians and the ancient Maya lived in different times and places and had nothing to do with each other.', 'agree on Sphinx comments by other readers. What's the big deal? it was obviously a big rock that by a freak of nature looked like a lion laying down ... then eroded away. Later, a pharaoh came along and recarved the head to look like him when he built a pyramid. It is obvious because ... the sphinx's head is far too small proportionally for the body, and the feet are way too big for the body too. Everything else in Egypt is perfectly proportioned and carved (including 3 massive perfectly proportioned pyramids nearby) ... except the no.1 icon the sphinx ????. It's a no-brainer (yes I've been there). All these books are much the same - ancient people were every bit as smart as us now ... they just didn't have petrol and electricity ... could you imagine our modern "advanced" society if overnight we switched off the energy sources ... we'd be back in "prehistory" ourselves overnight ... and it wouldn't be "mysterious", "Great book to make you think. Need an open mind. Otherwise, you'll won't like it.", 'As others have pointed out, EM's books tend to be compilations of others' research and often the sources being used are either inaccurate, or hysterical assumptions performed by others in the earlier days of archeology. Case in point, this book leans heavily upon the conclusions of Le Plongeon and the supposed contacts between them (via Queen Moo) and the Egyptians. Le Plongeon even goes as far to assert that the knowledge of Atlantis came to the Mayans and THEN to Egypt. Ignoring complete historical inconsistencies and impossibilities Le Plongeon continued unabated. (Nevermind that the direction of writing between the Mayans and the Egyptians is completely reversed as one kindergarten clue.) EM takes Le Plongeon's thoroughly discredited conclusions and entrenches them deeply, and repeatedly, into this book. Like I said, this is not an original work, no original synthesis. EM just quotes and cites from Le Plongeon, Chris Dunn, Schoch, and so on. You can get all the information first hand from their books. There is increasingly less value today from books that just condense a few hours of Internet time and present nothing new. This is one of those books. This book also reminds me more of stories of ancient civilizations going around at Le Plongeon's time. Back then, before any discipline was injected into

archeology, any wild story was as good or better than an accurate one. Be prepared to do some heavy filtering if you are going to read through this book.', "It is a facinating book. It doesn't overwhelm you with technical information. Best of all there is no wild speculation on how the pyramids may have been built. Its just a good down to earth explanation of the prehistory of the egyptian empire.", 'I wish this book had a table of contents, so I could go ahead to another chapter that maybe presented data besides erosion data on the Sphinx that supported this previous advanced civilization before the pharaohs. I needed a book for a trip and I downloaded this book before reading the whole sample. So far no physical data on this advanced civilization. Maybe they were aliens and dropped in from outer space?', 'This is an excellent read and compiles in one place a myriad of facts and food for thought. It leads one to easily conclude that the official position of egyptologists for decades on who built the Giza pyramids, Sphinx, Sphinx temple and other such "mystery" structures such as at Abydos, is basically fairy stories once true experts (geologists and engineers) weigh in. On the negative side it is annoying when some basic facts in the book are wrong such as the Trilathon stones at Baalbek in Lebanon. These largest worked stones in the world are not granite, they are limestone - the Baalbek quarry is limestone!! Also since the 1990s it has been known that the "pregnant woman" stone still lying in the quarry at around 1000 tons is not the largest stone. The largest (and VERY similar) stone discovered nearby in the second quarry is around 1200 tons. To see both of these stones Google "Ralph Ellis Baalbek" and then click on the first two results. You will see this guy (Ralph) standing on the two stones.', "Before the Pharaohs: Egypt's Mysterious Prehistory provides fascinating details of an advanced Egyptian civilization which actually built the great pyramids as geomechanical power plants, long before later pharaohs used them as mere burial tombs. Diagrams in the book help with a somewhat perplexing explanation of how these power plants worked. I have to admit I did not completely understand them. But according to the author, the tunnels and chambers inside the pyramids indicate a far more sophisticated culture than Egyptologists originally believed. This information, will only add to speculation that interplanetary visitors may have been responsible for such futuristic knowledge. Review written by Regis Schilken Author of: Tears of Deceit Other reads: The Complete Pyramids: Solving the Ancient Mysteries The Secret Power of Pyramids Voyages of the Pyramid Builders", 'I did not dislike the book. But there is more information on limestone and rocks for example than could hold my attention.', "This book covers a lot of territory and brings up some extremely interesting information. I wish it had a few more photos of sites and comparisons but it's engrossing and gives a wide view of prehistory."]

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['Contractual Obligation is everything Ive come to expect from Tymber Dalton. Yummy manage with a kinky undertone and real to life emotions, tone. A must read. A. Parr', 'Just as good as her other reads. I really enjoy all of the books Tymber Dalton writes. She is epic.', 'The book is about a sexy CEO who needs a "boyfriend" to get her father off of her back. She finds what she is looking for with Doug. He is desperate for money so his parents won't lose their house. He makes a choice between saving his parents home and his boyfriend. He was desperate and made the only choice he could under the circumstances. Ok...His choice was reasonable because he loved his parents and didn't want them on the street. Yes, he loved Tate, but he could always get back together with Tate after a year. In the meantime he falls in love with Harper. When Tate finds out about the arrangement and falls for Harper, he decides to do whatever necessary to make her realize that the three of them can be together. Ok if you do not like menage then don't read this book to begin with and if you don't like male on male sex scenes don't read this book. That being said the book is HOT HOT HOT. I loved every minute of it I really love all the books by this author that I have read. However there were a scene or two in the book that were rushed and could have been drawn out more. Which is why i gave the book 4 stars instead of 5 but it is an Amazing book all things considered.', "Will the real Tymber Dalton please stand up? B/C this book feels more like a ghost writer or cheap knock off instead of her usual engrossing writing style. Had been looking forward to



reading this book for quite awhile and finally acquired a print copy...unlikable heroine, unengaging plot, and awkward writing. Ordered it online, this book wouldn't have passed the 10 page rule in a brick & mortar bookstore (ie read the first 10 pages prior to purchase). Don't think I got through the second chapter before setting it aside and removing all Tymber Dalton books from my wishlist, stepping off this author now.", 'Tymber did it again!Harper is my newest idol! Combine her with Doug and Tate and they really are the perfect trio.I love how Tymber gives each of her characters their own definition and the way she does it allows us to fully enjoy each one. The story flowed so smoothly that before I knew if I was done (sad face). I hope she does more with these characters one day.I got some of everything from this book. I chuckled, teared and sighed (from those hotties Doug and Tate). A great read for someone that likes an enjoyable story with the heat rating up there.', 'This story was ok. Everything just seemed too easy. He has to break up with his boyfriend for the job and immediately falls for the girl. She finds out about him being bi, sends him out of the country and tracks down the ex-boyfriend and falls for him. Then first guy comes back into town, they guys hook back up and then tell her of course they will all be together. Just a little too pat for me.Check out the Triple Trouble series, or the Bight books. They are much better examples of her genius!', "I always enjoy the corporate woman who doesn't have time to date, lives and breathes her work until that special someone or -someones in this case- comes along and throws a wrench into her plans plot. You know the one - where the woman is a shark in the board room and can't wait to get home to be dominated in the bedroom. What starts for Harper as a business arrangement to get her father off her back ends with her falling hard for her hired assistant.Doug, one of the main guy characters in the story is so caring, supportive, and loving, I would like to think there are men in this world that would give up everything and make the sacrifices he made for his family. However, don't think because he comes across as passive that he's not full of passion, because once he enters the bedroom his DOM personality quickly takes over.There is some emotion in the book, like when Doug struggled to leave Tate and yet couldn't tell him why, my heart broke for him. I'm just glad Tate had the balls to go after the guy he loved because it was so obvious they were meant to be together.There are so many things to like in this book. I mean, who wouldn't want two men who dote on you day and night? This is a fast, easy to read m&eacute;nage story with lots of HOT lovin' that will leave your heart warm, your panties wet, and a smile on your face.Kimber gives Contractual Obligation 3.5 stars:", 'It was well written and the characters fully developed. The sex scenes are explosive but not lewd! It was a great story', "I love Tymber Dalton and her erotic m&eacute;nage writing. This book follows Harper who is a CEO alpha by day but submissive wanna be at night. She hires a financially desperate bisexual man (Doug) as her assistant under the guise of foiling her father's attempts to fix her up. The game takes a right turn when Doug's boyfriend shows up unexpectedly and sparks fly between all three. And I'm talking sexual sparks. While I loved the story overall, I had a hard time believing the pace at which Harper falls into bed with both of the guys. That's the reason for the lower than usual rating for a wonderful author. Other than that, it was an enjoyable read.", "Tymber did it again!! She sucked me right into a book and I was up most of the night reading it! I loved the story line- Father gives workaholic daughter an ultimatum and she, being uber-smart and resourceful, figures out a way around it... What she didn't figure into the equation was the feelings she would have for assistant she hired.. The story line had just the right amount of twist to it to make it unique.I think that Tymber is really good at bringing emotions to life with the written word. For example: the emotional rollercoaster that Doug was on when he accepted Harper's employment requirements, the vulnerability of Harper underneath the steel exterior, the love that Tate had for Doug when he came after him, and the paternal protectiveness of Harrison and also of Gorden, her former assistant whose family helped raise her.The emotions were running high, the sex was amazing, and I couldn't put this book down.. Well done Tymber!"]

1625104944

[She is a hero to us all, and words are useless to describe her. She is a walking, talking miracle. I can only wish her years of love and compassion.', "I really enjoyed this book in the beginning and

middle. There was a lot of details about what happened prior and during Teri's life, children and marriage/abuse. But then the author did an excellent job also telling about all the torture Teri endured at her last meeting with her ex husband, how she felt during the horrible abuse he rained down on her head with the baseball bat, how she kept positive thoughts during her confinement in the barrel filled with snow, ice and water, all taped up, etc. and that is when the writing started to go down hill.,,while I appreciate learning how she lived thru the horrible night and day inside that barrel, thinking she was going to die if she didn't keep thinking of her children, etc but after she was found, taken to the hospital, etcetera. The story dropped in interest! There was no more details about her children how they reacted to mommy's ordeal, no mention of her current husband and how he felt during the time she was missing and then finding out they had lost a child. I sincerely wish the author would have taken the time to write two perhaps even three more chapters to this book to let the reader know what is taking place currently in her and her family lives, and as for all the advice of how, and what to do if you are going thru domestic abuse that was great but this book really needs two/three more chapters!", 'I enjoyed this book found very sad and her ex husband was crazy I would have left him on my honey moon!!!', "Interesting. Story just poorly written! David needs to find a ghost writer. Not. Impressed by this author. I won't be flagging future purchases of this writer.", 'A very brave, determined lady. I tried but could not even imagine the pain and suffering this poor woman endured. A well written heartfelt story. Could not put it down.', 'This was a fascinating story poorly told. The author gives us no background information on the key players. We learn very little about Teri's life before David and nothing about David's background at all. What was his home life like? Where did he develop these feelings of superiority and violence toward women? The author mentions his military background as a factor, but not why or how it affected his attitude. Most of the book is a transcript of the author's interviews with Teri, the victim and survivor, and with people involved in domestic abuse counseling or safe houses. He even includes comments like "Alfvin and Rosenfeld enjoy a light moment". (Rosenfeld being a counselor working with abusers in a very successful program in Illinois. I found Teri's story too rushed and the interviews tedious.', "Terri's story is very inspiring and no doubt, it is of great help to many domestic abuse and trauma survivors. But the book is not particularly well-written, with much of the space being taken up with verbatim interviews of the victim, her doctors, and those who provide support to domestic violence victims or court-ordered counseling to abusers. There was no attempt to delve into Larsen's background or even Terri's. Although Terri shares some snippets of these important questions in her interviews, the reader is left to wonder what occurred in Larsen's upbringing that laid the groundwork for his pathology. This gaping hole in the narrative ultimately made this book a less-than-satisfying read. I wish nothing but the best for Terri and her family and hope that with Larsen in prison for life, she now knows peace.", 'A very eye opening account of domestic abuse. Teri tells a very compelling story and is a strong advocate for domestic violence. Everyone needs to listen to her story and look deep into their own relationships.', 'this is mostly a book about where to get help, etc. Not really a story where you can root for the victim. She should have put a skillet upside this guys head A LONG TIME AGO.', "I was a little disappointed with the book. I would have enjoyed it much more if it had been written by the victim. I think what ruined it for me as I seen the story on a crime show, although I can't remember which one. The book was just like the show with no more details of the event. If you did not see the program prior the book would have been more interesting.", "LEFT FOR DEAD is a well-written true story of a young woman who was abused. Not only abused, which unfortunately is common today, but beaten beyond recognition and stuffed inside a garbage can to die. I found myself getting angry at her ex-husband and would love to have a few minutes alone with him. But life in prison for him I'm sure won't be pleasant. After three years of marriage and two daughters, this brave woman had enough of the abuse and got out. She started to get her life back together and had recently re-married. She went to pick up her daughters at her ex-husbands place and he said the daughters were hiding so to come in and find them. After entering, he beat her numerous times over the head with a baseball bat. Taped her up, gagged her, and put her in a garbage bin in the back of his pickup and brought her to a storage unit. There he placed many boxes on top of the garbage bin, sealed the door and left. Without given the story away, when Jendusa was found, she was unrecognizable, lost all her toes due to frost bite, underwent surgeries,

five weeks in hospital and miscarried. She had only found out the day before that she was pregnant. It's a sad gripping story but with a happy ending. Bestselling true crime author, RJ Parker", 'this book is definitely a MUST read. I was totally shocked by her survival. Just amazing! Miracles do happen, and she is a product of a miracle from God. There is no way she could have survived. God did hear her prayer!!', 'It was an such a horrific story. Her ex-husband was determined to kill her. I would recommend this to anyone who likes true crime.']

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["Goska missed her calling as a theologian. But maybe this is a good thing. Had she entered the ranks of academic philosophers we might not have Save, Send, Delete to savor. What's remarkable about the novel is not only that it's thought-provoking in a deeply religious way, but also that it's funny, passionate, and extremely well-written. Goska takes the traditional novel-in-letters genre and gives it a modern spin; we see the story evolve through emails sent (or not) by the brilliant believer Mira to the equally brilliant atheist/scientist Lord Randolph, whom she informally refers to as Rand. We hear the latter's side of the argument through Mira's responses--Rand is both silent and ever-present. Kind of like God? (Rand is a Lord, after all.) Mira also has bones to pick (sometimes quite funny bones) with modern academe and with notions of romantic love. Save, Send, Delete is a multi-layered, beautifully written, inspiring work.", 'Written by a fierce intelligence with dazzling wit, this is an unusual book. A one-sided email argument with a famous atheist becomes an obsession and an opportunity to be deeply honest. When the exchange threatens to move from virtual to reality, the emotional danger kicks in. I ordered this book because I like to read perspectives that I do not hold, to see if I can be convinced to change my mind. (My definition of a really good book is that it forever alters the way you see the world.) Advertised as an argument for belief in Christianity, I was looking for that argument as I read. At one point main character Mira asks Rand, the atheist, if he has failed to see the logic in her previous post. I went back and reread said post, looking for the "logic" I had also missed. I found only declarations. Not surprisingly, I finished this book only convinced that humans cling to religion as a comfort in a cruel and confusing world, against all evidence, that humans are the source of much of that cruelty, that intelligence is no protection from emotional hazards. It remains OK with me that other people have their religious views as long as it is also OK with them if I remain agnostic. This is a stimulating, funny, heartbreaking story and I enjoyed reading it.', "This is one of those books that is impossible to categorize. Is it about religion and atheism? Is it about what it means to have a soul? Is it a treatise on whether two human souls can ever know each other? I am not sure, but I continue to ponder the author's insights long after the book has been finished. The author has an extraordinary way with words, and the book is both lyrical and profound. I highly recommend it.", 'When I first read the summary of the book I thought it might be a bit like The Loser Letters by Mary Eberstadt. As I really liked that book as it was funny while making some great points. Very pointed satire. There are points of contact between The Loser Letters and Save Send Delete especially as one is a series of letters to a "spokesmen of the New Atheism" and the the later is a series of emails to a Richard Dawkins type. The premise of this book is that it details a series of emails to a famous atheist. Mira after having seen this famous atheist on a Bill Moyer's show on PBS decides to email him. As Julie Davis of Happy Catholic describes: She sends him a long, forceful, clever email that she knows will never get past his secretary. Except that he answers. And he won't let her off the hook with a polite apology. The book goes on where you only see her emails to this famous atheist intermixed with some to her friend. The "Save Send Delete" refers to the end of each email where one of these words is bolded. This is a rather clever idea and you get an idea of a thought process of initial reaction, revising, changing your mind about what you said, or committing to reply. But this goes on beyond just being clever as it really adding to the narrative of the story. See Julie's review for a sample of these letters. The often long emails that take so many divergent paths are a wonder to read. They are so funny, pointed, and filled with the realities of life. Political correctness has not only taken a vacation, but I think had run away in alarm. This is not common apologist fare, but a look at the reality of the faith. The "famous atheist" replies

(as we draw from context) some of the standard objections and she calls him on the vapidness of some of these arguments. For example the "Your Catholic because you were raised that way and plus you don't know other faiths" argument. Sometimes in more dissenting publications you see an argument of "Lived experience" as if it was a trump card to the truth. Yet here Mira's "lived experience" is an argument for the faith and the life she has lived across the world. It also draws from a wealth of information culturally and historically. Strangely at times it even reminded me of Fr. George Rutler and the wealth of information he draws from when he writes, that is Fr. Rutler was a bit coarser and swore. These series of letters are just a wonder to read on so many levels. I was so drawn into the book that time and time again I forgot that Mira was a character in the story. Sure a good novel draws you in, but this was beyond that. In just so many ways this novel is brilliant. The relationship between Mira and "Rand" the atheist goes from back and forth from adversarial to common ground respect. What also adds to this novel is that while Mira is arguing for the faith, she has her own difficulties and fallenness. She struggles in her faith while knowing it is true. Her correspondence with "Rand" brings out the desire to be a better Christian. "Inhale as a believer, exhale as an atheist" Mira's struggles are indicative of this phrase she uses. In some ways this is a theme of the book, but not without hope. It brought to my mind the quote "Be pitiful, for every man is fighting a hard battle,." There is a inner battle going on in both Mia and Rand. The novel also really brought to mind the reality of that quote to something more palpable to me. Are intellects can apprehend a truth while still not fully taking it in. There are aspects of this book that would have annoyed me if this was a lesser novel. Mia is not the perfectly faithful Catholic as she alludes once to supporting women's ordination and seemingly homosexual acts. Again I had totally forgotten that Mia was a character in a book. But even this was I think a part of the "Inhale as a believer, exhale as an atheist." I wish I had the skill to describe how good this book is and it has been one that gave me a lot to reflect upon. It is not the type of book you just put down after finishing it, because you are just not done digesting it yet. While I have very little impact on what books get better known, I can hardly think of a book that I want to have better known. It deserves all the attention it can get.', "Save Send Delete touched me in an unexpected way. It was spiritually fulfilling and the most entertaining read of the year so far. Ms. Goska's writings are profoundly moving and always tackle difficult issues with a refreshing truth and clarity. Although some would rather see her side-step certain politically and culturally charged subjects, she continues to be a voice crying-out in the wilderness. A voice that is simultaneously courageous, inspiring and of crucial importance for our time.,", "I cannot possibly do this book justice. It is going on my 2013 Best Books list. I was really excited reading the first half of the book because I related to the conversations. I've been blogging long enough to have had many long email exchanges about faith or lack thereof. I was cheering in Mira's section as she said all the things that intelligent Christians know and sometimes would like to hurl at unthinking atheists smugly giving knee-jerk answers. (And know this now, there are as many unthinking, knee-jerk atheists out there as there are unthinking, knee-jerk Christians. No group is exempt from this.) Mira makes her points respectfully, with credit given where it is due, but she doesn't back down. She is adamant about truth being shown and acknowledged by all sides. And, of course, that's another thing I loved about this book. Truth, honesty ... those are hard qualities to come by. Watching Mira struggle to keep conversations honest was fascinating and taught me some valuable lessons. I want to stress here, that this book is not just for Christians. Both Goodreads and Amazon contain 5-star reviews from all sorts of believers and doubters. All praise Danusha Goska's writing and thinking in this book. The second part of the book changes in tone as Mira and Rand grow closer and more honest with each other. It becomes less about intellectual answers and more about real life, about finding God or meaning in life when times are hard. This was when the spotlight turned on me and it wasn't comfortable. It is not that I pulled back or wasn't engaged with the book. It was as if I were reading that other very different yet also great book, The Hiding Place by Corrie Ten Boom, which this section of the book made me think of for some reason. Mira's life has been hard and it made me realize how very fortunate my own life is. I always know my life is fortunate, but there is a tendency to think one's life is more difficult than it actually is. When one comes up against real hardship, it holds up the mirror, shakes us up (just as the prophets were sent to shake the people up), and gives the corrected perspective so that one may continue. This

tendency is actually discussed very compassionately by Mira in a section about house-sitting for a professor. I couldn't put the book down, as Mira and Rand's story propelled me forward. I spent a good deal of time pondering my actions versus mere lip service (none of us are exempt from our unthinking, knee-jerk moments, remember?). And that's a good thing. Ultimately, the core message of *Save Send Delete* is one we all understand. We want to be seen, to be heard, to be KNOWN for who we really are, deep down. It is that which we hope and strive for from friends, family, loved ones. The lack of being known devastates us when we have trusted someone deeply enough to allow ourselves to become vulnerable. That is the ultimate betrayal. What Christians find in God, in Jesus Christ, is that He knows us, in a way we don't even know ourselves. And when He breaks through so that we can recognize it, we are stunned and overwhelmed. That is why words are so inadequate. Usually. Danusha Goska's words ... her original, insightful story ... is up to the task. Do not miss this book.", "As I neared the end of Danusha Goska's *Save Send Delete*, I started pondering what rating to assign it. I thought I would give it four stars, but when I finished the last page and my Kindle prompted me for a rating, I found myself giving it five. This is not a perfect book, and if five stars imply perfection, I apologize -- but it is a fascinating, moving, and profoundly thought-provoking work, and I was quite reluctant to admit it was over. (I am now rereading a book I could recite in my sleep, as a transition to moving on.) If I understood the Preface correctly, *Save Send Delete* is a lightly fictionalized memoir, an account of an email exchange that became a virtual relationship between a woman and a man. The woman: Mira, a Polish-American Catholic, widely traveled, a PhD and teacher with serious health problems that have wreaked havoc with her personal and professional life. The man: Rand (short for a long name-plus-title), a well-off British aristocrat, author and raconteur, known for consistently defending atheism as superior to any form of religion. The title reflects the form of the narrative. We see Mina's emails to Rand, as well as the emails she doesn't send (deletes) and those about which she vacillates before sending (saves). We are left to infer the content and style of Rand's replies. We are also shown exchanges between Mina and a friend, Amanda, about whom there is more to say -- which I'll refrain from saying. Mira's and Rand's correspondence focuses on the subjects of religion and what one could call supernatural experience, but through that lens, it examines a wide range of subjects: suffering, love, hate, friendship, and how one can and cannot help one's fellows, to name a few. So why do I call the book imperfect? At times, I felt that Mina ran on longer than necessary, or repeated herself in ways I could do without. These were minor and transitory annoyances, and they do not prevent me from heartily recommending this book.", "I have a big deadline coming up and I'm not sure how I'm going to make it because I stayed up all night reading this book. Danusha Goska is a wonderful writer with a real gift of expression. Not just expression, but the thoughts and experiences behind the expressions. She thinks interesting thoughts and she lives an interesting life. Interesting is a weak word for what I'm trying to say, but as I said, I stayed up all night and I'm very tired now. I'm so glad that she made the decision to share these words with us. An update to my review: I have never met Danusha Goska. I stumbled upon her reviews here on Amazon and I was impressed with her intelligence and with what she had to say. I did some research and found that she had written two books, both of which I was intrigued by and excited to read. Then I found Danusha's blogs and started reading them. At one point she posted an article about the kind of people she valued as facebook friends. Ah ha! I thought, she's on facebook! Embarrassing as it is, I tracked her down and requested to friend her. I have never done this before with any other author, my only excuse is that I am very very interested in aspects of Polish history that not very many people other than Danusha are writing about in English. After buying *Save, Send, Delete*, I sent a few quick messages to Danusha, and since this book is in e-pistolary form I thought it would be fitting to post a review in the same mode, therefore: "Hi Danusha! SSD arrived yesterday and I read EXACTLY half of it last night (up to page 141). So far I 50% love it, 49% really love it, and am 1% annoyed by it, in the few areas where your opinions differ slightly from mine. "I read the part about boiled Irish babies out loud to my husband, he is from Dublin. I thought that was an enormously funny email. Another thing I love: I love that you get (and revel in) the grotesqueness of God. The earthiness. The materiality. The way God works with blood and spit and mud and parasites. The way that matter and spirit intertwine. I love that you have lived and embraced the grittiness and foulness and decay where

Heaven and Hell exist, that is so far from the banal and sterile world in which neither Heaven nor Hell are acknowledged."There are parts that I left out, because they were more about me than about the book specifically, and the point of this is to review the book. What else can I say... well, reading this book made my correspondence with Danusha pretty odd, because from her perspective, I'm just a stranger on the internet. However from my perspective, having read SSD, Danusha feels like a close friend to me. I've glimpsed into her mind, into her soul and I recognised a friend. I would be surprised if anyone could read this book and NOT feel this way - hence all the 5 star reviews. Going back to my preliminary review, I stumbled over the word "interesting". A better word for both the book and the author is "passionate". Like an artist, a woman, a mystic, a bohemian, Danusha throws herself fully and deeply in. In her correspondence, in her approach to life, she holds little back. There are people who are hungry for experience, who are passionate about living. This takes courage, confidence, and charity. I say charity because as a virtue it is the opposite of selfishness. There is a certain type of self-preservation that has fear and selfishness at its root, the self preservation that makes us not take risks in exposing our thoughts and our hearts to others, not risk rejection or ridicule, bigotry, discrimination. Danusha, it seems to me, has this courage and confidence and charitableness in abundance. However, please don't think that she wrote the book to show off these virtues! It's not a "hey look at me I'm a wonderful person!" type of book at all. In fact it's a book that I don't think I would have the courage to publish, because it's the type of book that would make many people ridicule the author, or disdain her, especially if they haven't actually read it...', 'Warning: Do not read this book if you have to go to work in the morning. I started "Save Send Delete" on Tuesday evening, thinking I'd read for a couple of hours and then sack out. I didn't put the book down until 3 a.m., four hours before the dreaded beeping noise of the alarm clock. The book is that good. Or, as Goska would no doubt write, \*that\* good."Save Send Delete" is not what I expected it to be--to wit, a "Dangerous Liaisons" for Christians. It is, instead, a moving argument for faith in this vale of tears. Rarely have I read so convincing an argument for the religious worldview, and rarely have I been so powerfully moved by a book that is not a novel. No, "Save Send Delete" is not a Christian book; it is a book for anyone who wishes to understand something about love, compassion, forgiveness, suffering, for anyone who grapples with the following questions: Why I am here? WTF is it all about? What is God?"Save Send Delete" is beautifully written. The style, which achieves the admirable feat of being both ice-cold and white-hot, is electrifying. Goska is never preachy, condescending, or, worse, sentimental. She states her arguments elegantly and clearly, and she has the wit and grace to remember that there are, after all, other opinions, other worldviews. One passage (I won't tell you which) helped me to resolve an issue that has been vexing me for some time. For that, I am grateful to the author."Save Send Delete" is funny. Goska's good-natured ribbing of her interlocutor is so funny (and, at times, raunchy) that even a potty-mouthed sailor like yours truly was impressed. I particularly liked this: "That's why you stopped believing in God? Because your debate opponent's stack of three-by-five cards was taller than yours? You p\*\*sy." "Save Send Delete" is courageous. For one who, as she tells us, was never taught to say "no" as a child, Goska seems to be doing a fine job of it as an adult: "No" to political correctness; "No" to apologists for jihad and Islamic misogyny; "No" to identity politics and self-pity; "No" to educators who encourage laziness in children. Instead, Goska urges us to say "Yes": "Yes" to calling atrocities by their name; "Yes" to forgiveness and compassion; "Yes" to God. Finally, "Save Send Delete" is heartbreaking. Some of the emails are so raw in their melancholy and hurt that I found myself putting the book down at frequent intervals. I'm thinking, here, of the emails about the author's hellish period as a grad student, the emails about keeping faith in God in the face of mind-numbing suffering, and the emails about suicide. Virgil was right: there are tears in things. Five stars for heart, five stars for mind. "Save Send Delete" is one hell of a book.', 'In the C.S. Lewis classic book, "The Screwtape Letters," we read one-way communication from an earth-bound demon, working to try and capture the soul of a wayward Christian. In Danusha Goska's "Save Send Delete" we are privy to one-way replies to a modern day demon, in the semi-fictionalized role of one of the chief skeptic leaders of the modern atheist movement. Like many who read this book, you may be compelled to try and figure out who the key protagonist is based upon. I was assured by the author that the actual role model was indeed a well known, public skeptic/atheist who can be

seen regularly on talk shows, and multimedia interviews online. And more important, that the events of the story were all true. Which of course makes the entire book all the more compelling. If this "fiction" was indeed based upon real life events, then one must believe all of the heartbreaking and amazingly revealing transcript of a life that is enlightened, beyond challenging, and yet based in a Christian faith that is not only unshakable and adamant in its defense. "Mira" is resolute and amazingly brilliant in her defense/offense, dodge and parry dueling with "Rand," the flawed, flailing, and all too foibled famous atheist/science pragmatist known for destroying every challenge from Christianity and other traditional faiths and "fringe science," that would dare look at our existence as being more metaphysical than physical. Her arguments are solid, and convincing, in a way that is hard to refute, although we are not privy to what is actually being written by "Rand." While this literary vehicle can be frustrating at times, her replies make it clear as to the direction and stance he takes. And let's be honest...if you have seen any of the aforementioned professional atheists on a talk show, or read one of their books, the "party line" is pretty clear, thin and repetitive. However, what makes this a great piece of writing, worthy of the highest recommendation, is not the outward debate that transpires, but the way in which this book examines the true state of the human condition, and how frail and fragile "success" really can be, in this complex, reality-show-as-stars-world. The fact that more people know who "Honey Boo Boo" or "Snooky" are, and don't know who Michael Shermer or Richard Dawkins are, should make my point. Mira and Rand are not just theological polar opposites, their very existence as a famous, rich, well-lettered, and privileged voice of humanism, contrasted by a person marginalized by circumstance, health issues, and a health and education system that borders on sadistic, is at the root of the amazing transformation that takes place in both of the characters of the book...and most likely the reader. While I am not a member of any specific faith or religious denomination, the message here is clearly one of the need for us to see every person beyond the basic outer shell, and realize that compassion cuts both ways in a society so divided by religion, politics, and a widening income gap that creates a clear caste system in the Western world, as well as third world countries. The most amazing aspect of this book to me...and I agree with other reviewers that it is a short read, simply because you can't put it down...is that you are left to fill in the blanks in your own life, in a way that almost no other modern book on theology, personal relationships, or the perils of online relationships usually does. This is a cautionary tale, not only in realizing the limitations of electronic communications without personal contact, but even more important, the need to reach out and MAKE personal contact with everyone you meet in your everyday life. Mira/Danusha does this in ways that are humbling, compelling, and amazing. This is a voice that should be heard...no matter where you stand on the debate between science and faith. This book should be the beginning of a life-changing moment for the author...as well as the reader. I only hope that I can be part of getting the word out to a far larger audience. Patric Miller[...], "There are some books that you pick up, read, think, &#34;that was nice,&#34; and go on with your life. Then there are others that capture your imagination all the way through and make you wrestle with questions long after you put it down. Save Send Delete is decidedly one of the latter.&#34;Even if I were gifted with the kind of mind that could follow the painstaking, philosophical steps Thomas took to justify belief in God, I would not believe in God because of Thomas' steps. ... I'm of the lower orders. I believe in God for the same reason I believe in anything: its impact on my flesh.&#34;What you'll find within is neither world's most orthodox presentation of Catholic doctrine nor a gleeful and definitive beat-down of atheism, something I was afraid a &#34;Catholic nobody emails famous atheist celebrity&#34; semi-autobiographic novel might attempt to be. Rather, through Mira's half of a three-year e-mail correspondence, what you'll discover is an gracious, intimate, and honest look at one woman's incredible journey of life and belief. Mira (like, I suspect, her real-world counterpart Ms. Goska) understands what it means to live in the tension of the best and worst humanity can offer - without losing faith.~~~~~A quick note about the Kindle edition - it made the email format a little wonky in a few places, but not so much that I found it a distraction from the text."

["The rights of the land owners, the rights of the hunters and the rights of the protected species of Raptors, birds of Prey. Yes there is a time to take sides and protect what is right. Interestingly, Detective Constable Ben Cooper appears to make the decision to take the cash, accumulated by Kevin Hewett from his illegal activities, Blackmail, Drugs and protected wildlife theft and sales. Of course there's reasons within reasons and of course why? This is well written short story, unfortunately it's the first of these I've read, so consequently I didn't have enough to pull all the character traits into a nice comfortable conclusion. So while a nice well written story it would be better read as part of his larger volume of works. Not a bad read simple not the great read I had hoped for.", "I liked this story, but I didn't love it. I think it was the subject matter that made me sad and a little uncomfortable. This was obviously the author's intent, but I enjoyed his other stories more.", "Honestly, half the book seemed like a tree hugger's love fest but since I love the Cooper character I slogged ahead. In the end it was a good novella just not sparks flying like in the Cooper and Fry books. In time it must be set after book 2 of Cooper & Fry mysteries as he is living in town. It still had a blow away surprise or three but not the multiple red herrings of the mystery books. It was still worth the read but my rating would have been lower without having the background from the mystery novels. So my caveat is this. Get the book after a few of the Cooper and Fry novels and by the end you will be nearer to my rating. Enough said....shu", 'Ok. But it is too short to be of much interest. The author should have made this into a longer book.', "This is the third book of the series that I have read and is the only one I can't recommend. A short story that fell short of capturing, much less sustaining, my interest. I suspect this is the exception to the rule and look forward to reading another full length novel soon.", 'A short story about egg collecting and birds. Cooper is on secondment to rural team in this. As a short story it lacks the usual richness of scene and characterisation of the Cooper and Fry series.', 'D.C. Ben Cooper is on special assignment to the Derbyshire Rural Crime Squad and is learning a lot about the countless problems of wildlife crime. In the wild, unspoilt valleys of the Dark Peak moorlands there is a long-time and very deadly conflict dividing bird-protectors and bird-predators, also longing for eggs and chicks of birds of prey for years and years now. The discovery of an illegal bounty, a very young and very dead goshawk fresh from the nest, but in a cage in a house is a clue to what might be happening - maybe threatening the entire future of one of the most protected landscapes in the Peak District National Park. For Ben Cooper this assignment to the Rural Crime Squad means conflicts of conscience - being born and bred a hunter, like his father and grandfather. And the human predators hunting for the feathered ones come in all shapes and sizes, from England and foreign countries, too, and with loads of money. And at the end of this battle not all the victims will be birds, and a poor family will nearly be pushed over the edge... In the very end our hero Ben has to make a very personal choice - but as always, being the sympathetic soul we have come to know and to like, he does the right thing. This a short story from the highly appraised British crime writer Stephen Booth. He has yet delivered 12 Crime novels featuring Detective Constable Ben Cooper and his female counterpart, Detective Sergeant Diane Fry. The last of the series is called "Dead and Buried". A very satisfying short story for the fans of the Peak District crimes. And there's an excerpt of the Novel "The Devil's Edge", too, which will surely make appetite for more ...', 'enjoyed it but I wanted it to go on for longer but I am so used to Stephen Booth's other books especially the Cooper and Fry series.', "Ben Cooper is one of my favorite characters, very likeable. Can't wait to get my next one. Good story, interesting topic.", "A pleasant enough read. Important to know that it is a very short story and not the full length article usual in the Cooper/Fry series. Because of this it was a little disappointing as it did not have the complex plot developments and the fascinating interactions between Cooper and Fry. Nevertheless Murfin and other familiar characters are all here. Recommended for those who have exhausted the rest of Stephen Booth's Cooper/Fry series but need another quick (very quick!) fix.", "while I'm usually reluctant to try kindle singles or one-offs from my favorite authors, this story turned out to be pretty satisfying, even though the conclusion seemed to be a little rushed.", 'Not as good as some of Stephen Booth's usual books but I still enjoyed the read. Perhaps the next one will restore my faith in SB.', "this was the first book I had read by Stephen Booth and I found it to be rather meager in its language and approach. Since then I have read his latest one The Devil's Edge and found it to be a



much better read. Would not recommend The Claw as a good read."]

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[Really enjoyed this second book and I am eagerly awaiting any new additions to the series. Great characters with lot of realistic quirks and humor.', 'This sort of thing has been done before, but it has rarely been done this well. Blood Guilt is an entertaining and engrossing tale of a wise-cracking private eye, quickly embroiled in a what should be a simple job of following a cheating husband around but of course becomes something much more complicated and dangerous, a setting in Australia, not one but two attractive women for distraction, and enough plot to tangle yourself in for a good long while. The blurb on the Bywater Books edition warns, "Don't start this book if you have someplace to be." Go ahead and block off some time, because you really won't want to put this one down until you've finished the last, very satisfying, twist and turn. It moves quickly, carrying the reader along at a good brisk pace. It stays interesting, and it is also funny. This first in a series introduces Kit O'Malley, former police officer, now a private investigator, and a group of characters as eccentric and vague as her mother, who tends to begin and end conversations rather abruptly. Kit is both smart and smart-mouthed, and both qualities get her in trouble of various kinds. She's also a bit clumsy. Everyone in this novel is a bit quirky, so go ahead and enjoy. The plot deepens and gets more complicated, but there are no darker overtones other than solving the crime and falling head over heels (almost literally) in love with a beautiful woman along the way.', "Lindy Cameron's debut novel is wonderful. I enjoyed Kit O'Malley's character. She was down-to-earth with a sense of humor and integrity. This novel covered all the bases: romance, mystery, intrigue. I can't wait to read the next two she has coming out.", 'The book was delightful. It had murder, mayhem, humor, and a very good romance thrown in. Plus, as another reviewer pointed out, it was not "dark". And you know the best part...it was not warrior princess and sidekick. I commend the publishers for putting out books with substance, both in story and length. It is refreshing to read a book with 300+ pages as opposed to the skimpy ones that B\*\*\*\* (rhymes with Ella) puts out. Thank you to the author for a great book. I look forward to your next.', "Blood Guilt is the first book of Kit O'Malley Mystery. Katherine (Kit) O'Malley, an ex-police official, was a private eye at day and a wannabe mystery writer at night. She took a job of following the husband of the wealthy owner of Orlando House Publishing, but she didn't expect such a tedious tailing of an unfaithful husband could lead to a conspiracy that ...I think that's enough. You shouldn't read more than that to avoid the spoilers. Even though the story was told in the third person, it's almost like that you look at the whole thing through Kit's eyes. The story doesn't give you a detailed description about how Kit looked but you can get quite a great deals about what kind of person Kit was. The sarcastic tone, which often showed up in the story telling, is just like one of Kit's characteristics. Personally, I enjoyed very much in reading the romance plot like the one depicted in this book. It did make me ponder, just like solving a mystery. For mystery, it's not like the classical mystery, but it was well plotted. You can feel that the author did do her homework and pay great attention to make the logic right. Another good thing in this book is it has many interesting characters, main or minor, which you are able to distinguish their personalities. Good dialogs, too. The story isn't fast-pacing, considering a book of 386 pages covered barely over three weeks (and mostly at the last week). It's also kind of slow to go into the main part of the story. You need a little bit patience in the beginning. You'll find it's worth your time in the end (at least for a mystery/adventure reader).", "Enjoyed the story. Loved the character, o'malley. The story moves quickly and the surprises are great! The sexy stuff is toward the end but well worth the wait. Good book.", 'I liked this book that it was set in Australia was interesting the lest kit was hilarious so good job miss Cameron', "Lindy Cameron is a terrific writer, as smart and funny as the charming, goofy, danger-prone heroine of her book, Kit O'Malley. Blood Guilt is a great read; I finished it in a single sitting because I couldn't put it down. I am very much looking forward to the sequel, which is due to be published in August. Do yourself a favor: buy this book, pour yourself a cup of coffee, settle in a comfortable chair, and enjoy the ride.", 'this book has a lot going on. The private eye doing her thing, then suddenly things take

off..Murder/mystery/love/good/bad.. everything I like in a book. Trust me, you will not want to put this story down..Hats off to the author!!', "This book was a great mystery and had me laughing out loud at times. Kit has become one of my favorite detectives, because she's smart and attractive but she's also clumsy and somewhat bashful and obviously flawed, unlike some of the characters I've encountered before. The characters are all interesting and while at times you might keep guessing back and forth as to what's going on, the closer to the end of the story you get the you'll probably have a lot of it already figured out, but maybe like me, you'll have so much fun getting there that it won't matter if you know before everyone else does or not", 'Lindy Cameron hails from the beautiful Mornington Peninsula outside of Melbourne, Australia. She is a freelance editor and enjoys golf. BLOOD GUILT is her first Kit O'Malley mystery. BLEEDING HEARTS and THICKER THAN WATER follow. She has also published a novel entitled GOLDEN RELIC.Kit O'Malley is an ex-cop who has taken on the cloak of a private eye. Her mother is a society maven whose school chum, Celia Robinson, hires Kit to tail her husband and catch him in a compromising position. Kit complies, follows the rotter, and catches him in the act. But her final meeting to finish the case instead turns into a murder investigation of Celia Robinson. Kit meets Celia's independent daughter and her friend, the prickly lawyer Alex Cazenove, and Kit falls head-over-heels, so to speak."Despite the volume, however, she could still hear the warning bells going off in her head. After all there was nothing as ridiculous as someone whose nerve endings were going completely gah-gah over a person who didn't particularly like that someone at all, at all. And there was also absolutely NO point in allowing herself to become interested in a person whose interests lay elsewhere. And Kit was NOT thinking about Alex's impending marriage. In fact the way Alex was watching over Quinn-correction, make that 'watching' full stop-Kit was beginning to wonder if Alex knew whether she was on the right path by intending to plight her troth to the divine Enzo."Lindy Cameron takes the reader down what initially seems a straightforward path of murder and mayhem only to tweak the journey over and over. This tale is expertly told; passionately portrayed; and properly plotted to make for a rollicking romp through a sinister world of complete psychopaths. But Kit O'Malley is up to the task. She is full of courage and insecurity, and is a lovable character whom the reader can fully support. Kit's discovery of real love is touching and astonishing. Cameron's characters all stand out, although the bad guys all seem to jell together into a gooey abyss where they belong. BLOOD GUILT is an excellent introduction to the indomitable Kit O'Malley, and Cameron scores on her first shot with this compelling read.Shelley GlodowskiSenior Reviewer', "This is the first book I've read by this author. It took me a few chapters to get hooked, but once I was, I didn't want to put the book down. I enjoyed the Australian humor and wit of the characters. I ordered the second book in this series right after finishing this book. Now I'm waiting for the 3rd to be released on Kindle.I would definitely recommend this book to my friends.", 'This was a great book. Lots of twists and turns that kept me fully engrossed in the story. It ended rather quickly though. Would have liked one more chapter. Hopefully we will get a follow up book to peak in on all the characters. This one had some great secondary characters as well. Great first book Ms. Cameron.', "Book One in the Kit O'Malley seriesEx cop, now Private Investigator, Kit O'Malley's latest job is not very exciting. She's been hired by a wealthy client and old friend of her mother, Celia Robinson, to follow her cheating husband Geoffrey. The assignment is run of the mill, Kit documents Geoffrey meeting with a blonde, a redhead and businessman, Ian Dalkeith. All quite mundane until a body is found in the Robinson's fish pond.The cops are on the case, but this doesn't satisfy Celia's daughter, Quinn. She hires Kit to find her mother's killer and Byron, the missing butler. Quinn is not happy to let Kit get on with the investigation, she insists on being involved at every step of the way. When Quinn brings along her lawyer, the stunning, beautiful, Alexis Cazenove, Kit's senses leave her. She is instantly smitten and a gibberish wreck.When Kit is almost killed by a hit and run, she knows she must be on the right track to solving the mystery. She just has to fathom out the truth and expose all the deep dark secrets that have been hidden.Just who is Mike Finnigan and who is he following? Geoffrey, Dalkeith or Kit?Blood Guilt is a well written page turner. Although it started out a bit on the slow side, it soon picked up speed and clipped along at a steady pace.I loved Kit O'Malley. Her character is so down to earth and she has a terrific sense of humor and she is a bit of a klutz. There is a very strong cast of secondary characters, the main one being Alex, who Kit is rapidly falling in love with. This is

despite the fact that Alex is getting married to Enzo. Will Kit's love be unrequited or will Alex forsake Enzo and reciprocate? There are lots of other interesting and amusing characters too to enhance the story and progress it along. The main focus is on the actual mystery, with the romance being secondary. What started off for Kit as a simple case of a cheating husband, escalates into a murder case. Although Kit is a Private Investigator, she still has contacts in the police department and she ends up working together with her ex cop partner, Jon Marek. There are lots of twists and turns in this exciting mystery/intrigue which kept me on the edge of my seat and turning the pages quickly. Then suddenly it was at an end. Just when I wanted to know more about Kit and Alex, more of what happens next in their lives. It's a good job I have the second in this remarkably different to the norm, mystery series to read."]

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[I thought this was a good read. It was not what i expected and I like that. I also like how it ended.', 'Loved this book, was a wonderful read. Bethany and Jack omg they are so amazing together. How they got married and how they went from not knowing each other to LOVING each other. Wish to read more of these two.', "Loved this. Great story with that touch of magical romance and all the hot steamy love a girl could need. I actually read it twice in the same week. It's a quick read , but that has more to do with not wanting to put it down vs the number of pages. I'm anxiously waiting to download the rest of the series.", "the story was funny. the characters were kinda beleivable. I will recommend reading them in order. I would also suggest getting the physical books as the kindle formatting can be a bit difficult to read it's choppy and breaks the sentence and the strangest places.", "I found another good writer...great characters, interesting storyline and believable, crazy situations they find themselves in...Chance's story is very good too so I am now moving on to Rafe. Loved the whole famdamily!", 'I hated for this book to end . Jack and Bethany accidentally met in Las Vegas. That meeting turned into a sweet, intense and sensual romance. Opposites do attract. I enjoyed all the characters and am looking forward to book number two. Great writing and the sex scenes were not overly blatant.', "STORY BRIEF: Bethany is the only child of a wealthy business man and his trophy wife. Her parents gave her money and things but never time or love. Her father arranged a marriage for Bethany and Douglas, for the purpose of a business merger. Bethany does not like Douglas and goes to Las Vegas with the intent of running away from her parents. She wants to get a job and live independently. Jack and his siblings inherited a large ranch in Montana. They will each receive money after being married for three months. Jack needs money to develop and run the ranch, so he goes to Las Vegas hoping to find someone to marry him for a short time. They meet. They marry. They actually get along great. The major conflict is Bethany doing an approach/avoidance. She fears intimacy because she doesn't want to get hurt after he divorces her in three months. She welcomes the physical interaction but is closed up emotionally. A second plot involves what happens with Bethany's former fianc&eacute;. REVIEWER'S OPINION: This was ok, not great. I had no major problems with it. I see it as a beach read where you don't mind being interrupted. It's a sweet, feel good story with nice characters, almost too sweet. Nice things happen. Bethany finds freedom to be herself, think, do and contribute. She has impressive business acumen. She was also silly and irresponsible. Jack is the kind of guy most women love: respectful, devoted to her and gorgeous. There is a lot of descriptive sex, including rear door activity. DATA: Story length: 284 pages. Sexual language: strong. Number of sex scenes: 10. Total number of sex scene pages: 65. Setting: current day Las Vegas, Nevada, and Montana. Copyright: 2007. Genre: erotic contemporary romance.", "Bethany needs to escape her family and fianc&eacute;e and disappear - fast! Easier said than done, when you are the daughter of a rich and powerful man determined to keep up appearances for the sake of his political career. Jack is in Las Vegas looking for a wife. With a will stipulating Jack won't come into his inheritance until he is married for three months, Jack's grandfather has left Jack desperate. When Jack and Bethany meet over a bottle of Patron tequila, they seem the answers to each other's prayers - a theory furthered when they stumble into a wedding chapel accidentally! Jack's remote ranch appears to Bethany to

be the perfect place to hide from her family with a new name to cover her trail. Jack believes that Bethany, being the daughter of one of the wealthiest men in the country, will easily relinquish any claims to his inheritance when they divorce in three months. Neither expected to fall in love. When their secrets are exposed and Bethany's family finds them, will their love be strong enough to keep them together or will they lose everything? This was a truly great read! Cara North proves she has a captivating writing style with *Tequila Makes Her Clothes Fall Off*, spinning a contemporary tale of love between two people who thought they'd never find it and have resigned themselves to a business relationship. Jack is the cowboy every little girl and grown woman wants to find for herself! Sweet, sexy, and very randy, he easily steals a woman's heart without even trying! Bethany personifies that woman inside of all of us - yearning to break free and find that wild woman inside herself after a lifetime of being isolated and ignored by her family. Watching her learn to let go is absolutely heartwarming. Cara North has thoughtfully paved the way for future sequels should she choose to follow up *Tequila Makes Her Clothes Fall Off*, by giving Jack two brothers, each of whom have their own romantic woes. Brothers Heath and Rafe are equally as hunky and strong as Jack, but their romantic troubles are vastly different. The author has cleverly allowed us peeks into Heath's and Rafe's relationships in this story, leaving the reader panting for more! In fact, she also leaves room for more of Jack and Bethany's story, without leaving the reader feeling as though this story is in any way unfinished. I look forward to reading more of Cara North's work, and fervently hope to see sequels to this one!

Series Order: *Tequila Makes Her Clothes Fall Off*, *She Thinks My Tractor's Sexy*, "I read this series twice, something I don't normally do, so that right there tells you this book is worth the price. I preferred the second book in this series, but this one is still good and sets the stage for the next one. I found the concept of a 30 year old virgin-turned-wanton-sex-goddess just a tad unbelievable, but hey, it's a romance novel and not classic literature, right? Definitely worth a read.", "For those of you who like your erotic-romances to have a solid romance in them, then this is a great book to read! I don't mind erotic romance books that have tons of sex...they're fun to read ;) but sometimes, the romance angle lags behind. That doesn't happen in Cara North's "*Tequila Makes Her Clothes Fall Off*" (by the way - fantastic title!). This is one erotic romance book where you can get the erotica and the romance all in one, which makes it a fun read. I really enjoyed all parts of this book - the characters, the setting, the romance, and of course, the sex. North does a good job of letting you get to know the characters so that they don't seem like strangers (which unfortunately happens in some books). The relationship that built between Bethany and Jack was sweet and nice to read. I always enjoy books where you can actually see the characters falling in love with each other. The sex scenes were fantastic. I loved how they played around and how Jack let Bethany explore. I wouldn't have expected him to go along with some of the things she did, but his willingness just made him a better character. There was really only one thing that annoyed me at times in the book, and that was the wording in some of the dialogue. A lot of the time when Jack spoke (or thought) he didn't contract phrases like "are not" or "they are" (to aren't or they're) and it made him sound very...formal. I could see Bethany speaking like that because of her background, but for Jack, a born and raised cowboy, it just didn't seem to fit. I'd have expected his language to be a little rougher and not so proper. It just made reading his words seem a little awkward, at times. At least to me. But it doesn't really affect the story all that much. I still enjoyed it a lot. Now that I've finished this one, I can't wait to read the follow-up, "*She Thinks My Tractor's Sexy*", which features Jack's brother Heath and the often mentioned Chance.", "Loved the Story... Can't wait to read the next 2 in the Country Music Collection series - 2nd *She Thinks My Tractor's Sexy* & 3rd *One Hot Momma*. Super story, enjoyed the mental musings of both Bethany & Jack. I was happy with the amount of "drama" not too much, just the right amount to make me stay awake till 1:00 am to finish the book. I was so proud of Bethany in Vegas and once she check in with the "family"! I just had to cheer for her. Jack was fantastic... I never wanted to strangle him, and with the story line I was afraid I would. Take a chance and read Ms. North's stories... they will make you smile and heat you up. Really... Who does not have a moment where Tequila made some clothes fall off. :-)", "Loved it, great story. I wanted to read it again after I finished it. Nice and Hot keeps you turning the page.", "The quality of the writing in both this book and its sequel (the tractor/Heath story) is reflected in the overused word "anyways", no educated or literate

person I know uses this word. Can't say I see it used in books I read either - I don't have a positive impression of this author's writing as a result. Beyond that, the story is ok, hardly plausible but a fairly quick read.', "Bethany Dodson is a little rich girl; but she doesn't want to be. Because her father has forced her into an engagement to further his business interests she goes to Las Vegas with her girlfriends in an attempt to find a man she can marry quickly, get a name change and start a new life. Jack Johnson is in Las Vegas in an attempt to meet and marry a woman, but from different reasons than Bethany. Jack has to marry to gain his inheritance. Jack and his brothers have a ranch in Montana. Their inheritance will help turn the ranch into a dude ranch, something Jack has always wanted. When he meets Bethany in a bar he's intrigued. And the next thing he knows they're married. Bethany goes with Jack to Montana, where she helps him obtain his inheritance in a much different way than he anticipated. Then Jack helps Bethany deal with her problems in his own way. But can these two people from totally different lifestyles keep their marriage for convenience only, or will they form feelings for each other? Tequila Makes Her Clothes Fall Off is a fun, entertaining read. Bethany and Jack's journey toward love was a hot, tantalizing ride. Jack's reaction to the fact that Bethany is a virgin is sweet and made my heart go soft. Bethany is surprisingly grounded for someone who grew up as a spoiled little rich girl. Tequila Makes Her Clothes Fall Off takes readers on a stimulating ride. Ameliareviewed for Joyfully Reviewed", "When Bethany Dodson and Jack Johnson meet in Vegas they're both looking to get married for selfish reasons. Little do they know they've met their perfect match. North has managed to write an erotica story with one steamy sex scene after another, that still manages to have substance. There's just enough romance, humor and conflict mixed in to make the reader truly care about the characters. I can't wait to read the rest of the Johnson brother's stories!", 'This book was funny, made me laugh out loud & I loved it. Would recommend it to everyone. Everyone needs to read a feel good/funny book & this one is it.', 'This book is not one you can put down.....It is a very good story with explicit sex scenes..I like that in a romance novel. The details of these scenes are fantastic. It's hot and heavy right from the start..Bethany and Jack are great characters..Bethany is running away from her wealthy family and an arranged marriage and Jack is in search of a wife to help get his inheritance..they meet in Las Vegas and their relationship takes off from there. this story is romantic, sweet, it has humor and HOT, HOT, HOT. Jack's family, especially his brothers are hilarious! It ends abruptly, which I didn't like. There is a sequel "She Thinks my Tractor's Sexy", which I'm hoping closes the doors left open in this book. A must read.', "It was sexy and hot and enduring I couldn't stop reading it and would read it again great writer a", "Tequila Makes Her Clothes Fall Off is a cute Romantic Erotica about heiress Bethany Dodson, she's being used by her family in an arranged marriage for a business deal, she decides to escape going to Las Vegas with her friends, and I use that term loosely, for her bachelorette party. While there she plans to find herself a husband so she can have a change of name, then move on with her life away from her family. What she didn't expect was that Jack Johnson needed a wife just as much as she needed a husband. He needed to marry, and stay married for 3 months to gain his inheritance, what neither of them bargained for was to fall in love. It was a really sweet story, about two people who were nothing alike finding balance, the sex scenes were steamy and inventive, I enjoyed this book, and look forward to reading more from the author."]

1934759481

["This book is a fast read and, if you are the kind of person who is tempted to buy it, you've probably heard some of the jokes before. But, I found some new ones and a few that were really funny. I would have been happier at half the price, but I definitely enjoyed the book, and would like to believe that my family also enjoyed all the jokes I forced them to hear.", 'My son likes to wear shirts with physics and math type "jokes" so I got him this for Christmas. I'm sure he will enjoy the jokes and this will give him more jokes to break the ice with at school.', 'This is a short book of short jokes, covering a broad range of mathematical levels. For example, it starts with "Why is 6 afraid of 7? Because 7 8 9" and includes "What is big, gray, and has integer coefficients? An elephantine equation". It includes many old classics, but it also has many jokes I hadn't hear of. I found it very

pleasant to read, and I look forward to using some of these jokes in my classes! The jokes in this book are jokes in the usual sense. For mathematically related anecdotes, Howard Eves' "In mathematical circles" series, and Steven Krantz's "Mathematical Apocrypha" and "Mathematical Apocrypha Redux" are all good. For humorous mathematical essays, there is Colin Adams' "Riot at the Calc Exam".', 'to truly appreciate this book you need to understand some math above the highschool level, Otherwise the joke goes over ones head.', 'The jokes made me laugh. I will surely make a classroom of students suffer through some of the better ones soon.', 'I got this for a coworker who teaches math at a community college at night; she now reads us a few jokes at every staff meeting and it gets us all in stiches. Great fun!', 'I'm a mathematician/statistician. You can never have too many math jokes or stories or .... I always have one posted on my email signature at work, so this gives me more to choose from!', 'I'm a teacher and plan to use some of his jokes in my classroom. The product met my expectations. The print quality was good.', 'This gift was for my son who is an Honor's Math Teacher at Central High School in Phoenix, Az. He loves it and has already found fun things to test that his students can think outside the box. Thanks for this offering. Greatly appreciated.', 'I bought this for my son (who is a mathematics major at a large University) and he found it to be very funny.', 'I gave this to a former math professor. He opened it and immediately laughed at the first couple of jokes he read. He read one of the jokes to me and clearly you have to be a math enthusiast to understand the jokes in the first place. Great for someone who eats and breathes math.']

1934903183

[Most people who have engaged in a number of fights have experienced the "now what" moment when a technique didn't produce the desired result, or when they faced someone of humongous proportions or obviously out of their mind due to some intoxicant. ("Now what" is probably not what you were thinking, it was more like, "Oh - and you can fill in the expletive") I've always taught that nothing is 100%, and I like seeing that Loren W. Christensen teaches the same thing. He mentions it more than once in his book "Fighting the Pain Resistant Attacker: fighting drunks, dopers, the deranged and others who tolerate pain." This book is full of advice and techniques to use against those who don't feel or react like most people to painful techniques. These are techniques for the "now what" moments. The book doesn't attempt to cover everything. It focuses on a collection of techniques for a specific purpose, and in that regard, it is a very good book. The book is just over 200 pages long and divided into ten chapters. These chapters consist of: The Nuts and Bolts of Feeling No Pain; Back of the Head, Temple, Mastoid and Eardrum; Eyes and Nose; Brachial Plexus, Vagus Nerve, Throat & Back of the Neck; Carotid Artery Constriction; Head and Neck Combinations; Torso; Biceps, Forearms and Fingers; Legs, Femoral Nerve, Knees & Peroneal Nerve; and Takedowns. The table of contents pretty much sum this book up. Strait forward, Christensen teaches techniques aimed at those body points specifically for attackers who are not feeling pain. They are brutally effective and for the most part simple to execute, which self-defense techniques need to be. There are many black and white pictures that illustrate very well the moves Christensen teaches. Additionally, there are "Key Concept" and "Caution" side bars that impart extra little nuggets of information important to anyone studying self-defense and wanting to learn to better defend themselves, both on the street and in the courtroom after the violence has ended. Christensen also adds a little levity and humor in what is otherwise a serious topic. In one picture sequence where he is attacking a female model, the caption starts out, "The handsome attacker grabs your left arm." Another time, after telling a story about asking a student to hit him at a level 2 on a 1 to 10 scale, he acknowledges, "it's not that I'm a coward, I just don't like pain." Overall I really enjoyed this quick read, and it reinforced some of the techniques I already teach, and I picked up a couple variations to work into my training. I also appreciated some of the medical explanations because I don't think the person studying martial arts or self-defense, and especially those of us who teach, can know too much. We must always be learning and bettering ourselves. This book was a very good addition to my martial art and self-defense library and it will be a good addition to

yours too!Reviewed by Alain Burrese, J.D., author of the DVD set Streetfighting Essentials.', "Another great book by Loren Christensen. In all my years in Martial Arts, I've never come across a book discussing what to do if the guy doesn't feel the techniques I've trained to do. An easy to read format and great, clear photos make this book another valuable resource to my training!", 'This was a great book for anyone serious about supplementing their self-defence skills. Very user-friendly explanations of why certain targets and strikes work and the possible legal ramifications of your actions. I give it 4.5 stars and not 5 because some of the techniques seem to require fine motor skills (which tend to go out the window in a fight) but mostly the material is well worth reading several times and drilling over and over.', "Informative, but if you've been around the block you have probably heard it before. Interesting, but poor quality diagrams and pics.", "I have only had training in Aikido, which though it uses pressure points it isn't a &#34;real-world&#34; martial art (I think only Jiu Jitsu could qualify, and even there you need lots of time on the mat to make it useful.)The attack points are good, I've used some of them before, and in a fight it is good to have a smorgasbord of available options. Though the book is aimed at taking down a &#34;pain-resistant&#34; opponent, these will work on anyone. I'd only do the kidney and liver punches if I feel greatly-threatened.The warning I mentioned in the title is one in the book, and it is thought-provoking. I always had figured in a pinch there was always a target I could hit: the throat. I had never thought about the legal implications of that course of action. Loren is exactly right there; you cannot use that target unless you are in an extreme situation, and when you do you can depend on getting tangled up in the legal system really good. If you didn't feel lethally-threatened you cannot take such a lethal response.Good book; I will have to figure how to practice them to make them second-nature.", 'This is the kind of book that is needed for those involved in law enforcement and security. However, any martial artist and those involved in the self-defense field will also benefit from the material in this book. As a retired law enforcement officer and life time student of the martial arts, I have seen numerous incidents where a subject was too drunk, too drugged up or too mentally deranged to feel pain. To be frank, though there were times when the take down and control techniques I used on resisting subjects worked beautifully, but many times it just looked ugly. Unfortunately, in spite of all the progress made in the law enforcement product field, nothing works 100% of the time. There have been times when an officer used deadly force on a subject, and yet the subject continued fighting the officer.You can tell the author, who is a well-known prolific writer and retired police officer, knows the reality of the street. Anyone who claims they have a magic tool or technique that will work 100% of the time has either never worked the street or has very little experience dealing with combative people. The writer makes two things very clear in this fantastic book. (1) These techniques work on most people but not on all people. (2) These techniques can be considered deadly force and you had better be justified legally before using some of these techniques.This book has ten detailed chapters with hundreds of clear photographs. This is a book that will benefit military people, law enforcement and security officers, martial artists and self-defense instructors.Rating: 5 Stars. Joseph J. Truncale (Author: Shotokan Karate Self-Defense: Combat Karate for the street)', "How to Fight the Pain Resistant Attacker is one of my favorite books. Loren Christensen is very knowledgeable on techniques that can be used against pain tolerant assailants. The techniques described and illustrated in this book are compatible with all self-defense styles, and knowing these techniques gives a sense of confidence and peace. Seek peace at all costs, but it's good to have solid techniques should the need arise. Be heedful of the cautionary statements in this book, as the techniques herein described are devastating.", 'This book is exactly what I wanted and expected to buy. The proper handling of the skills in this book is like the proper handling of a gun or a knife. Like the author says you have to be justified using these skills. I think most people are ignorant of self defence because in America we have not needed it, but times have changed. If you need to defend yourself or your loved ones why not give yourself a chance? Either you are going to be a casualty or a hero in the middle of a crime, and I suggest prepare to be a hero! These skills are as decisive as a gun or a knife in giving you the edged over an attacker, but ignorance will only leave you an easy target. Loren Christensen is not only a good fighter, he is a good writer, and uses a lot of pictures and stories so you know exactly what he is saying. He has a good sense of humor about a serious subject so I enjoyed reading this book.', "First, let me say this is not a bad book at

all. The three stars is a personal choice, and if others give higher, as most have, I do not disagree. This book did not meet my needs and was not what I expected. If they gave it five stars, clearly it met their needs and fulfilled their expectations. I am familiar with Christensen's materials and think they are generally of good quality. However, with this book what I expected and hoped for was a book on dealing with pain-resistant attackers that would be of more use to people who might have to deal with them in a position where inflicting maiming injuries is not generally allowable. For instance, EMT's and concert security people regularly deal with drunks, drugged-out people and crazies who do not feel pain right and are out of control. (I've worked in both fields.) For them to maim the person is generally not desirable or permissible unless no other option is available. I had hoped this book would focus more on providing and discussing and weighing the pros and cons and principles of the other options. (i.e. break their balance, take out their legs if necessary, flip them on their front face down and then pile on.) Instead, this generally photo-heavy, text light book discusses things like vital striking points and strikes to the eyes and ear drums and other things such as elbows and knees to vital points of the skull that are intended to kill, maim and destroy an attacker. Of course, there is a time and place for these things, but I had hoped the book would discuss more alternatives. It does not, for instance, discuss positional asphyxia, a common problem when subduing and restraining pain resistant, out-of-control attackers. (People, particularly out-of-control people, should not be restrained face-down with their hands fastened or cuffed behind their backs. Death can result.) As stated, it's good at what it does. I think it should have been more clearly labeled as to what the focus of this book was and was not. It did not, however, cover what I wished to know and had thought I had been purchasing. Who knows? Christensen is a good writer. Perhaps I've given him a suggestion for a new book topic. If so I expect he will do a good job of covering THAT subject, the one I had expected to be covered here.", "Well I must admit that I was pleasantly surprised this past Friday to find a copy of this book in my mailbox. Imagine my even greater surprise when I find out that the author had also signed this copy for me. Now it not only will be finding a place in my martial arts library, but also in my "most treasured" section which is where I put all the books that are signed by their respective authors. Okay, so you probably aren't all that interested in whether the book was signed or not, but for me it was an added bonus. So with that said, let's get on with the review... Once again Loren has done a fantastic job in his very informative and detailed approach to analyzing the tactics and techniques needed to best deal with those individuals who are resistant to pain. Yes, almost all, if not all of these tactics and techniques have been discussed before in many different books and DVD's, but never have I seen this many of them compiled into one book (or DVD for that matter) and in such an informative manner. Loren really gives you a lot of great information on vital and vulnerable targets to strike and what the various results can be from striking these targets, along with the techniques that are best suited for those target areas under various conditions and circumstances. Now one thing that I do have to clearly state is that, "This book does not teach you how to execute a particular technique, and it is not intended to." It isn't going to teach you how to execute a particular punch, kick, joint technique, etc. What this book is going to do is give the experienced martial artist/self-defense practitioner some much needed tactics and potential target information to use with the skills you have already acquired or are in the process of acquiring. Loren starts this book off with the obligatory Introduction and quickly follows that up with individual chapters that take a look at the various regions of the body and the target areas that are located in those areas that effectively deliver the greatest results when struck correctly. However, you must keep in mind (just like the title implies) that not everyone is going to be affected the same way when struck by you. Most people will drop like a 50 pound lead weight when struck in the groin, but then there is always the guy that looks at you and smiles as one testicle is rolling out his pant leg, and that is the guy for whom this book is intended to deal with. I really enjoy Loren's writing and still have yet to obtain one of his DVD's, which I understand are just as good as his books. I have yet to find a book by Loren that I didn't find beneficial and this one is no exception. I highly recommend this book to anyone and everyone interested in self-defense and I am proud to have this book in my own personal library. Even if it wasn't signed by the author! Here are a couple of the books by Loren that I also highly recommend: Street Stoppers: The Martial Arts Most Devastating Trips, Sweeps, and Throws for Real Fighting Fighter's Fact Book 2: Street Fighting Essentials (No.



2)Timing in the Fighting Arts: Your Guide to Winning in the Ring and Surviving on the StreetJust to name a few!Shawn KovacichCreator of numerous books and DVD\'s.', 'This street-oriented book provides the nuts and bolts of how to mount a disorienting and disabling attack against an assailant who feels little or no pain.Easy-to-follow written instructions and by-the-number photographs clearly illustrate these potentially life-saving (and if need be, life-taking) techniques.In my opinion, it is better to learn these techniques and not need them, than to need them and not have them!']

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[Each hiragana/katakana in this book is drawn into a picture that helps to remember how to read it. Book comes with a CD flash cards and only 2 writing tests. But inside is full of exercises and contains pretty good vocabulary for a beginner like me.', 'was a terrific tool for learning the kana of Japanese, this with flash cards made learning super fast and easy.', "I am about to begin formal Japanese classes for the first time and set a personal goal for myself to at least be able to read Hiragana and Katakana before classes began.I had seen how highly rated this book is and it is NOT an exaggeration. I carved out a minimum of 30 minutes a day (sometimes more, however because I got carried away with learning), and set out on my own. Within a week or so, I could recognize and write in Hiragana. Another week set me up in Katakana. I have already read 2 Japanese children's books as a result.The CD that comes with this book has two really basic, but useful, sets of flash cards for the two alphabets as well as handy vocabulary sheets that let you practice writing.NOTE - this book is not meant to teach you vocabulary or grammar as its primary focus. It does cover the uses of 'ha' vs. 'wa', and the use of particles 'e,' and 'o'; but this is as far it goes in that regard. Keep in mind, however, that while you're practicing stroke order and writing you are practicing writing actual words, and there are tons of words in this book. Since this isn't a vocab training focus, they aren't organized into any particular categories for the most part, but if you list them (as I did) you'll have a hefty set of words you can learn.The same author wrote a very well rated beginning Kanji book which I have already purchased but not yet started using (don't want to be TOO ahead of the class), however I know I have a very solid foundation to begin formal studies now. I feel so much more empowered that I don't have just a passing understanding of the two alphabets but can absolutely get myself through reading a book, several Japanese tweets and websites, and more. Once I learn the grammatical structure of sentences, I will be one step closer to simply learning the vocabulary necessary and not bogged down by remembering characters.This is a must own.", 'To be fair, this is the only Japanese alphabet workbook I have ever used - but I only needed this one for now! The mnemonics work great until you forget the mnemonic itself, so make sure you continue to interact with the characters after you learn them (for example, by reading text, doing the worksheets in this book or by using flashcards).With flashcards, you don't have time to think about the picture it's associated with, although these mnemonics make great training wheels! Make sure you get to the point where saying the sound is a knee-jerk reaction for you.I especially like the worksheets for "commonly mistaken" characters. Really helped me clear up confusion.With these exercises, I learned fast with a high recall accuracy - finished the book in about 4 months, using it for about an hour a week.Minor criticism and Typos:1. The katakana for 'o' has no stroke order.2. I really wish there were other fonts/handwritten versions alongside the characters, because going from this book to a Japanese computer font caused a bit of confusion. Kind of like when you learn cursive English as a kid...All in all, great work, thank you for writing this book! I'd like to learn Kanji from this author as well, if he's published a Kanji workbook.', "I really like this book. After I do a work page I get out my notebook and just repeat writing the character until I fill the page. At the end of each section I make flashcards of the vocab words and memorize those before moving on to the the next section. I have already learned all the hiragana this way and I can now read some elementary children's books in Japanese. I am about ready to move on to the katakana now and it is lots of fun! Good luck!!", 'I LOVE THIS BOOK it helps brush up on my katakana and hiragana,which is really helpful,do get this book if you are learning how to write and read kana,it also came in GREAT condition too ^U^.', 'It

was as I aspected,for what you told me,so I am very happy it came in very good shape thank you', "I learned hiragana/katakana in less than one week using this book.If you're planning to learn japanese, this should be the VERY FIRST book you buy.Just do it.", 'This is a great book but just so those who don't know, this is published under another set of covers. The original text is half white, half red with black bold lettering and the other is half white and half blue. It was 2 separate books; they also did not originally come with a CD. This is a revised version that now comes with a CD and is ONE book combined together instead of 2; so if you have the books: "Japanese Hiragana for Beginners" and "Japanese Katakana for Beginners", unless you just want it because now it has a CD and don't mind having a duplicate book, don't buy it; it is both books combined into one with a CD. Other than that, its a pretty ok book. Ok, it's actually a great book! I love the dickens out of it! Now that it comes with a CD, it makes it that much better!', "bought this because it was highly recommended and I needed to practice writing hiragana and katakana plus it comes with a CD-ROM ever since I got it I haven't stop using it I practice every single day for 30 mins plus I combine it with the whiterabbit kana cards/with mp3 and moekana flash cards which helps a lot for me I highly recommend it.", 'For anyone serious about trying to learn Hiragana or Katakana then this book is for you. It gives you the story and image to associate and how to remember the sounds. This should be the first stop for all ages attempting to learn this language.', "I'm a total newbie with learning the Japanese language right now.Trying to learn the Hiragana letters to start with by simple memorization has been interesting. I came across the 'Heisig method' of learning the Japanese character sets by associating them in your mind with a pictograph to help you remember it.'Neat', I thought... But I was then having trouble coming up with these similar objects to picture in my mind...Given time I would have come up with stuff, but thankfully this book did it for me!Some of the images it associates with the character is stretched a bit, but I doubt I would have come up with anything better.The book shows you how to draw each character within a quartered box so you know how the lines should properly intersect, as well as the correct stroke order for all the strokes that make up the character.The CD that comes with this book is great. I bought some flash cards to practice my knowledge and the cd comes with easy to print PDF files of the chars and example pictured used in the book.. Just print and stick to your index cards...Saved me lots of time and my hiragana writing skills pretty much suck at the moment, it's better to have the index cards showing each letter in the proper form instead of my sad scrawls.Would recommend!", "I am truly in love with this book. It is laid out very well with fun activities and teaches you words as you go along (which helps me a lot to associate the written and spoken) and even gives you fun ways of remembering the shapes of each character. I would (and have) recommended this as a tool for learning Japanese. If you are learning alone or in a classroom this book is very helpful. I also recommend 'Kodansha's Hiragana Workbook' by Anne Matsumoto Stewart which has a lot of the same basic concept just more basic with the focus on writing and stroke order for Hiragana only.I am impressed with this as a learning tool. Very well done."]

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["love this.Beautiful layout. Would buy again if i didn't already own this.Essential for every day.", "I purchased the compact edition of this siddur in order to have a small, portable siddur for davening on the run. I am very pleased with it. The Koren font is easy to read, and the layout is pleasant as well. In addition, the publisher has included little symbols such as a small triangle at the place in the prayer where one bows, or a small circle in the Shema where one touches the tefillin. Little details like this make it so enjoyable. It's small size makes it light enough to hold while davening without discomfort. I would recommend this to anyone looking for a compact siddur.", 'Watch as this siddur becomes the standard at shul afer shul. It is extremely well done, easy to read, easy to use and simply beautiful and, on top of that, you get the brilliant and inspiring translation and commentary by Rav Sacks.', "This siddur deserves 4.5 stars, but since that is not possible I graded it up. I use it daily and think it is great. The layout and fonts are very user-friendly. (Before I bought the Koren siddur I used the Artscroll siddur. I thought it was great and I still do.)The Koren siddur is head and

shoulders above Artscroll in two important areas: First, it respects the fact that in certain circumstances Jews in Israel use different prayers and readings than are used by Jews in the Diaspora. There are lots of examples - Shabbat Mincha Amidah, Torah readings on Sukkoth and Chanukah, and others. This siddur provides different instructions depending on whether one is davening in Israel or the Galut. The Artscroll siddur is focused exclusively in Diaspora Jews. Second, the Koren siddur represents a much needed Zionist perspective by including prayers for Israel and the IDF, as well as prayer services for Yom Yerushalayim, Yom Hashoah, Yom Hazikaron and Yom Haatzmaut. The basic Artscroll siddur has none of this because it is focused on a community that loves Eretz Yisrael but not the State of Israel. The Koren siddur falls short in three areas. First and most important, the paper is quite thin. There is no way this siddur will wear as well as the Artscroll under comparable use. Second, there is no English translation for the Hoshana circuits, as I discovered this past Sukkoth. Since I do not say these prayers often enough to be able to keep pace in the Hebrew, my first day's circuit lost a lot of meaning. (After the first day, I had my Artscroll at hand.) Third, the Koren siddur does not contain the Selichot prayers for BeHaB. As on Sukkoth, I learned this only when I was midstream, so my post-Sukkoth BeHaB became HaB with the addition of random Selichot on the first Monday. I cannot say that these are small points, hence the half-star reduction.", 'I came to Orthodox Judaism via the traditional end of the Conservative movement and I grew up with the Birnbaum siddur, which was probably the bestselling Hebrew-English siddur until Artscroll started taking over the world. The Artscroll siddur fixed a few "logistical" issues with the Birnbaum siddur, such as where to continue after Musaf on holidays and the fact that it doesn't tell people when to stand and sit. But Artscroll's commentary is a bit too far to the right for my taste and the translation is not that literate. Koren fixes these problems very well. The translation is LITERALLY beautiful and brings the meaning of prayers to life without resorting to old-style "Bible English." The layout is good and breaks down phrases and sentences in an easy to understand way. I still have a few issues with it. The print is a bit small in places and not even Koren's fonts, especially designed to be easy to read, don't always make a difference. And they don't use the layout for Biblical passages that appear in the Siddur where it could help, especially with psalms, which ARE poetry. I use this frequently because it is a great siddur, but the size of the font keep it from being a favorite on weekday mornings when I frequently "daven" (pray) before my coffee kicks in.', 'Most Jews read the siddur, a Hebrew word meaning "order," implying the order of prayers, with little or no comprehension of what they are reading. They are no different than Christians and Muslim. All fail to fulfill the purpose of prayer. The Hebrew word for prayer is tefillah, which is based on a root that means "to judge oneself." Prayer in Judaism is more than a petition, the basic meaning of the Latin and Greek word upon which "prayer" is based. It is a time of reflection, of inner judgment, of considering change and improvement. The siddur is an anthology of widely divergent ideas that were composed by Jews - and non-Jews in some instances, like the ma tovu ohalekha prayer that is at the beginning of the siddur - with different ideologies over a long period of time. The siddur contains pieces from the Bible, such as Psalms, and poems written in the sixteenth century by mystics, such as the prayer welcoming the Sabbath called in Hebrew lecha dodi. By incorporating such a wide spectrum of views, the rational and the mystical, old and relatively new, Jews are capable, if they understand the prayers, to reflect on what is being said, the history of their religion, the concerns of its adherents, see if and how the prayers relate to their lives, and ask themselves whether the prayer they are reading can help them develop themselves and improve society. Does the new Koren Siddur improve upon these matters and aid Jews in better understanding what they are reading? The answer is an emphatic "yes." Indeed this is one of the primary purposes of the new siddur. It aids Jews in acquiring all of the above-mentioned benefits by its manner of presentation, its translations and its commentaries. The following innovations of this new siddur are a small sample of how this siddur enhances its users' period of prayer and their understanding of Judaism.\* Both the Hebrew and English are written with a beautiful font especially designed to enhance the siddur.\* Both the Hebrew and English are generally written with poetic spacing that, unlike run-on sentences, prompts the reader to think and consider the meaning of each phrase, as in the mourner's kaddish: Magnified and sanctified may His great name be, in the world He created by His will.\* There is a rational acceptance of the existence of the State of Israel

and the United States, which is absent from the currently widely-used siddur. There are services for Yom Hazekaron, Israel's Memorial Day, Yom HaAtzma'ut, Israel's Independence Day, and for Yom Yerushalayim, the day commemorating the reunion of Israel's capital Jerusalem.\* Highly significant is the English translation and commentary of Sir Jonathan Sacks, the chief rabbi of the British Empire. Rabbi Sacks' English is impeccable, unlike the yeshiva-type English contained in the currently popular siddur.\* Unlike this currently popular siddur that openly promotes a mystical ideology and a world-view where God is present in everyday affairs and manipulates individuals, groups and nations like puppets to do His will, Sacks' translation and commentary is open-minded and reasonable. For example, while discussing Israel's Independence Day, he mentions the mystic Nachmanides' view (in his commentary to Leviticus 18:25) that Jews only fully fulfil the divine commands (mitzvot) when they perform them in Israel. Sacks writes, among other things: "Interpreted non-mystically, this means that the Torah represents the architecture of a society, it is not just a code for the salvation of the soul. The Torah includes laws relating to welfare, the environment, the administration of justice, employer-employee relations, and many other matters not normally thought of as religious. It is less about the ascent to heaven, than about bringing heaven down to earth in the form of a just, gracious and compassionate social order." This world-view stands in stark contrast to that advocated in the currently popular siddur.\* The new siddur contains a Guide to the Reader section that is an excellent introduction to how Hebrew should be pronounced and explains how the editors of the siddur made pronunciation easy by inserting clues in the Hebrew text. An example is that the emphasis on all Hebrew words should be on the last symbol except where the editors placed a small line next to the vowel in words that are not so pronounced.\* There is a section explaining how the services differ in Israel.\* There are 66 pages of 490 instructions on the laws of prayers.\* The editors of the new siddur recognize, as they should, that there have been centuries of debate as to the wording of some prayers. Two pages delineate these differences.\* Many people do not know when and how to respond to certain prayers - for example, should one say "amen." This is addressed.\* There are charts indicating what prayers could be said for special occasions, such as the birth of a child, for an illness and for guidance.\* Many synagogue attendees cannot read Hebrew and do not know how to navigate through a siddur, so the editors placed an English transliteration of the two types of mourners' kaddish as the last pages of the siddur.\* It is refreshing and characteristic of the Koren Siddur to read on page 26 that Jews "believe that every human being is equally formed in the image of God," men and women, Jew and non-Jew. These are just some of the many innovations introduced in the Koren Siddur. Synagogues should replace their current prayer books and give their parishioners this magnificent volume.', "Have you ever wondered why almost every orthodox shul seems to use the Artscroll siddur, even though it has instructions and very right wing commentary that the congregation may not agree with? If so, you will almost certainly appreciate the Koren Sacks siddur. It is a traditional siddur. It has an excellent introduction section about prayer, it uses two slightly different excellent fonts, some actually pretty typesetting, and it differentiates kamatz gadol and kamatz katan, and shva na and shva nach. (if you don't know what those are, don't worry, it's not obtrusive). So far I like the translations. It does have instructions but somehow they seem less obtrusive to me. My only criticism of this volume is that it uses very thin paper, probably because it was printed in Israel. On the other hand, it would be much thicker and heavier if it were printed on thicker paper, so maybe it's for the best.", "We use an older version of this Sacks siddur in my Conservative synagogue which prompted me to buy this one. This siddur is beautifully done. The Hebrew on the left-hand side of the page was a little different but I actually have come to prefer it that way thanks to this siddur. I do not think there is a better siddur out there. I am very pleased and have nothing but commendation to give to Koren Publishers and Rabbi Sacks.', "I'm new enough to Judaism that I can't really say if this is a wonderful Siddur or not, so I will defer to other reviews on that note. But if you have the compact size edition, get a magnifying glass. Both Hebrew and English print is teeny-tiny... Hebrew vowel markings extremely teeny-tiny!", "As someone who davvans each day with Rinnat Yisrael and has too davvaned with Artscroll I am considering changing to the this new Sacks Koren Siddur. Even if I do not I would recommend it most highly. It has a truly insightful introduction by Rabbi Sacks on the subject of Jewish prayer. He

provides wonderful new insights in showing how Prayer is an essential human and Jewish activity. He tells the story of Jewish prayer historically. The two elements that of individual spontaneous prayer which has its origins in Tannach, and the second collective kind of communal prayer which has its origins in the Sacrifices are described in their development. Rabbi Sacks does not however content himself with general ideas but goes through much of the Davvaning showing how the three- and- six and seven- part numerical structures often reflect the whole pattern of Jewish prayer. One reason I consider davvaning with this prayer- book is the English translation. This is the first translation I have seen in which the English appears on the right side and the Hebrew on the left. I know Hebrew quite well and in fact love to davvan when I see the Hebrew text alone. Yet often I do not know the exact meaning of the davvaning. And one reason I consider using this Siddur is that with it I might make use of certain times when I have a bit of time waiting to learn from Rabbi Sacks translation and commentary. And this I hope will be a remedy to 'routine and stagnation' the great enemies of real davvaning. This book is attractively laid out. My one problem with it is its size. It is pocket - book but thicker than most. I usually like to carry either a Siddur or a Tehilim with me wherever I go but this seems a bit big to stuff in my shirt- pocket. I nonetheless will probably use it for one decisive reason. Its translation is much better than the Artscroll. It is better I think both in religious and in purely linguistic and aesthetic terms. I believe this Siddur a real gift to the Jewish world and all involved in its production, first and foremost Rabbi Sacks, are to be commended for the making of it."]

## B000NY11RY

["I LOVE BELLE ANDRE!!!! Let me start by saying that I truly truly enjoy reading Belle Andre books. Yet this one fell short. Usually I can sit down with my pot of coffee on a Saturday and Sunday morning soaking up the romance that drips from the pages and by Sunday evening, I'm sorry that I read it so fast and want more. The story just didn't make sense to me. I had a really hard time getting into the characters. It was steamy but usually Belle Andre has me with the love story and the steam is the bonus. This one not so much.", 'I loved the book. Characters were great. I just wish the stories were longer and that it gave you a glimpse into their future. Love everything that Bella Andre writes. Keep it coming!', 'These 3 stories were really to short. I would just get into the groove and here comes the end. Not enough substance.', 'I loved this book!!! I wish it was longer! Bella Andre is one of my favorite authors. Please keep the books coming!', "Even though I recently just found Ms. Andre as a writer of erotica and erotic, I absolutely love her books. This one was no exception. I enjoyed the premise of three friends on a weekend in wine country, CA. The description of the vineyards and town made me want to visit the area. Each character has about 1/3 of the book devoted to her; each story within the book was very good and different. I loved the first two characters in the first and second parts: Carrie and Rose . . . absolutely fell in love with the chef for more reasons than one, gee he cooks! Rose's story was the most believable to me (though who really cares how believable it was). Vanessa was my least favorite character, matter of fact; I really didn't care for her at all until the end, then I changed my mind about her. However, FOR ME, Vanessa's weekend was by far, one of the most erotic stories I have ever read . . . the words, scenarios and feelings portrayed were beautiful; at one point, I had tears running down my cheeks because the writing was so poignant . . . wow! It's a keeper that I'll read over-and-over when I want to be entertained and on a 3-day getaway.", "Bella Andre shares an amazing trio of stories about three best friends' surrender to love during a weekend trip to the Napa Valley wine country. Each story was individual as each character. Yet the stories spoke to a need we each have for a love designed to satisfy our individual heart's desire. Carrie and Tyson. Rose and Jack. Vanessa and Sam. You should read this book for yourself and determine which comes closest to resembling your own story or the one you long for. Hmm good.", "Another amazing book by belle Andre. If you have read her books you don't need to read this review because everything she writes is amazing. Great story and hot and steamy as always. She is my favorite author! Keep them coming!!", "The book is divided into three parts, it covers each of the three girls on a journey to Napa, California. I liked the

first story, couldn't get into the next two so much.", "LOVED this book, great romance, great characters, a must read as all of Bella Andre's books are, she is GREAT", "This is my second book by Belle Andre, and I am hooked! Not only is it much better reading anything on my Kindle, since I have a vision impairment, I can make the font bigger so I can read it more comfortable, but reading any type of book or magazine is so much more better than the old way. Plus Belle's romances are hot, hot, hot, with incredible, likeable, believable characters, and great stories. If you enjoy a great romance, try any book by Belle Andre. You will not be disappointed.", "Tempt Me". Carrie rejects wealthy James' proposal of marriage. Instead she goes into wine country with her best friends Rose and Vanessa. In Napa she meets winemaker Tyson who to her delight and shock she wants to join in his "cave". "Taste Me". Though dumping Elliot at a monster truck rally, Rose feels good about herself and her voluptuous build as she relaxes at the Napa Valley Hotel and Spa. When she wins the grand prize of a private cooking session with renowned Chef Jack, it is not food they crave when they meet. "Touch Me". Vanessa sees a painting that she wants to buy, but Sam the artist refuses to give her money for it. Instead he demands much more from her as he knows instantly he must paint her. He asks for three days to paint her portrait and in return the painting is hers. What he hides from her is that he knows he has found his lifetime muse even if she denies love exists; he has three days to persuade her otherwise. These are three terrific erotic romances starring full blooded (well the males in many scenes have the blood rushing to their lower heads) characters who turn this into a Bella delightful compilation. Harriet Klausner', 'I this book was great. I loved it. I have read every book that Bella Andre has written, This book is about 3 friends & how they find love. You will not be able to put it down.', 'I love Bella Andre and cannot wait for more of the Sullivan's...she promised that this summer she would continue with the series....I have read them all twice and will read them all again....The Sullivan men are so handsome and such regal gentlemen....a woman loves to believe that there is really a man out there that is just like them...Rich and yet honorable and so sexy and so understanding...they actually can feel what they're loved one is going through and doesn't make her wrong and always strives to make it right and wonderful...of course the &#34;sex&#34; scenes are amazing and yet so believable....Ms. Andre, I am waiting for more of your wonderful and talented imagination to be put in print...', "Tempt Me: The next day after dumping her seemingly perfect boyfriend, Carrie and her friends take a trip to the Napa Valley. While her ex seemed perfect until the moment he proposed, the closer she gets to the wine country, the more Carrie realizes how close she came to making a huge mistake. And when Carrie meets, Tyson, a handsome winemaker, she sees what perfect really is. Taste Me: Full-figured Rose knows what it feels like to be dumped. Just before her trip to the Napa Valley, her boyfriend dumps her for a much thinner woman. When she arrives at the hotel, she is surprised to win a weekend of cooking lessons with the delectable chef, Jack Gerard. And Jack finds Rose's voluptuous curves delicious. Touch Me: Vanessa knows what she wants and knows how to get it. When she sees a painting she desires, she'll stop at nothing to get it. If it means taking on a gorgeous and sexy artist struggling to show his immunity to her wiles, so be it. Tempt Me, Taste Me, Touch Me by Bella Andre is a collection of three erotically charged novellas that will leave you panting for more! I devoured all three in the course of an evening and fell asleep with a satisfied smile on my face. I loved them all. Of the three, my favorite was Taste Me. I am a fan of rubenesque heroines and adore the men that love them. In Touch me, Taste Me, Touch Me, Bella Andre delivers three erotic novellas that appeal to the romantic in us all. Annmarie Reviewed for Joyfully Reviewed", 'this book is a good read, but not at this price. I am a very avid reader and have read a lot of books by Bella Andre, however there is no way anyone should pay this price for a paperback with 300 pages. Her other recently released books are too expensive as well at over \$8. Believe there are a tremendous number of great writers equal to or better and at 25-0% of the cost.', 'Wine and romance perfect combo Bella Andre delivers again, a story of three friends all escaping the daily life of the city and each indulging in their weekend getaway with three men who know how to break down the walls around their hearts. Each struggle with the new found love they have in men know how to wine country after disastrous relationships make them second guess themselves but three Napa men prove to them that a second chance is nothing to be afraid of.', 'This book felt too repetitive of others that were much better. Skip this one and pick up I Only Have Eyes For You.', 'Each story could be expanded to a

stand alone novel. The characters were unique and all likeable. Steamy romance, humor and drama---a winning trifecta!']

## B002NGO50U

[I thoroughly enjoyed this quick read. Ms. McFadden delivered a well-written, poignant story of a woman who must face an uncertain and frightening future with a little help from the memories of her past and the support of a new love. A truly touching story. I absolutely loved it.', 'A beautiful and sad little story. Well defined characters in such a small space! I love this novella because it gives as much to a reader as a full blown novel would. McFadden is a master.', 'A lovely and sweet story in faith and the belief that happiness is deserved and continues to triumph out a difficult and disappointing news. A story of timeless and unconditional love', 'Keeper of the keys I give 2.5 stars. I nice quick read.After winning the lottery and a new man has come into her life and life is good. Kai finds out she has AIDS at 32 years old with a daughter 7 years old.', 'Nice read but it keeps one hanging. Would have liked to have had a more concrete ending. But a really good story full of personal perspective.', "And even though is not exact In every aspect, if you've seen the movie, you will be reminded of Spike Lee's movie &#34;Crooklyn&#34;," "O love everything Bernice McFadden writes, however, I don't remember this book because I read it so long ago. Would definitely recommend anything this author writes.", "Her stories always make me weep. I don't know if it's because it's so beautifully written or because I always recognize someone in the story", 'This is was a good, quick read. I needed something to read that was good after reading Perfect Peace. It was a short read, and a story that made me stop and think, "What would I do if I was in that situation?" It was confusing because she is talking about her story to the man she currently loves. I would have loved to read more about how Journey handled the situation when she told him or more about the development of their relationship. Nevertheless, I recommend this book if you are looking for something quick and good.', 'bernicemcfaddenAt the very beginning of KEEPER OF KEYS, we are hit with the disease that Kai must live with for the rest of her life. What the doctor tells Kai shakes her world like an earthquake. Kai leaves the doctor\'s office and hurries home. She huddles close to her fireplace trying to make peace with the doctor\'s diagnosis. Her mind runs to and fro. She remembers her mother, Alice, who died of bone cancer. She remembers her mother\'s love of life. Unfortunately, it\'s not as easy to remember all of the men who have loved her in the past. There are names and features she remembers, but she can\'t remember all of her lovers. She can\'t remember who might not have worn a condom during the intimacy of love making. She realizes one of those times of loving and being loved was now as she says "costing me my life."Kai fears that she will never experience the love of another man in her life ever. "Would this be the only type of affection I could safely allow myself? I would never be loved by another man, ever." While reading the story I realized how swiftly our lives can turn in another direction. I also realized there is always hope and love in every situation. For Kai, there are the memories of her mother, Alice. There is her much loved daughter, Alice, who is staying in Georgia far from her Northern home. There is a man named Journey. Each person in KEEPER OF KEYS will become a part of Kai\'s new beginning, new Genesis.As always Bernice L. McFadden\'s story is richly descriptive. She writes about the bells of St. Patrick\'s cathedral, the black sand, white sand, coconuts and pineapples of the islands and the volcanic eruption in the 1800\'s. She mentions the Masaii tribesmen. I loved the mention of a favorite poem The Negro Speaks of Rivers by Langston Hughes. The author also mentions three Artists, all new to me: Charles Bibb theworldart, Paul Nzalambagemsofafricagallery, and Leroy Campbell, leroycampbelloriginals. The mention of these artists fit so well in the story because Kai\'s mother, Alice, loved to paint. Alice, her namesake, chooses to one day "cover her daughter\'s nursery walls with Banyan trees, smiling tigers and juggling bears...." This hope and love springs forth throughout the novel. I thought about it. Death does not have the power to destroy because life is stronger than death. All of us are living legacies of those who have gone on before us to the Great Beyond. When death comes, our deepest concern is how to explain it to our children and ourselves. I think one answer lies in this novel KEEPER OF KEYS."Eternity is not something you lay on a child suddenly.

It's a concept that finds its way into their minds with maturity."It makes me happy to end this review with Langston Hughes poem.', "Ms. McFadden is a world class writer and I'm in awe of her. Her writing reminds me of Gloria Naylor but with a bit more character depth.", 'An intriguing perspective on a voyage that most people are blessed to never travel. The details breath live into the words. It is a true novella with an abrupt end.', 'I was thinking if I got the whole book. I orderd on Kindle and seem to me it was really really short. but for the most part very short', "This book was very deep. It was heart felt. I wasn't sure about the book when I read the title, but I decided to give it a chance. And i'm glad that I did !Lisa, from Cali", 'when this short story was first released, but I'm happy that I've found and read it. Bernice is and will remain one of my favorite authors and this short story only adds to that feeling. I love how the story flows with the "story in a story", how I can see her lying in her lovers lap re-telling him her story. I could feel the pain of her learning her status; her lost so young in life and even the pulling away from her own child. The ending only left me wanting more, wishing that I could continue on the journey that is Kai's life. I really should give this 5 stars, because there was nothing bad about it, EXCEPT IT WAS TOO SHORT.... I shouldn't hold it against Ms. McFadden, because she published a short story. I'm going to up it to FIVE stars.', 'This was a wonderful book. Very informative & inspirational. Through trials & tribulation love is still the most important medicine for healing', 'This book was very good and was a page Turner....so I would recommend it to anyone...that loves a good book.', "For some reason my Kindle wouldn't allow me to add the third star. However this book was short , but I loved it.", "This was a great short story. I finished it in two hours but feel that I have been impacted forever. I loved this book and felt Kai's pain. It really could have been any of us. Thanks again McFadden.", 'I love the way the author made connections in this story. It is short, sweet and to the point. It is not a tear jerked but a very endearing story. B. McFadden never disappoints.']

## B002VFPS4U

[I liked meeting Nicky and the so proper Ian, I liked their struggle and their relationship. I even liked how Ian felt about his phantom hand, and surviving battle. Set during the Napoleonic wars, two men, friends from school days, reconnect and try to find ways to make the connection work. The end was a bit too neat, and not as simple as it sounded, but it could work, and certainly I hope that it does work for all concerned.2345 locations (the rest was samples from other authors) I read it in one gulp, but I will reread, so it worth it for me.', 'Warning: This review might contain what some people consider SPOILERS.Rating: 8/10PROS:- Ian and Nicky's past together is revealed in just enough detail early on that it made me instantly curious to read more about them.- I love the fact that Ian is not physically perfect. The author examines his thoughts and feelings (both mental and physical) pertaining to his amputated arm in a good amount of detail. His musings about it are pervasive, but I didn't find them annoying; they're reflective and a little sad, but he's not overly despairing or dramatic about it.- I also liked that Nicky is just the slightest bit on the standoffish side when it comes to Ian, yet he's also the aggressor in their relationship.- I've read quite a few Regency romances over the years, both m/f and m/m, but the characters in this story participate in some holiday festivities and games that I'd never read about before and that give the story a fun, unique feel.- The ending of the novella contains an unusual plot twist that I liked a lot. (I don't want to say more because I'm afraid I'll give something away.)CONS:- Mitchell uses occasional foreign phrases throughout the story, and I must admit to my ignorance of the meaning of some of them, which made certain sentences basically incomprehensible to me. For example: "As injurious as this fortnight was to Ian's mens sana, it was a boon to his corpore sano."- There are a couple (but only a couple) conversations that contained fewer speech tags ("he said") than I wanted; that is, I was confused for a short time as to who was speaking, what the characters' relationship was, who the people being referred to were, etc. The first of these conversations is at the very beginning of the story.Overall comments: My one main complaint about this story is that it's short; that's not to say that it's TOO short, though. I just didn't want it to end. I loved the treatment of Ian's disability, especially how gentle and reassuring Nicky is without emasculating Ian at all. The sex isn't terribly



graphic, but there's a decent amount of it.', "There is nothing original in this very short Regency M/M romance. The setting is the usual one, gay aristocrats having to cope with the homophobic, claustrophobic mores of a time and society when laws founded on religious beliefs used to fetter people's life. To this well trodden setting the author adds the usual topic of forced proximity as the two lovers are bound to remain in the same place for a given number of days and have no way to avoid each other, again a very common choice in this kind of novels. There is one twist though: the two star-crossed lovers have not only already met (this would be common) but they have been lovers in their early youth, until they were separated when one of them, a second son and therefore kind of useless to his father, was sent to war to acquire a status for himself. Problem is that, after five years, he had to come back because (second twist) he has lost his left forearm. Haunted by honour, duty and guilt Ian (the come-back soldier) has to be seduced again because he seems to consider the previous affair with Nicky a juvenile mistake and the attraction he still feels for Nicky something to be repressed. I will not spoil the third twist (a bit contrived) that allows them their happily ever after. All in all the story was captivating. The two main characters are easy to love even if the soldier sounds more childish, at times, than guilt-ridden and the other lover seems a little too unsouciant. The story could surely have born more fleshing out: it takes place within a limited time scope (twelve days) but it needs not have taken twelve pages to be told. There are several moments that feel hurried and character building could have been better. More care should have also been given to the sex scenes: they are emotional because of the baggage the two carry with them but they are not very erotic.", "An Improper Holiday is a sexy, enjoyable historical story most of which takes place during a house party between Christmas Eve and New Year's Day. I am not an historian, but I thought the details provided set the time and place well, without taking over the story. I liked learning about the different ways people at that time celebrated the holidays. The two MCs were opposites in many ways, which sometimes caused them to clash, but ultimately helped them make the other feel complete. Ian's self-conflict between what he wanted and his sense of honor, coupled with his perceived loss of worth due to his injury, made him an interesting, complex character. And made the ending more rewarding. His sister and Lewes were entertaining side characters. Good holiday read!", 'I really enjoyed the story between Ian and Nicky and though this was only about 100 pages long, there was much information about their history. I liked that they had known each other in school and experimented when they were there so that their coming together again 5 years later seemed like it was only natural that they'd want to rekindle their relationship. (POSSIBLE SPOILER) The twist in the story, was no surprise to me for the more I read into it, the more obvious it was but I really enjoyed the story nonetheless. Would have loved if there had been an epilogue though.', 'Ian Stanton, second son of the Earl of Rayne, has always done what was proper. His one and only highly improper secret is his love for Nicholas Chatham, Lord Amherst, eldest son of the Marquess of Carleigh. Five years ago, Ian and Nicky fully fulfilled their physical desire for one another, but the experience left Ian certain that it could never be repeated. Now Ian has returned home, an ex-military captain who was badly wounded during the Peninsular War. Forced to escort his sister to the Twelve Night gathering at Carleigh Castle, the last person Ian wants to encounter is Nicky. Nicky doesn't care that society would deem his feelings for Ian wrong. Still, he knows getting and keeping Ian in his life will take more strategizing than a military campaign. He has twelve nights to convince Ian that the kind of life they could have is worth risking everything for. And Nicky will definitely need every night. A wounded soldier and his determined soul mate can definitely heat up the holidays; they definitely do in this sexy story by K.A. Mitchell. An Improper Holiday puts its two heroes love and willingness to nearly put their lives on the line to stay together to the test. One of the things I particularly enjoyed about An Improper Holiday is that Ian didn't take the social and legal ramifications of his and Nicky's relationship lightly. It takes a lot of maneuvering to make an "unconventional" relationship work for these men, but Ms. Mitchell handles their road to happily ever after in a very interesting way. On a lighter note, I adored both heroes. Ian is the darker one of the pair, more serious and still suffering the aftereffects of a fighting in a war. Nicky is the perfect complement to Ian. He's light where Ian is dark, bringing joy to the man he loves and to me as a reader. It's impossible not to fall head over heels for him; Nicky's just that irresistible. An Improper Holiday is the first story I've read by Ms. Mitchell and it definitely won't be the last. I

enjoyed Ian and Nicky\'s "improper" romance and think back on these two handsome heroes with a smile. Shayna Reviewed for Joyfully Reviewed', 'An Improper Holiday by K.A. Mitchell was a charming historical romance read. I do think an accurate historical depicting a gay relationship is a particularly difficult thing to do and there is only a certain amount of scope. But, I think the book was well executed and a very sweet read. This author consistently delivers the goods and this gem is no exception. Totally sexy reading and the story has one particularly intriguing secondary character that totally deserves a HEA too.', 'I\'m getting the grasp of K.A. Mitchell\'s character standards and I like. Ian and Nicky find away to solidify their love during the Regency period which makes for some pretty tough fences to overcome. They find a way to wrangle through the fences and a way to be together. Enjoyable quick, holiday read with major substance.', 'When I was reading this novella I felt as if I was granted a privilege to take a look through a window in another time and place. Very nicely done and settings ring true to an era. And oh boy, I am always pleased when author is not afraid to do something to the character which makes his looks less than perfect. And chemistry was wonderful too, they sizzled on the page.', 'I have easily read over 600 romance novels in my life (f/m and m/m) and this is one of the top 20. Excellent characterization, witty dialogue, era-appropriate language and references, and an intriguing plot (not to mention hot sex scenes!) - I can\'t say enough about what a wonderful read this is. Just buy it and read it! This is KA Mitchell\'s first foray into regency romance (as far as I know) and it is spot-on. How does she write both regency and modern romance so well? She and Josh Lanyon (and Jordan Castillo Price) are definitely the stars of the m/m romance scene"]

## B004CYF4DI

["Can't wait to read this to my grandkids! Too bad that these kind of stories seem to have gone out of fashion - and that more children don't read lighthearted, joyous, fun books, instead of watching scary movies or playing violent video games!", "Carl Ashmore has written a Christmas adventure tale that makes use of every Christmas and adventure device that can be crammed into one novella. The story's hero is a seven year old boy who is awakened the night before Christmas by an elf who informs him that he is the new Santa Claus. It seems that the current Santa, the 13th in the line, has been kidnapped, and Derek must take his place prematurely. (This was not supposed to happen till Derek reached 21.) Derek decides to try to rescue the current Santa with the help of a group of elf special agents. The story is enjoyable, but the conflicts are rather too easily resolved. Ashmore wanted, I guess, to write a story that could be read quickly perhaps by a parent to a child on Christmas, but the story seems too dark for younger kids and too young for older ones.", "What a wonderful look at the magic of Santa Claus! I don't want to give any spoilers, so I won't give details. I'll just say that I liked the story a lot.", "The Night They Nicked Saint Nick is an amazing Christmas story. it made me feel cheery and happy to be alive. Seven year old Derek goes on a special mission with some elves to help rescue Santa. They encounter many dangers on their journey but they never give up. Derek recieves a special gift which helps them out along their way. Will they rescue Santa in time? In time for what...you say? Read the book to find out! Available at Amazon.com That's where I bought mine!", "I was introduced to Carl Ashmore when a discussion led me to his book The Time Hunters. I so thoroughly enjoyed that book that I was excited to hear he was releasing a Christmas book. Mr. Ashmore says the book is geared for the 5 to 8 year child, but, believe me, THIS child (who has grandchildren in that range)loved it. The story centers on a young boy who has to lead the quest to save a kidnapped Santa. The author paints vivid pictures with his words and I got quite a few smiles for my pennies. The story is a quick read and I look forward to reading it to my grandchildren upon our next visit. If you want a feel good, fun to read book that the entire family might enjoy, give this one a try. Personally, I am looking forward to more of Mr. Ashmore's books since his first two gave me such pleasure.", "This was a lovely modern Christmas legend, the kind of book I look forward to sharing with my grand-children. Seven year old Derek Brundle discovers he is to be the next Father Christmas and that the current Santa is in great danger. We meet some wonderful characters in this book. I especially loved the elf Munkle with her

quirky modes of expression, 'Yeppers!' The villain of the story receives a very satisfying punishment for his iniquities. Children will love it. Carl Ashmore has a great imagination and some excellent verbal skills that bring his creations to life. He sums up Christmas by having Santa say to the villain, 'Christmas is about more than toys and presents and turkey dinners. It's about love and decency and respect and kindness. These are the real gifts of Christmas.' How can you sum it up better than that? Thank you Carl, for a bit of fun in the true spirit of Christmas.", 'The story was fun to read, even as an adult. Some spelling oddities - may be do to language translation. For a family with kids who love Santa, this is a great story to read a chapter each day. I really enjoyed it.', 'grandson has to read a book a night for school & keeps coming back to this one to see what happens', 'I can easily see this book becoming a Christmas movie for children and everyone else to enjoy. Santa is kidnapped and it's up to a 7 year old boy to become the new Santa, but instead he devises a way to save the elderly Santa. He saves Christmas and its message of kindness and goodness for everyone.', 'What an adorable and refreshing addition to Christmas. I thoroughly enjoyed it and am recommending it to my daughter to read to her second grade class.', 'Unfortunately my kids did not like book. I tried to do the character voices as good as I could but nothing I did seemed to help. They are not literary snobs at ages 6 and 3 but they could not get interested in this story. I didn't find the book offensive and the message was nice. What can I say? I'm going to leave it on my Kindle and try again next year. If by chance they change their minds I'll change my review.', 'This chapter book is a fun read that could easily become a new family tradition for the holiday season. Kids and parents alike will enjoy reading this book aloud. It is very imaginative, and it also has the message (without being preachy) of the importance of always doing your best. I'd love to see it made into an animated movie!', 'Idea was novel but was a little too heavy with the made up words from the beginning of the story. Made it too hard to keep up with the storyline while deciphering the language.', 'Great book to read to children and grandchildren during Christmas break. Made my grandson Blake laugh out loud. Refreshing tale.']

## B004OR192I

["It is pretty easy to figure out from the description that it's just recipes and, frankly, I'd rather read recipes than the other books she described. Anyway, they are easy to make and quite good. It's nice to get a cookbook for free for the kindle that isn't about 100 years old and/or in the public domain.", "Never been disappointed with her books. Always buy Jill Shalvis books know I won't be disappointed~Please try her books. You will read with pleasure&#62;", 'This book was really good I enjoyed it I recommend anyone who likes her books To read this I gave it a 10', "OK - I must have been confused when I looked at this. I was under the impression that it was the beginning of a series that included head of heels and simply irresistible. Good thing it's only .99 cents because ITS JUST A RECIPE BOOK!", "I did not look close enough when I selected this book to read. However, I was delighted once I go into it and found many delicious recipes to prepare for my family. Recipes include desserts, great changes for the breakfast menu and several things I never thought about fixing. I am a fan of Jill's, love all of her books read thus far and now I am also excited about trying some of her recipes. Another great purchase from Amazon. Betty Cousins", 'This book contains lots of fun, simple-to-follow recipes with detailed instructions. I especially loved the pancake and chicken salad recipes. A great bargain for the price.', "I was looking for recipes that were a little bit different for brunches that I often have at my house. Just nothing here that I haven't tried before.", "This is a short book with about 20 recipes. There was only one that I thought I would try - You're My honey bun muffins. What I did like were the quotes between each one. Not sure where the title comes from because it's not much to make my kitchen heat up (at least the way I thought she was referring to). This was a free kindle download and really short so just average.", 'This is a good book. I had it on my Nook reader and my charger broke so my husband got me a Kindle Fire. I love the Kindle much, much better and bought this book a second time just to get a recipe that was in it. The pumpkin waffles are delicious and I now make them for Christmas breakfast every year.', '"It's impossible to be both smart and in love." If you love quotes and recipes then this book will amuse

you. Reading these recipes will make you weak in the knees, but seriously you could catch a man cooking this well. Never doubt the power of a good recipe to bring love into your life. Most of the book is recipes but there are also some previews of novels Jill Shalvis has coming out next month. I haven't read any of her novels but she seems like a great cook. Some of the tantalizing recipes include: Banana Muffins, Blueberry Pancakes, Sunshine Casserole - cheese, ham, eggs, tater tots, Chicken Enchiladas - you also learn how to make Salsa Verde, Chili, Chicken Salad, Gourmet Burgers, Stew, Fried Chicken, Apple Pie, Hot Chocolate, Hungry yet? This is a real helping of comfort foods that are perfect to make this winter. ~The Rebecca Review', 'Thank you for sharing the Lucky Harbor Inn Recipes. A rare thing. But very special with the bond of 3 sisters & a fiancée; that can cook too.', "Love cooking so this book has all of Shalvis' 1st lucky harbor cast quotes from the books and recipes that appear oh so deliciously in the stories. Love lucky harbor and food? This book combines the two together.", 'When I read a cookbook that calls for envelopes of Hidden Valley Ranch dip mix, or cans of mushroom soup concentrate, I always wonder "Did I waste a bunch of money for recipes that were originally published in advertising?" It's one thing to make do with convenience items when you're really pressed for time and your pantry is empty, but planning ahead to use those items is really dumb. Mushroom soup makes a convenient sauce, saving all of 2 minutes while cooking, at an extra cost of 75c, resulting in less tasty food. The \$22.50/hour that 2 minutes is higher than you'd net from a \$90,000 job, after taxes and work expenses. On the other hand, the recipes all look like they'd produce tasty foods, if you have no objection to consuming chemicals that never saw the inside of your great-grandmother's kitchen. Cookbooks, however, serve a variety of different purposes. Some cookbooks teach cooking skills. This one does not. Some cookbooks serve as an encyclopedic reference so you can find out how to make a food you've never made before. This one does not. Some cookbooks are fun to page through, and serve to inspire us, when we cannot figure out what to fix. This cookbook hits that one right on the head. Even if we don't fix the particular recipe in the cookbook, the cookbook might give us an idea of what to do with the food ingredient in the refrigerator that will go bad if we don't use it pretty soon. And this IS a fun cookbook. There's an amusing quip between each two recipes. ("Families are like fudge - mostly sweet with a few nuts." The cookbook is fairly well organized, with each recipe starting on a new page. The artistic design is excellent, there are few if any typos in the words, suggesting that there aren't many places where they specify a tablespoon of arsenic when they meant a teaspoon of alum (drat, and I DID so like Aunt Alice!). They even get the grammar right. And the author obviously has a sense of humor. Unfortunately, that comes out in the names of the recipes. If you're watching TV with your loved one, and leisurely paging through cookbooks during commercials, trying to compose a shopping list, that's one thing. If you suddenly realize that you need to fix supper, because Joe raided the refrigerator at 3 AM, and you no longer have those leftovers you were counting on, you may need to scour through the table of contents of a dozen or more cookbooks, trying to figure out what you can fix that sounds good, with the ingredients you have on hand. It's at that point that "Life Sucks Golf Balls Casserole" ceases being a cutesy menu item, "Chloe's Chicken Salad (which she stole from Phoebe)" becomes more acceptable and "Cashew Chicken Salad" (all three are recipes in this cookbook) becomes absolutely fantastic as a name for a recipe. I've spoken mostly of being inspired by this cookbook, but I intend to try "Not Yo Mama's Apple Pie" in the next couple of days. Not without modification, of course. The author calls for shortening in the pie crust, and as I want neither cancer nor heart disease, I will use healthful rendered lard instead of the trans-fat-laden shortening. It's a very similar recipe to the one I normally use, though, and if it's a little better, I'm always happy to steal a good idea. "A conclusion," one of the interstitial notes points out, "is the place you get to when you're tired of thinking." I'm tired of thinking. And while I can hardly call this a great cookbook for everyone, it certainly has its good points, and depending on your needs, may be a great cookbook for you. (There are previews of a couple of romance novels included, but if you wanted those, you could get the free samples of the books from the Kindle store without the bother of a cookbook.)', 'I love trying new recipes and these seem like they would not only be easy but fun as well to make!!']

["I couldn't relate to the female character, she was such a Pollyanna, not wanting her life to change. Not wanting the Napa valley to change. I found her whiny when she didn't get her way. Screaming at her boyfriend that he caused her father to have a great attack... really?? Glad this book was free.", "Good character development and involving. Although the plot is predictable, it's still a lot of fun watching the obvious play out with style.", 'I live near the area that savvy author Diana Dempsey sets "Too Close to the Sun"--and boy, does she nail not only the setting, but the complicated relationships that create the compelling story that is at the core of her novel. It's a smart, intriguing, and highly romantic read...the perfect book for a plane or train trip, or a visit to the wine country anywhere--including France or Italy! I love fiction where the characters draw you in, and you actually learn "backstage" details about a world you've only heard about. Lucky you, if you haven't yet discovered Diana Dempsey! Now, on to her other two novels...yay!', 'This book was nothing extraordinary but was a time filler for a rainy day or a day of traveling. It is somewhat predictable and it does not go too deep into the characters.', 'Diana Dempsey was a new author for me so was not sure how I would like her book, but I loved it! The great thing about ebooks it has given me an opportunity to read from new authors. I will be buying more of her books.', 'In Napa Valley, Suncrest Vineyards, renowned for their quality wines, is in crisis. Two years ago, the owner died leaving his wife Ava to run the business. Ava did a good job out of her love for her late husband but she wants to hand off the business to their son Max Winstead, but does not trust him to keep the business afloat. Also adding to her woes is that longtime company winemaker Cosimo DeLuca is recovering from cardiac arrest and though his daughter is the perfect fill-in, Gabby does not have the reputation to keep Max from sunsetting the company. General Pacific Group junior partner Will Henley sees Suncrest as an ideal buy for his corporate raiding company, but Ava refuses to sell her late spouse's legacy. When Will and Gabby meet at a party, the sparks could turn Enron into a real energy producing company until she learns that Will is the point on a take over scheme. She refuses to have anything to do with him, leaving him to decide between love and money. Though Max's incompetence makes Will's dilemma a bit easier than it had to be, fans will toast Diana Dempsey for a sparkling romance. The story line focuses on the world of winemaking through the eyes of various individuals who see the bubbly quite differently. Will and Gabby are a charming pair due to her caring for the land and his need to consider all aspects of a buy out. The support cast mostly enables the audience to better understand the lead couple starring in this fine after dinner wine. Harriet Klausner", "This book was so good I couldn't put it down. You won't go wrong buying this book. Or any other book that Diana Dempsey has written.", "When picking up Too Close to the Sun, I expected the same fast fun pacing as Diana's other works, but Too Close to the Sun is dramatically different. In this book, without given away all the details, you will experience a very deep connection and a bunch of complicated emotions stowed away in the heart of Napa Valley. After reading what experiences that the main characters go through in the story, you can clearly see that Ms. Dempsey not only can write a fun sexy story but a deep, intricate complicated emotional story as well. This story is much more a traditional romance novel than either Falling Star or To Catch the Moon. I have to admit that romance lit is not my favorite genre but I did receive some sense of satisfaction behind the story of Gabby DeLuca and Will Henley. There will be raw emotion, uncertainty and mixed emotions as you read the story. I feel that the story delves deep into the many complications and ironies that people experience over hurt feelings and damaged relationships. However, one will still enjoy some light comedic parts of the story and Max does allow for some spontaneous intentional and unintentional funny moments. I am so glad I decided to read Diana's novels and I have finished all of them and look forward to her future works. In the end, the book is a beautiful story and you will probably stay up all night to finish it like I did. Get the book, you won't be disappointed.", "This is the 4th Diana Dempsey Kindle book I've read back-to-back. They were all unique & interesting stories with real characters. I've purchased 2 more by this author but have been too busy to read them. I am saving them for this weekend. I love discovering a new-to-me author who doesn't disappoint. I love being able to read Kindle books on my Kindle, iPhone, iPad, computer, whichever I have handy at the time. Please write faster, Diana Dempsey!",

"I've enjoyed many Diana Dempsey titles over the past few months and this one, like the others, did not disappoint! She creates lovable characters who you're rooting for all the way. Good read!", 'I love Diana Dempsey, but not this book. This is a syrupy romance, with a dash of conflict and a dollop of sex. The hero is a taller Christian Grey type (without the S&M) who seems to have no past life and speaks all the right phrases. Our heroine is wonder women. A lot of blah, blah, blah. Ms. Dempsey writes some very clever novels, try one.', 'Very enjoyable story with likable characters. Good family plot intertwined with a heart warming romance. Great description of CA wine country.', 'Easy read good holiday book read, a love story....Enjoyable but end predictable, some information on the art of wine making for anyone who likes a glass of red or white', 'I like Diana Dempsey books. They are great reads for a day in the sun, or a gloomy day inside.', "I liked the book, but I can't remember much about it. I picked up a couple of other &#34;quick reads&#34; from this author, and they were about the same.", "Enjoyed the reality of the novel. True to life characters with a few twists and turns to keep it interesting . Will look for Diana Dempsey's future works", "I didn't enjoy how the story bounded around to all the different characters. I was expecting it to be more about Gaby and her life... not the mom and son."]

## B005TLYDV2

[ 'Taming GI Jane is a sassy little book that I liked a lot. Author Debra Webb is very prolific. I love her books.', "This is a silly, light story that isn't badly written, has enjoyable, sympathetic characters and humor, but.....except for the sex, the plot reads like something more suitable for middle school girls at camp.", "A very good read for the series recommend highly can't wait for the next one of the series would like to know what happens next", "It was cute, sweet, amusing, and I loved that it ended on a good note between them. I'm glad she decided to stick around. The supporting characters provided all the humor in this story .", "I purchased it because it was cheap and I was in need of a read. It's not great but it was a fun enough read.", "Drill Sergeant Jane Passerella was ordered to a camp for troubled youth to be the Physical Training instructor. Her first session was for the General's wife and a group of her friends to teach them about discipline, good diets and physical fitness for a two-week session between sessions with the troubled youth. With the General's wife as the leader these ladies give the petite Sergeant Jane a challenge that she was never trained for in the Army but one she faced with good humor and determination. The ladies thought of some pretty funny ways to rebel while the camp staff figured out how to get even ~ all very funny. At the same time Jane is knocked for a personal loop when she falls for the sexy good-looking camp director. They have a big problem with love and career choices and the orders from the General too. It was a great and really funny romance that I would recommend for anyone looking for a fun military story with lots of love mixed into the storyline.", 'Book was a good short read. Would have liked to read more of their story. Look foreword to reading more of this author.', 'If you are looking for a lighthearted romp (a word I never use, but it is so fitting) you will enjoy this book. Plus parts of it made me think of Troop Beverly Hills, which I loved.', 'When Wal-Mart offered 12 titles exclusively for 1 month years ago I missed out! Now that KINDLE has them I WILL read them! This was a good one; I read the sample. Thanx KINDLE.', 'Heartwarming and fun. This book was free and I thought, why not? It sounded like a fun read and it was! I have downloaded free books before and they have been a waste of time that I regret even trying to finish but this was a refreshing surprise.', 'I have to stop finding these great books. I'm easy, I'm a sucker for great romance books and this is one. The characters are believable, as any one on a diet knows. Their antics are of the ""Drive you crazy" kind . Put a disciplined drill sergeant together with these ladies, someone is going to lose. Finding out who wins and loses is fun. Therefore, you'll have a fun read..', 'Webb gets 5 Stars for this one, unusual plot involving military language & actions, a no can do but MUST attitude among the two main characters, and an awesome read!', "Funny romantic suspense. Sgt. Jane Passerella, a drill sergeant, is sent to a summer camp for troubled teens to teach her General's wife & friends about physical training (the General's wife, Sandra, & her friend's are all overweight & spoiled). At the camp, Jane meets Tom Caldwell, the man in charge, & they slowly fall in love as Jane begins

training the women despite their attempts to cheat on their exercise & diet plans. Enjoyable characters & funny!! Only .99!", 'I really enjoyed this book a very well written light hearted romance story. Sgt Jane was assign to a youth camp by her Superior Officer. It never crossed her mind that she will meet someone there to rattle her world and fall in love. She was put to the test when she had to help a few ladies with some training for weight loss before the new youth camp season started some very funny and hilarious things took place. Overall a very fast and enjoyable read. well done Debra.', 'I enjoyed reading this book. Easy read - completed in one sitting. Characters were fun and the story line was entertaining.', 'This story was fun to read, however very predictable. No depth to the personalities. Is definitely a little love story..']

## B006BI1IME

["There was not one good thing about the H that I liked. Even though he didn't want to marry the h he was especially mean. He let his mistress continually verbally abuse and humilate his wife. That made me hard for me to understand his &#34;taming&#34; in the end. Although I want all happy endings in this case I was hoping for an the marriage not to work.", 'I wanted to like this book but after reading it I didnt find one single thing that could have made the heroine fall in love with the hero. I thought the plot and storyline had good premise, but the hero is such a jerk for the whole of the book. There were no tender moments between the two of them. Just a lot of abrasive behavior on his part. I really did not like the way he treated her. The heroine started off strong but fell flat midway through the book. How do you fall in love with a guy that is always demeaning you. I have read many many romance novels with some heroes that have been truly awful but Nicholas took the cake. All he wants to do is get in her pants. That it. I am sorry but that does not make a love story.', 'It was a love / hate book! I liked the main characters. At times you just wanted to slap him..lolll wished the story could have been a longer book with more details about the other character. I would recommend the book to my friends.', 'don know why i have to write a long explantion on a book i havent read yet so its ok', 'The author is very descriptive in terms of surroundings and cultural/social facts and I really enjoyed that. She took the time to describe the characters feelings thoroughly and this made the story more believable and the romance and hot moments more appealing.', "first of all i felt it was poorly written. it felt like the author didn't know what time period she was writing in, from the dialogue and the clothing descriptions it was a bad mash of modern day language and no clear view of the period. i hated the hero if you could even call him that. just thinking about what an awful character he was, and that we are supposed to root for the hero and heroine in this to get together and fall in love, when he's so disgusting...makes me want to vomit. it was like 'watching' a terrible made for tv movie that you merely watch because you can't look away from how awful it is, the whole time wondering how in the world this atrocity was ever produced and released to the public. dont waste your time on this one. the good reviews are either lying or have absolutely no taste for good literature. if this author has written anything else i will definitely NOT be reading it.", "An intriguing yarn that will keep you interested from beginning to end, TO TAME A ROUGE follows Camille, an orphan and Nicholas, rich shipping magnate who was forced to marry Camille due to his father's will. With its many supporting characters come several story arcs which were delightful in their own right but two of them were not resolved properly, hence my four-star rating. And to answer the title, which I formed into a question - it is really hard to decide between Camille and Nicholas who is the rogue. Both of them have good points and bad points as lead characters but there are so many times when I did not know whom I want to slap the back of the head just to give him to her some sense. Not surprisingly, this is the reason why this book is a delight to read. Rated M for mature due to subject matter and some sexual content", 'This story was very bad. I had to force myself to read to the end. HE was mean, selfish, and not worthy of a wife. SHE was weak, boring, and allowed people including her husband to treat her badly. Then as if by magic, he decides to rape her, then she some how falls in love with him. A complete waste of my time. The story was rushed and not a love story at all.', 'I did like the story. It grabbed me right from the first line. Then about 3/4 way through it was just like a narrative of events. This happened. That

happened. Lazy writing, IMO. I want to be in on the action, not told second hand. Very disappointing. This felt like a first book. Maybe it was. I may try to read one of her later books to see if it is an improvement.', 'The book was good not great it starts out real strong but near the end it was jumping all over the place it got confusing and I did not want to finish it.', "I love this story about two people who can't stand each other but then fall in love with one another. I have always been partial to historical romances and this one is definitely worth reading. Camille and Nicolas might not have thought that they should have been together but fate has other plans. I would have loved to have lived during their time."]

## B006FYDQ4W

["I really enjoyed this one though. I even went back for more like it, preferably from this author. Unfortunately, I didn't find anything that seemed nearly as good. I would love to see more from this author. I also really enjoy his zombie stuff! The writing is great, and so is the editing. Will definitely look for more from Stephen Knight! I would recommend this and more from him!", 'This is another great rollercoaster ride from Stephen Knight. This time Knight's focus is on Vampires. It deals with a secret special forces unit that are dedicated to hunting down and destroying vampires. These vampires are not pasty faced teenage goths or confused, mixed up and lovelorn as we've seen on TV and Cinema over the last few years, but full on nasty, evil and very dangerous. The book deals with the psychological and sexual relationships between the different members of this undercover team and how the "master" vampires exploit this for their ultimate supernatural aims. There are some great action sequences, as with Knight's Zombie novels he goes into great detail with special forces field tactics, weapons and communications. It's real cross genre novel covering techno, military, horror, supernatural and espionage. There are some good "scientific" explanations for vampirism (a bit like The Fall trilogy by del Toro/Hogan) as well. Overall this book hooked me from page one until the end....I want more! I'm sure it would make a great three part TV series (as in Salem's Lot) and a counterpoint to the wimpy rubbish on TV at the moment. I hope Stephen has a sequel up his sleeve (I'm sure he has....)', 'This was one of the most boring books I have ever read. Fought tooth and nail to finish it, since I paid for it, but finally quit 3/4 of the way through. Enjoyed some of his other work, but this one was absolutely dreadful. I feel like I was ripped off.', 'this book was ok. It was a bit weak in areas but overall was a pretty decent read and I have liked his other books about zombies ok.', 'Really poor character development, while a flawed hero is ok this story portrayed him as a weak unorganized individual. Story concept is really good maybe a little more back history on the villain would have helped the reader understand him a little more. How about some more info on the team members Julie, Cecil and Nacho and less bi-sexual love triangles and vampire guardians with a taste for Asian hermaphrodites. Have read other books by Knight and enjoyed them...This one just missed for me.', "The story was good. I just had a hard time getting into it. I don't know what it was but sometimes it just lost my attention.", "The idea was fun but the lead vampire Osric didn't really have a very good reason to do the things he did. Plus the newlings were boring cuz they had no character.", "I have been a BIG vampire horror fan (meaning no paranormal romance) most of my life, even though I enjoy reading those as well. But over the last few years, it has become very difficult to find many true vampire horror novels any more (such as my all time favorite, Steven King's 'Salem's Lot'. That said, 'City of the Damned: Expanded Edition' is the BEST vampire horror novel I have read in years.... and it is right up there with 'Salem's Lot.' The story was spot-on and the characters were written extremely well. I would recommend 'City of the Damned: Expanded Edition' to anyone who enjoys a good old vampire 'horror' novel. Enough said....I am off to try to search Amazon for more of the same to read this weekend!", 'Vampires are not my favorites but this one was well thought out....good fun read. The author weaved a good story with a solid ending.', "I enjoyed this story and the characters. They have flaws, suffer losses, and you root for them. I'll try others books by this author, which I would think is the highest compliment you could give any writer. Good read, recommend it."]



## B006QZJERI

["Mariah Hunter is a treasure hunter and ex-lover to Dr. Ben Rousseau. Mariah is willing to double cross Ben to get what she wants. Ben warns Mariah that she'll get into more trouble than she bargained for. Mariah chooses to ignore Ben's advice. Mariah needs to retrieve the Mayan coins to a collector before he ruins her reputation as treasure hunter. Rafe Forsyth only wanted to protect his sister from Rogan. Yet he and his brothers were trapped by black magic into objects like a mirror, sword, painting, and now a stone. Mariah is startled by Rafe's appearance before her yet can't understand how it works. Mariah isn't the only one after the stone. Gemma Von Roan and Paschal Rousseau are searching thru K'ver archives looking for clues to the next object that holds Forsyth brother. Paschal finally reveals to Gemma who he really is but Gemma doesn't seem to believe him. Meanwhile Ben and Cat seem to finally admit their fears, hopes, and dreams for one another. Mariah gets into hot water needing to be rescued. Will Mariah believe Rafe? Can Rafe accept himself? Will Gemma believe in what Paschal says? Your answers await you in Kiss of the Phantom. I sure do hope this series of books continues because I have to know if the remaining brothers get rescued too. The book is a page turner from beginning to end for me. I kept telling myself just one more page and one more chapter. I'm a fan of this author's works. For me, what made the story so relatable was the characters. I could make many paragraphs just about the characters. Honestly, the characters really struggled with themselves and those around them. I love stories like this because they create an element of the unknown which makes me hungry for more. I will definitely read what this author puts out.", 'this book was my favorite in the series... from the cover to the last page Rafe was an interesting and sexy hero...', "This is an exciting, riveting, and an engaging book. I felt as if I was there for all the adventures, experiencing everything along with the characters in the book. This book is 3rd in a series, and each book is more exciting than the last. I recommend reading all these books. Julie Leto is an awesome writer and I can't wait to read more of her books.", 'This is one of those books that left me wanting to "bang on the table" yelling "GIVE ME MORE GIVE ME MORE" in anticipation of the next book in line! Love this book....great love story all the way around in more ways than just one!!! Highly recommend not only this book but this author as well!!!!', 'I read all three of Julie Leto's Phantom books what fantastic books to read, I sure hope she decides to finish writing the rest of the books, I so would like to know how it ends, very intriguing books, I highly recommend reading all of the books, and writing a review, maybe Julie Leto will finish writing the rest of the books, we can only hope', "Mariah Hunter is a thief and an adventurer, but she gets more than she bargains for when she steals a fire opal out from under her old partner and lover's nose. Ben tries to warn her, but she flees the scene and soon finds herself being hunted by one man and travelling with another who popped into her hotel room out of thin air. It has been years since I read the first two books in the Phantom series so when I originally started this book I had to stop and go back and reread the first two to refresh my memory. I am glad I did because it gave me a chance to rekindle my attachment to a lot of the characters. This third book is definitely my favorite. I love Mariah's spirit and her tough outer shell. I loved reading about her and Rafe and watching him page by page melt her icy heart. The heat between the two is incredible and their lead up to happily ever after realistic and exciting. They both have a past with baggage that adds to paths they select when dealing with each other, emotionally, it gave the story depth and added a layer of believability to their relationship. I really enjoy the magic and the glimpses of the old Romani Village, Valoren, that Rafe and his family come from. If you haven't read the first two books in this series, I strongly suggest you do so. They are all connected and characters appear and reappear in each book. Had I not read them I really feel like I would have felt a little lost or at least like I was missing out while reading this one. Some things were left up in the air at the end of this book, and I find myself wishing I had a book four in my hands. I don't feel like I have all the closure I need to have with some of the other characters like Ben and Cat, Gemma and Paxton and finally Rogan and Sarina. I would love for another book in this series, and the sooner the better - tomorrow would be great! Phantom Pleasures Phantom's Touch (Signet Eclipse) Cherise Everhard, December 2012 This book was given to me by the author in exchange for an honest review.", 'Kiss Of The Phantom by

Julie LetoMariah Hunter is in hot water. After a failed job where she had retrieved some Mayan coins and then lost them in the jungle when she went back to collect them, her client is not happy. Soon there is a bounty on her head. So when she learns that there is a priceless stone in Germany up for grabs if she can get there before her rivals, she could pay off the client and maybe save herself. For nearly 300 years Rafe Forsythe has found himself captive in a stone. He was unable to save his family from the same evil that has trapped him. Rage and grief have been his only companion for all this time until he is suddenly awoken by this beautiful adventurer who is carrying his stone. He cannot believe the rush of attraction that he feels for her and hopes that she is the one to save his soul and liberate his body.

Review: This was a sexy paranormal story that had a lot of action. The author does a great job of pulling you into the emotions of the characters. The story between Mariah and Rafe was sweet at times and sexy at others. The adventures were action packed and kept me wondering what was around the corner for these two. And even though this is book three of a series, I had no problem following the story. I did however want to read the other books :) I can easily recommend this book.

Theresa F5 of 5 starscomplimentary book given for a free review. [juliesbookreview.blogspot.com](http://juliesbookreview.blogspot.com), "Really enjoyed the series. Just wish that this wasn't the last one!! Hope there is more coming out for the series, can't wait to read them.", 'good story line, well presented, good development of characters, fun read with a little spice here and there, good romance and high adventure', "In Germany, Australian treasure hunter Mariah Hunter gets to the artifact before her top rival, her former lover Ben Rousseau. He warns her that the hidden stone she has found is cursed, but she assumes he is pulling a ruse to steal the find from her. When she touches the stone, she is shocked. Her caress releases Rafe Forsyth from his rock imprisonment; he and his brothers were incarcerated inside of stone by dark mage Rogan. Needing to provide priceless coins to a dangerous collector she foolishly agreed to work for, Mariah makes a deal with Rafe. She will help him get fully freed from his imprisonment and not just his current nocturnal liberty if in return he helps her find valuable loot to pay her debt. Besides her treacherous client, neither is aware of an enemy of Rafe coming to kill both of them.

The third Phantom urban romantic fantasy (see PHANTOM'S TOUCH and PHANTOM PLEASURES) is an engaging tale due to the lead female, a gender bending rogue who at a minimum stretches the boundaries of the law and ethics. The story line is fast-paced from the moment Mariah touches the prison stone and never slows as she and Rafe take the audience on a series of misadventures as love may not be enough to set him free.

Harriet Klausner", "I like Julie Leto's books a lot but I especially enjoyed this series. I hope that she finishes this series"; I would like to know what happened to the sister and other brothers in this family.", "Book 3 of the Phantom series is just as good as the first two books in the series. You meet Mariah Hunter and Rafe Forsyth. It starts off with Mariah in Germany where she has found Valoran. You go from there to Texas then to the jungles of Mexico where you visit the magic of the Mayan people then you go to an island off the coast of Florida. It is a really good stand alone book but it's a great book when you've read the first two in the series. There's magic, excitement and romance. This is one of the books where you get everything that you desire in a book. You won't regret reading it!", "I read this book when it was originally published several years ago, and was thrilled to find it available now for my Kindle. This is part of a three-book phantom series, and although I really enjoyed all three, this one was my favorite. It's an exciting action adventure romance -- never a dull moment! -- with an intriguing set-up about brothers who were turned into phantoms and trapped in inanimate objects many years ago - giving them a fish out of water element that's really delightful. The pace is fast, the action never stops, and there are surprises at every turn. I really enjoyed the romance between these two characters, and was rooting for them to find their happy-ever-after. This one is definitely a keeper, and the entire series is unique and fresh.", 'Well written, sexy story, with a touch of mystical magic. Loved it - and the entire series. A must read!', 'I liked this installment of the series much better than the second and possibly more than the first. It gets a bit repetitive and explicit, as is fairly standard for the genre, but I still enjoyed it more than the average romance novel.', 'I have loved this whole series. What a fun, entertaining and sexy read. The story line held my attention. I look forward to reading more of her books.', "I found book 1, Phantom Pleasures, on Amazon as a freebie book. I quickly purchased the next two. The story interested me very much. I mean, who wouldn't like to gaze upon the image of a

handsome man in a painting (or other medium) then suddenly have him appear out of nowhere after your fingers longingly graze over the canvas? In this story, Mariah is a treasure Hunter who finds a cursed stone in an ancient land where gypsies once lived. She inadvertently awakens and releases Rafe, the man who became trapped in that stone nearly 300 years ago. For years, Rafe's brothers have been searching the world for gypsy artifacts from that time long ago that may be vessels containing their missing siblings. Once found, only a love powerful enough can release them from their phantom state to become fully alive again. I recommend the books be read in order so as to keep up with the character development. I eagerly await more books in this series. Which brother will be found next? What happened to Gemma? So many loose ends to tie up. This series must continue!", "Kiss of the Phantom, is book 3 in Julie Leto's Sexy Paranormal trilogy! This book brought together a great adventure and love story! I couldn't put this story down, there just something about Rafe that draws you in. I loved all 3 books, but Rafe's story is my absolute favorite!!!!!!"]

## B007ZHK9VG

["These stories aren't too short or too long in the least. If you like medical fetish stories this is a book for you. There are plenty of noncon punishments and humiliations that abound in these books. Very Nice!", 'This story has some great detail. You can really visualize each and every moment. This story however is not for the weak of heart. Super hot and naughty.', "First of all, you get two stories for the price of one. That is never a bad thing. Secondly, both stories are smoking hot! If these two short stories don't get your heart pumping, you must be dead! Very hot!", 'Not as good as I expected it to be. Too many unreal suggestions. Not really my cup of tea. I deleted after a few pages.', "Some of the other reviewers complained about lack of a plot. I don't see an issue. These stories are so erotically explicit, I blushed while reading it!", "This story delivers exactly what it promises. Two erotic tales that take place in the context of a doctor's office. No romance or relationship just some hot action", "Wasn't bad but I thought there be more to it. I like a little more to the story than what was there.", "I love erotica and am always looking for something different. Sometimes I'm turned on and sometimes I end up feeling a little uncomfortable. This book did both for me, so I'm giving it five stars just for being that freaky. I suppose there are people who find doctors sexy, what with their white coats and authoritative manner. And I suppose there's something deliciously intimidating about a sterile, unforgiving clinical atmosphere. If that's your cuppa then these two stories are bound to please. In the first of these two short but super-sexy stories, Dora is taken for a check-up by her lover. But she's in for more than she bargained for when the examination turns intimate with the help of a sexy nurse. Yes, these stories have some girl-on-girl action in them as well and while it's not my thing it's really steamy stuff nonetheless. In the second story, a nurse named Sandy applies to a doctor's office for a job. She gets it, but as a condition of employment she has to submit to a medical exam. It's pretty much along the same lines as the first one. Thermometers get stuck in bums and poor Sandy's lady business gets stretched with a speculum all while she's diddled by not just the doctor but three hot nurses. You may have to call the doctor after reading these books, just to deal with your spike in temperature. Again, be warned that these stories are different. But even if it's not your thing the book is worth it for the amazingly good descriptions.", 'These two stories were clinical but not HOT. The first story was about a submissive girlfriend being taken by her boyfriend to a "doctor" for a body check with a sadistic nurse assisting. What about that is HOT? The second story was even worse. A new nurse gets examined by the doctor (she started working for) along with the help of the other nurses on his staff. You find out that all the women on his staff have these exams on a regular basis and they all get to be on the exam team when others have their turn. I have read other BDSM stories that are much better than these, and I am sorry I wasted my time and money on this. It was a quick read and then it was deleted. You may find this stimulating but I suggest there are better stories out there.', 'I highly recommend this action-packed two-pack! Loads of vivid detail, fun to read and fantastic writing. If medfet is your thing you won't be disappointed. The two stories- "Dora's After Hours Examination" by Alice Liddell and "Nurse Sandy's Humiliation" by Carolyn

Faulkner - are very steamy and had me blushing. Very intense and VERY hot. Undoubtedly worth the buy!']

## B0088QPYNG

['Wow, let me just say that I could not put these babies down. Read all three in like a day & a half. Sleep could wait. This series got me busy downloading more of Moira Rogers books STAT. They are steamy & HOT HOT HOT.', 'I really enjoyed this shifter series..Yea they were short novellas..But what they lacked in lengthy details they Totally made up for in hot steamy Romance scenes =) =) =)', 'I really enjoyed reading this three bundle set, each book was about a couple of wolf's all from the same pack who are each stubborn, willfully and extremely lovable. The 1st book is Wild Card and involves Jack & Ginny both who want each other but won't give in until there's trouble and they think they might lose one another. It's steamy and will definitely get your juices flowing so keep reading. Book 2 is Calling The Bluff and its about Hazel & Oliver, who respect each other, but one needs more. It's Hazel's first mating time and she is thoroughly horny and she wants Oliver bad. However, Oliver's heart is broken ever since his wife died five years ago. Hazel's wolf only wants Oliver, but Hazel knows she can't have him so picks somebody else to go through the mate with, and her wolf almost kills him. So she's wandering around and literally runs into Oliver, he see's the state she's in and brings her somewhere to wait out the first part. Keep reading, don't stop cause the flames are cumming. Book 3 is called Anti Up and it's about Lottie & Thomas. Lottie owns a saloon & a brothel, she treats her girls very well, seems the other two brothels in town aren't happy. Because she treats her girls better, and she services humans as well as werewolves. They bring their troubles to Thomas who's the Beta in the pack, which means second in command to the Alpha which is Jack. Keep reading cause you will enjoy this as much as the other two. They are hot, steamy, and full of emotion and most of all you will definitely cum up a storm. Enjoy!', 'This three book bundle is about a wolf pack after the war between wolves and humans. Book one involves the alpha of the pack and a lady rancher who is under attack from neighboring ranchers who want to bring her down a notch or two. After a new fence is cut, Ginny goes to Jack for help, and comes under his protection. For years she has fought her attraction to Jack, fearing loss of independence to the alpha. In Book Two a young she wolf is going into her first heat, but her wolf has chosen a widower who seemingly has no interest. When circumstances bring them together as she reaches the point of no return, however, he agrees to help. Lots of steamy sex involved. Book three involves the pack beta and a saloon/brothel owner who have secretly been attracted to each other for years. A threat from a jealous competitor sends Thomas to her door to investigate. Although these stories are short, they are well developed and the characters are likeable. They are going on my reread and recommend lists.', 'Love the world she built for the wolves and their mates. Wonderful characters, good sense of place, and an overall great read!', 'I've read other novels by Moira Rogers and enjoyed them. Down and Dirty was not my cup of tea. I like a storyline with my romance novels. These novellas were sex + sex + sex with minimal story or character development inbetween. The premiss of a war resulting in the death of most humans and the werewolves being the controlling majority could have been very interesting. Instead we ended with 3 cases of unrequited lust/love, unrequited for roughly one chapter then the sex started. I kept reading hoping for more with each novella. I will try other Moira Rogers novels, I'll sample them first though.', 'This series focused on the three strongest members of the pack and their love interest and life inside of the pack. Very aggressive and graphic rough sex and violence.', 'I read the first book and was entertained. I've come to the conclusion that these are entertaining but entirely easy romances. The second and third book are like the first in a way but the romances develop instantly instead of drawing out any kind of chase.', 'I started reading the first book but I needed to buy them all in one to get enough. So save your money and buy the complete 3 in 1 book instead', 'This was my first book by Ms.Roger and I love it! All three stories are amazing and I really thing the bundle is the way to go to get the full effect. You get to know the characters in all three as they are interwoven within the story. The sensual parts of the stories are hot and you will end with a smile on your face.', 'Each book is good

in it's own way and I enjoyed them all. Would recommend these books to others. You won't be disappointed.", "I've enjoyed all three of these books. Good plots, good combination of characters spanning all three books. Would love to read more about their experiences now that they have become couples. Highly recommended."]

## B009720Q10

["Glad it was an e-book & no trees were killed. I thought this book was a waste of time as I didn't find it helpful at all.", "Toilet training is a learning experience and not a disciplinary process. Every child is unique and parents should not force their children to learn if they are not yet ready. Mistakes are bound to happen. If it happens, parents should not get easily frustrated. Patience is the key to a successful potty training. Parents would know that potty training a young child can be a very tricky and tiresome experience. Nanny P's Blueprint for Toilet Training is an excellent guidebook to make potty training a fun and memorable experience for both the parents and the child even when he or she has an accident. I especially love the part that talks about dad's involvement in training. I have two adorable children. My little girl learned how to use the bathroom before she turned four. My son is not yet potty trained and I am not worried. I think that my daughter learns faster because she sees me do it. I showed the book to my husband and he is very optimistic to help our son. I recommend this book for parents who are clueless on how and when to potty train their little ones.", "I didn't think this book went into much detail. It did give a good overview though. Thus the reason I gave it a 3 star.", "This book gets right to the point. Tells you what to do, how to do it, and gives you hope for a quick learning process. BUT your child MUST be ready or don't bother. You're just drawing the problem out for both of you.", "Oh, the fun days of potty training. One thing most parents dread. It should be a very natural process but so many parents are impatient with it. Nanny P's has some great advice for parents going through or about to go through this with their young child. She has some really cute games that you can play with your child to make it more fun. There is as much advice for the parents as there is on what to do with your child. She covers what signs to look for that tell you your child is ready, and gives several different methods of approaching training. I was pretty impressed with the book overall and think that any parent or grandparent can really benefit from it.", "Yes 'P' has to do with the potty, not just what is done in it but lots of patience and practice. It's been some years since I had to train my children in toilet training. Now with a grandchild I find that I have to start again and help out my son and daughter in-law with the big P. Nanny P's book brings it all back with a few new things that will be a great help to the potty issue. This blueprint (as she calls it) is a wonderful help and will no doubt help any new mom and dad with potty training.", "This book covered all the basics in potty training your child. Full of easy to follow steps that can help a parent work through this process. As we all know, training your child to use the potty is a bit challenging for most parents, and sometimes can be stressful for both the parent and the child. This book has easy to follow steps that can make this stage a fun and a memorable one. The key factor here is patience and a bit of a know-how. There is also a section on this book that has a list of equipment that you can use. Good book for new parents and can also be a great refresher for those who have already gone through it once or twice before.", "Easy, practical tips and ideas for toilet training. Not the definitive source for potty training by any means, but a good refresher for parents with previous experience or first timers.", "This book was much shorter than I thought it would be. I do agree with the author's stance on the issue, that potty training needs to be a team effort that requires patience in order to get it right. I also liked that she outlined ways to teach your child that the process isn't something to be feared or a disciplinary action. Overall, I found this book to be a very basic guide for new parents or for those who have had years pass since the last time they potty trained a child. I was excited at the beginning of the book when the author mentioned there were a lot of successful systems for training your toddler to use the toilet, and felt somewhat letdown when only a few of them were discussed in depth. I actually thought I might have bumped my kindle and jumped a few chapters, but no, it really was that short. Still well written and with good intentions, but nothing I had not seen before.", "Here's a topic every parent must know. This book is pretty basic,

but has everything you need to know to quickly and painlessly potty train your child. I had to potty train our first child and now that the 2nd is nearly there I thought it would be good for a refresher course. Each child learns at their own pace, and potty training is no different. The number one thing to keep in mind is persistence, and of course a ton of patience. Accidents will happen and as the book points out, you don't want to punish your child for that. It's better to say something like "you'll do better next time", and keep it light hearted. Yeah, sometimes easier said than done (been there done that!:) One chapter discusses training in 2 days- really? I'm not too sure about that and will have to give it a try. We did something like that for our first, but didn't use a timer. But again, being consistent and persistent will pay off. I've also observed that kids who are around other kids, like in a daycare, tend to pick it up faster. Overall a nicely done book that can help any new parent toilet train their little one.', "What a relief to be find a book that I can give to my younger friends who are trying to get their minds around this tricky subject. I didn't potty train my own kids (thank you Grandma) so couldn't give anything like useful advice. Nanny P's Blueprint for Toilet training is a beautifully simple guide to get you on the right path. After that it's intuition and patience - I think!!", "This is a very simple easy to read book that lays out specifically how you can toilet train your child. The book offers a number of training options that allow you to customise a toilet training approach specifically for your child. Apparently this is a big deal because every child is different obviously so it makes sense that a one size fits all approach to toilet training won't work for every child. The book provides three training methods that are explained step by step as well additional tips and tricks that will allow you to develop a hassle free training process. There is also a useful section on what to do if your child resists the toilet training process which has been known to happen from time to time. The book also explains how important it is for us as parents to approach toilet training with the right attitude. While we all get toilet trained eventually, this book provided a very concise plan for making it as easy a process as possible for your soon to be toilet trained child and you the parent. Lastly the book concludes with a good list of resources and toilet training equipment that you might find useful when you train your toddler. From my experience things like toilet training can be as simple or as complicated as you make them. The right attitude from us parents and the most appropriate method for our youngster will ensure a happy and ultimately successful toilet training experience. I feel that this book will really help you if you are on the verge of taking this step with your toddler.", "This is one that we needed &#34;right now&#34;. It has saved my son a lot of money! One box of diapers cost many times the price of the book. I'm glad tjat I'm done with it!", "I agree with Nanny P's philosophy of childcare which simply stated is children need adults in their lives who will give them love, discipline, guidance, a safe environment, fun and creativity amongst other things. This is especially true during toilet training. I like the way Nanny P in this book helps parents to prepare for this phase in their childs development. The tips provided are practical and spot on. There is even a section that deals with the differences between boys and girls.", 'This is the third Nanny P book I've bought. The first two were about toddlers sleeping and toddlers eating. Toilet training is definitely a frustrating experience if you don't know what you're doing. I have a girl and two boys. My friend has three boys. None of us had it easy. I appreciate the gentle approach Nanny P has. I see so many kids being belittled by their parents and it breaks my heart. Just yesterday I saw a little toddler crying in a store and his dad, walking far ahead of him, yelled, "Shut up, kid!" No solace or comforting. I wondered to myself what situations like potty training are like for those kids whose parents have no patience with them on normal days, much less a stressful situation like toilet training. I really liked the tip on involving your child - so it's less of a "lesson" and more of a journey they're a part of. Great job on all three books!']

**B009FKI6KW**

["This book is an excellent starting point for any English speaker seeking to learn Russian. With this book, you'll be able to learn and recognize the Russian alphabet and how to sound out each letter. You will also gain an understanding of how to properly form words using the modern Russian alphabet. The book also contains a chapter on the top 10 Russian words and basic dialogue. The

author is clearly an educator as the book is written in simple terms to make learning very easy. This is, by far, one of the very best beginning language books I've come across. If you're interested in learning Russian, this is a very good starting point.", 'Moving to Russia in a few weeks i had to learn how to read but various articles on the web can be confusing and scattered around different topics. This book logically orders Only what you need to know and how you need to approach Russian alphabet from the best -russian angle. There is plenty of reference tables , tutorials and theres no confusing descending into words, grammar or other subjects. This book is just about learning to Read russian and it does a great job at that. If you are a beginner learning to read Russian this book ia a must!', 'The too small printed Russian characters make them too unpleasant to read. Regrettably, I had to return it for a refund.', 'Nice tutorial on how to write a transliteration from Russian to English. If all you want to do is be able to pronounce Russian words from a page of writing, this book does that. But it does not teach you how to form sentences, Russian grammar, or a ton of vocab. It is just a small start.', "This book is designed to give an English speaker a quick understanding of written Russian words. While it won't make you fluent in speaking Russian, the book would do what it promises - make you able to recognize Russian letters and put together words that would sound very close to how a native Russian speaker would pronounce them. This book's strong points:- A quick reference table for sounding out the Russian characters is provided.- Groupings of Russian characters as compared to English characters gives the learner an instant anchor in understanding the Russian alphabet.- Word construction is simply explained.- The exercises for word construction provided to progressively go from the easiest for an English speaker to recognize to more complex.- The book also has a quick run down of Top Ten Words in Russian, Simple Questions, Common Nouns, and some Dialog as exercises for reading. I'd like to see a little bit more word exercises included in earlier chapters since they are well organized and explained. The chapter on stressing the written words might benefit from more examples. These are not, however, major problems - after working through this book and using it for reference, you should be able to open any Russian book or go to a Russian website and continue your reading practice with higher proficiency than you had before. I'd highly recommend this book for students of Russian language on a beginner and early intermediate levels. It will also be useful for more advanced students as a quick reference.", 'When I first saw it, my thought was like ... oh, just another course that takes you years to master the language. I changed my point of view after flipping through a couple of pages on my Kindle. This method is effective. It helps to learn the language in the fastest way an average person can. The book is newbie-friendly.', 'This book has been a lifesaver. I am taking an introduction to Russian class as an elective for my undergraduate degree and my teacher is terrible. This book is much better! The content is very basic but it contains information on the alphabet, pronunciation and common phrases, plus it is written in an easy to understand manner. It might take more than 90 minutes to master the language, but using this book as a reference guide has proven very helpful. Starting off easy and progressing to moderate language skills this book is exactly what I needed to pass my class.', "I've always known that if I just believed in myself I could achieve anything. So it was with a quiet and certain confidence that I tackled this book. Sure enough, 90 minutes later, I was ready to get started on War and Peace. The original too. Never again will I need a translation. Thank you Sergei Belov (or possibly Ben Shaffer)! You gave me the confidence to believe! Theo.", 'This might have been a good buy in print, but like other Kindle books of language instruction, many of the two-column, inset, example sentences are "images," meaning they cannot be enlarged or diminished in size--so they are too small to read. I've encountered this problem in other Kindle editions, so it is not any single publisher's technique. Maybe this doesn't create problems on an iPad, but I wish someone would check this problem out when books are listed for electronic distribution. The set of sample pages sent did not get to one of these pages!', "Book Title: Read Russian in Just 90 Minutes (2012) Kind of Book: Self-teaching / Languages Author: Sergei Belov Related books on Kindle: 101 Russian Flesh Cards, Learn to Read Chinese in jus 90 minutes!, Learn to Read Hebrew in 90 Minutes. This is no grammar or vocabulary teaching book, just a writing familiarization and transliteration training for the russian (cyrillic) characters. It is indeed very brief. Having known, previously, some basic russian, it took me no more than 30 minutes to cover the whole book. It would indeed not take more then 90 minutes for someone unknowing

russian to cover it &#8212; but beware: much more studying and training will be required for basic russian understanding and expression. Also, some of the russian (cyrillic) characters are drawn in too small a size, and zooming didn't help much, as they seem to be drawings rather than written in a cyrillic font."]

## B00AA03D18

[There's a reason why Proof of Heaven by Dr. Eben Alexander has spent week after week on the New York Times best seller list. It's full of fascinating insight about the mysteries of the mind, consciousness, and the inter-relationship of the physical and spiritual worlds. The book is based on Dr. Alexander's out of body experience (OBE) while he lay in a coma in the intensive care unit in the hospital where he worked as a neurosurgeon. He was suffering from a rare form of bacterial meningitis from which recovery is rare. Miraculously, after seven days with no apparent brain activity, he recovers with a jolt, just as his caregivers are preparing to withdraw life support. He returns with vivid memories of his experiences in a heavenly world characterized by a bright vivid landscape where he was guided by an angelic young woman and where he senses the higher powers of unconditional love. Unlike most other OBE experiences, he has no sense of his identity in the physical world and was not greeted by long lost family members. At least so he initially thinks. However, he later comes to understand that the angelic woman who guided him was a birth sister of whom he had not previously been aware. Before his life-altering experience Dr. Alexander was skeptical about such OBE accounts, considering them merely a function of the dying brain. After it he was a changed man eager to record the awe-inspiring world and the presence of God to which he had been exposed. He now recognizes that, far from being an unimportant by-product of physical processes (as he had previously believed), "consciousness is not only very real it's actually more real than the rest of physical existence and most likely the basis of it all." His journey of understanding continues to the benefit of his readers. Barry Francis', 'The book was written so lay people as well as people with a medical background can understand it. My mother read it also and said she had a heaviness lifted from her. My Dad passed in 2005 and this is the first time in all that time she can speak of him without crying. She also purchased this book for two of her friends who recently lost their Daughters. As for myself this reaffirmed what I already know.', "It's just that good for five star rating. Very well written, will wake some people up about their lives and where they will end up when the end comes for them. I would recommend this book to everyone that can read.", 'Proof of Heaven is an autobiographical account of a Neurosurgeon who went into a brain-dead coma for a week and survived against ridiculous odds. He claims that during his coma, he saw the afterlife. Medical details are interesting. Full review here: [...]', "The story laid out in this book is one that is so moving it's almost unbelievable. As a devout Christian, I've never doubted the existence of eternal life, however even a non believer will have to stop and think about Heaven and what getting there entails. I can highly recommend this book for anyone, Christian or not. It's a very spiritual experience.", 'Proof of Heaven by Dr. Eben Alexander is a mostly autobiographical book regarding the author's own NDE (near death experience). The writing is clear, personal, and non-technical. Dr. Alexander is a neurosurgeon so I had expected more science, but most of the discussion regarding possible scientific explanations for a NDE was relegated to the second appendix. (The first appendix is a brief statement by his own doctor). Dr. Alexander's NDE was particularly intense and long-lasting and the medical cause for his near-death very unique and unlike say a heart attack victim, he remained near death for days. The reader is left with the impression that the intensity of his NDE and his medical condition are closely related. Whether or not you believe his near death experience is "proof of heaven" his book is worth reading.', 'Proof of Heaven opens up amazing insight into what our next life may be like. The concept of continued existence unlimited by the human brain and body is fascinating. Since the author is Christian, I had hoped he would write of meeting Jesus. His index and bibliography entice one to deeper research. Beautifully written, the book binds the reader to his progress in heaven and back to this world.', 'My reasons for ordering this book were: I wondered if the author might be related to a Dr. by same name that I



knew back in 1959. He was a special MD and I had hoped to share my experience with author if he was. Did not get answer from his website and I was very disappointed. Being retired from long history working in health care I always like to see what is 'new' in spiritual experiences and how they line up with Scripture. This book was confusing to me because of his terminology and my personal beliefs. I cannot decide if he found the heaven of the Bible or manufactured his own. mary wright mcharrisKnoxville,TN', 'This is a book that everyone should read. It presents death as something not to be feared.....but a continuation of 'life';', "Upon reading a article about this book in my Dr's office, I had to read the rest of this almost magical tour he took during a bout w/ an illness that should have surely killed him, as few ever survived w/ what he had. Thee most deadly form of meningitis possible. In his deathlike state, or actually state of death-he goes on step by step to describe what you only Wish you might have--when it's your turn to die. An experience w/ Jesus, or God if you wish, w/ beauty unsurpassed, detailed exquisite feelings and moments of joy, bliss and complete acceptance of the rapture in the beyond, accompanied by our creator, then angels. An extemely educated, and prolific doctor in his chosen field, he never gave the afterlife that much thought. Sure, he'd heard stories, but now he, a brilliant neurosurgeon, tops in his field--was knowingly deceased, as he sees it -enjoying the world he had entered. Through it all, he saw through virtually departed sight, his wife and children suffering his ultimate demise, w/ unbearable anguish and sadness. The last few chapters left me almost bored w/ the clinical aspects and detail that I don't understand, but the story itself can take Shakespeares 'sting' out of death, and is a must read for those who fear death and what lies afterward. He didn't need the money that sold this book but he needed to TELL you what is awaiting you, after your own demise- if you're lucky.", 'This book is written well. It is very interesting and easy to read. Others in my family are reading it and they are enjoying it.Keep an open mind when reading it.', "This is a non-fiction book about Near Death Experiences (NDEs) and how a scientist and healer reconciled his pre NDE and post NDE lives. Dr. Alexander, a husband, father, and Academic Neurosurgeon suffered from a disease affecting 1 in 10 million adults which is almost always fatal. He was in a coma for seven days and miraculous came back from the beyond. What he experienced and learned is chronicled in this book from more of a scientific approach put as close to laymen's terms as possible. If you have a science and/or medical background it may be easy for you to understand. If not, Dr. Alexander does explain terms as he goes along.I've never had a NDE and could not relate to that aspect of his story. I do have an open mind when it comes to the spiritual nature of our lives. It is hard for me to speak for someone who does not already believe in these things that this book would ultimately change their minds. However, if you are undecided and need a more scientific explanation of spiritual beliefs then this is the book for you.Can science and spirituality co-exist my answer has always been yes. This book reinforces that to me. Check it out for yourself.", "A Harvard-based neurosurgeon journeys into the reception area of afterlife and comes back with the coherent memory of the wonderful sequences of the pleasantest events and sightings.He saw the transparent Orbs above Clouds, the silvery bodies of scintillating beings, the inky darkness of the Core, the Gateway, the Earthworm's Eye View, the Spinning Melodies and... and... the Girl on the Butterfly Wing.His wife, awarded her 'masters in art,' should take notice.It looks like Eben's Lolita Syndrome broke into flower in the gardens of NDE (Near Death Experience) where our author with his 'off-line brains'; was flying not among the 72 houries, the dark eyed Virgins of Paradise, but rather in deep space with the hanging gem of a blue planet.Dr. Alexander brought back some philosophy and theology to our sinful world. They were received as a result of 'wordlessly putting questions to thin wind.';Free of limitations of his physical brains, he explored the depths of dark matter.And all this on the basis of some strain of E-coli bacteria from Jerusalem (the Jewish connection again!) and the resulting meningitis.Yet Eben Alexander came back to our afterlife which continued all the same during his coma. 'My eyes were misting.'; He shared afterwards his travel observations:'There is nothing you can do that is wrong.';';I didn't justbelieve in God.I knew God.';';Nothing can tear us from God.';After the foray into his life interregnum, he still remembered that after 4 minutes without oxygen the brain dies. He still remembered about the ICU psychosis. He was still under impression of Life after Life, a much esteemed book by Raymond Moody and Elisabeth Kubler-Ross, only 162 reviews on Amazon. But

there are the whopping 6,862 reviews and numerous chats and approving notes for Doctor Alexander. [Oh, my brothers and sisters in death, you are not programmed to accept the totality of our impending demise. Your hope refuses to die before your bodies start to decompose. And, even after your body interment, you are planning to send your almost weightless soul into the everlasting playground. May I suggest to resurrect you (as a baby only!) long after your rigor mortis? Not cheap. No cremation, please.] Our talented author promptly established a new American fund and a new site Eternea.org open for donations. Should I send my contribution to him or to the afterlife real estate company selling great homes without any taxes or mortgages, in perpetuity? Ah, instead of money, I should send the serious message, "Your brain did not die. It is back on-line big time. Like my weathered Acer laptop which turns suddenly dark but after some recharging digs out of its memory not only the interrupted weave of the text but also the letters and diacritic marks which I have furiously typed during the unexpected blackout." Or, better yet, I must mail a Jewish joke, "A dying woman says to her husband, 'After my burial you will forget what a goodly wife I was; you will chase other women.' He replies with a sigh, 'Ah, Feigele, first you die and afterwards we talk.' before this life such a vast afterlife... winter desolation AFTERGLOW The World Haiku Association Conference draws to a close. The buses have left and the echoing Tenri building becomes even emptier. The night falls quickly and a residual group of poets assemble at the tea table. Should we write a farewell renku? No stiffening rules, I assure you. Oh, please, we just love to weave our own genre, our own convoluted renku; full of reminiscences, bright remarks and jokes. A free falling conversation. Any person here may speak at least one unique language except ESL. I start to laugh uncontrollably trying to convince David Lanoue how meritorious Tenrikyo writings are. They are a Japanese analog to the texts by Mary Baker Eddy. Finally, he surrenders and agrees to carry the OFUDESAKI book to his corner of the Earth. Incidentally, it is a Yom Kippur Eve in the capital of the Japanese religious movement started by a woman. My Japanese wife asks whether it's proper for me to be so merry on this Jewish High Holiday. But Yom Kippur is a joyous holiday, I retort, the day when our destinies are sealed by G-d who has organized an overwhelmingly great life for me. Three lives and counting... I do believe in God Supreme, but the G-d of the Bible is, seemingly, a human invention. Casimiro de Brito agrees that after death the complete nothingness reigns in and extends into infinity unabated. He invites at some future stretch of time us all to his God-given villa on the Azores, "Just come, no expenses there." The Estonian writer Andres Ehin talks about the linguistic kinship of the Ugric-Finnish languages and the Japanese. Ludmila Balabanova (my sister's name is Ludmila too) talks about the hardship in Bulgaria while she prepares to leave very early the next morning. Poor soul, she is leaving without any chance to see Japan. Right now, Ludmila chats in Bulgarian-Macedonian with Alexandar Prokopiev. I try to discern their Slavic words, but they speak too fast. The haiku author from Frankfurt Herr Berner is heavily enticed by me to talk about civilizations and their achievements. He mildly resists my nagging thesis on the pivotal role of Germany in our prevalent (and truly global) civilization today. He and a Macedonian Alexandar Prokopiev become the last holdouts late into the night. Alexandar paints a broad picture of the current conflict in Macedonia between Albanians and the titular nation of the coalesced Greco-Slavic tribes. Thank G-d or god it is all quiet there now. And it is so tranquil at Tenri. It's not yet the tomorrow when David Lanoue will walk in a drizzle to compose his haiku about a water strider, Alexandar Prokopiev will leave with a hope for a hotel before his long flight to the Balkans, Ludmila will carry in her bag one kaki, the orange-red fruit of the genus Dyospyros for her breakfast and Keiko and I will begin ascending the Tenri Mountain. ( David will doubt, meanwhile, the existence of the mountain hidden behind the semi-artificial cliff with a masterfully designed waterfall). We will climb high into the bamboo grove to set up our flimsy tent and get frightened by a puzzled wild boar making its way in pitch blackness. And we will succumb into our short sleep towards the Nara morning filled with the thin fog, the giant spiders, the flint stone-paved road curved towards the long vanished castle, the plopping overripe persimmons and the glowing pale flowers. to nothingness from nothingness ah, Ikebana"]

## B00AHOLJJU

["Just as the summary states- two Latin men, a Cajun and a mixed caramel chick being hunted in the jungle. The sex is menagerie hot no matter the time of day. But I think there's unfinished business with the Project.", "I really enjoyed this story! There was good background to the characters and the plot. I would like to see another story about these 4 characters to find out how they worked everything out after the conflict was resolved. A lot of times, books with one female and three men become confusing b/c you aren't able to get a sense of the different men...not so with this story. The romance happened fast, but was well written. Would def. recommend. Enjoy!", "If I could've rated this book 0 stars, that would've been more accurate. The editing was non-existent. The writing was elementary. The storyline was weak. Need I go on?", "I will admit after reading the books description a female bounty hunter didn't sound appealing, but I decided to read it anyway. This book was very good. The storyline improved as you read more of the book and it was PLENTY steamy. Spent a lot of time trying to visualize what Armando, Rafael and Remy might look like and I gotta say what a hell of a visual.", "This is the first book I read from this author and I must say I was impressed. I wish there was more of a backstory on Yvonne's character and how the project came about though. But other than that, I enjoyed reading this. I cannot lie, the sex scenes were very well written. To the point that I was glad my husband was home after I finished reading them. Great book!", 'This was totally awesome. So well thought out and well written, it was explosive. The only downside was that I wanted more! This book really got into my head, it was a real page turner, I was besotted with it. This book had everything I wanted and more. I would gladly recommend Island Fever it was brilliant. 5 stars from me. Thank you for writing this.', "I am not usually a fan of erotica, but my friend read it and recommended it to me so I decided to give it ago. I wasn't disappointed that I got it. It was gripping, it wasn't as awful as I imagined an erotic book would be and I actually quite enjoyed it. The style of writing was easy to follow and understand. I was gripped from the moment I began. I am never going to be an avid reader of this genre, but I would recommend this one for those that do. I loved it so would be happy to recommend it. A thumbs up from me. Well done to the author.", 'I would highly recommend this book to those who like reading about shifters. hot, erotic READ I enjoyed it thoroughly.', 'The sex scenes were very HOT, but the rest of the story became tedious. Too much internal monologue about stuff we already knew and not enough substance in the storyline.', "This was a compelling and well written story. The author kept me intrigued through every word of this brilliant piece called Island Fever. It was truly gripping! The author doesn't disappoint, but the only thing that did is that this story had to end. It was so good I just couldn't put it down like my kindle was glued to my hand. If you are looking for your next book to read I recommend Island Fever.", "I had no idea what I was getting myself in to, but I am certainly glad I did. I read this book and enjoyed the eclectic presentation. It is paranormal mixed with sci-fi. I don't usually like either genre, but this was fantastically written. This is one that should be bought for your friends that you do not know what to get them for the holiday season. They will like it and welcome the erotic surprise.", "Another book that doesn't make a lot of sense and does not flow. Too much unnecessary cursing. Then ending didn't come to any conclusions.", 'A friend recommend me to read this book n i was not disappointed it was sooooo good and the sex scene was fever HOT.', "I was captivated by the story from beginning to the end. The love scenes represent the ultimate fantasy. It would be so refreshing to encounter another person who is beautiful but they don't center their thoughts on the physical. The ultimate escape in finding one self while finding love. This story has it all from romance to the many possibilities of what if? I embraced it and my thoughts continue to linger in the hope that the story could continue.", 'I like the story plot, but there was too much dialogue of the lead female character thinking and assuming. I never got the feeling that the men cared for her beyond sex. I took a while for me to figure out she was a black woman. The men were described to the &#34;T,&#34; but I knew she had a lot of hair that was bushy or thick. great description of the setting, felt like I could actually visualize the forest. Seemed a bit rushed at the end. I think the story should be revised. but I did like the concept of the characters situation.']

## B00C4MEZLC

["While I tend to lean more towards fantasy and horror novels, I do enjoy a good romance now and then. This definitely falls under the 'good romance' category here. As soon as I started reading this, I couldn't step away from it. It seemed like something I was very used to and I could definitely put myself in the character's shoes. The frustrations and desires were easy to understand. The writing flows nicely and is very enjoyable. I can't wait to see what else is in store from the author in the future.", "This is such a well-written exploration of one woman's journey to find love and romance amidst the conflicting turmoil and confusion between the head and the heart. As the female heroine of the story, Elle, quickly discovers, the attraction to the amazingly good-looking bad boy can be instantaneous and almost unbearably overwhelming and addictive. Expecting the bad boy to change, however, can sometimes be more fantasy and wish-fulfillment than here-and-now reality and putting your heart out there in harm's way can very often result in heartache and pain. But sometimes we just have to put ourselves through the ringer in order to learn the lesson... and Elle does, in spades.", "I wasn't sure about this book when I started it, the main character seemed to be rather depressed and unappealing, but as the book progresses her motivation becomes clear, and even if you don't agree with her choices, they are perfectly logical from her point of view. The scene descriptions are excellent, the story draws you in and at one point I found myself telling the lead character Elle off for her poor, but understandable choices, but still hoping things turn out OK in the end. And like all great romances, there is a happy ever after which makes you go ahhhhh. PS the sex scenes sizzle!", "Liked the story and the sex scene have some sizzle, dragged and slow going in places. I like this genre and found this middle of the road.", "Great story! Perfect length! Easy to read. A great escape as a weekend of a beach book. I love the characters and the plot. I can not wait for another one. I am glad I came across this book.", "An enjoyable women's love story. This book brings up questions often asked by young women in real life and answers them with some 'let's pretend' solutions. Well written and put together; this author could get more ambitious with more characters developed and more complex story line.", "I love chick lit, and this book didn't disappoint. The writing is snappy, funny and insightful. Elle's problems were relatable, and even though she sometimes made bad decisions I was cheering for her all the way.", "Ryan is such a good guy. You feel for Elle almost throughout the story, but then I had a strong desire to smack her senseless. This is a sweet story and it makes you glad and makes you believe in love all over again.", "Lara Mondoux writes a fast-moving, layered, single-in-the-city story. Elle is growing weary of the single life and city living, but isn't ready for the suburbs just yet either. Cocktails and parties dull the need to make changes in her life, that is until Jay rocks her world. Finally, she's found her man! Elle doesn't do anything half-heartedly. She trades junk food and compulsive shopping for jogging and the gym. But can a long-distance love and sexy texts sustain this relationship? Or has Mr. Right been by her side all along, waiting for the chance to show his gorgeous co-worker that chivalrous and dependable can be sexy characteristics too. Mondoux writes with authority, her knowledge of the restaurant industry clearly apparent, she offers the reader an insider look at a world we don't often see. It's a well-told story with lots of steamy encounters balanced with a realistic look at a single woman's transition to couplehood. I highly recommend.", "What a truthful story. I've been there done and done that, wish my life had turned out this way. What I along give to have Elles love"]

## B00E00RHOI

["I loved reading this story. Its a very original story. Mayne is on a mission, and I love her. I hate that she has to go through so much in her life, but I live stories that get me emotionally involved. Go read this book, you'll be glad you did.", "This book grabbed me and kept me though the entire read. I hated to see it end. I am looking forward to the next one. The characters are well developed and the storyline keeps your interest. It has angels and demons, romance and jealousy. Casse Narome is a fresh writer with a great imagination.", "I found this book via twitter and really like the premise:

MAYNE spent her adult life closed off emotionally from the world around her. She learned very early on that those who get close to her end up dead. She knows she is cursed, but what she doesn't know is why. From the very beginning I loved Mayne St. Le Clair she and I are a lot alike, we say how we feel and we love a good movie. I was literally tweeting lines from the book as I read the novel and laughed out loud. Then, ECTAIN "ERIC" EDECK enters the story. Can Mayne get past the hurt and fall in love or has her heart been broken too many times? Warning: This book references religion, heaven, hell, angels, and the devil. The good: There are a lot of really good lines in this book: "...his voice was soft and rich. It rolled over me like butter on a hot biscuit." loc.283 "I'm aware of your habit of speaking to yourself through talking to the dog" loc 405 Yes, I resemble this comment. I do talk to the dog as a means of talking to myself. Cause only crazy people talk to themselves and answer back! Jim, I love when writers make pets characters in the book. I've never read of a memory keeper before, so I thought this was very unique. I won't get into it, but I found the religious philosophies of this book to be interesting. The fall of the angel of light, nephillim, Gabriel, Michael, the grim reaper all make an interesting appearance in this novel. My kudos to the author for having the gumption to include all of these characters in a new way. The bad: At one point Mayne is arguing scripture with an angel. AN ANGEL. As in a creature created for the sole purpose of serving God. I think that the author was trying to prove that the angels know the scripture, but can never know what it is to feel what it means because they are designed to just follow commands. But it came across as a pissing contest of biblical knowledge. There were some continuity and grammatical problems that were minor distractions from the storyline. I'm just saying: This is a satisfactory read, at a 3.5 that will make you laugh and maybe cry. The character deals with deep emotions of loss and regret that you may find enjoyable.', 'Casse Narome has written a quick paced woman's story about discovery. Mayne, the heroine is a troubled and broken woman just trying to survive from day to day. She has lost too many loved ones and close friends and thinks she is the cause. That is until death materialized from the shadows in the form of a deeply sexy man and introduced himself as Eric. From then on Mayne is in constant conflict with her attraction to Eric and her fear of cheating on her dead fiancé;. Ultimately Mayne finds her way and even makes things better for her type who are caught in the war between Heaven and sheol. Oh yes she does find love with Eric as well. First, I must state I'm not a fan of first person stories, just too much inner thoughts and this book has a bunch in detail. Mayne is constantly swinging from being sure of herself to doubting everything. Some may like to read this type of book but I'm not a fan. There are also certain parts that are, in my opinion, really farfetched fantasy. You have to really suspend belief and go with the writer. However, because this story was so well written, with some great images portrayed, that I could overlook my personal preferences against 1st person. The passages of dialogue really flowed by and the secondary characters each had their own voice and part to add to Mayne's journey. This certainly overcame the problems I had with this book to give it four stars. I often mention that a book should be given to the significant male in your life to read, but in this case keep this book to yourself. Think of it like a box of chocolates that you hoard for yourself. :-)', "First of all let me just say that author Casse NaRome, had me hooked and sold the minute I heard the word Angels and Death. I love just about any book that involves Angels and Death and I really go ga ga when they are hot and smexy Angels and Death! And trust me no one has written a smexier (I know that is not a word, but it is now); Death than Casse NaRome. Eric, or Ectain Edeck has got to be the most delicious version of Death that I have ever had the pleasure of reading, and trust me it is a pleasure to read this book! Death Knows My Name definitely does not disappoint in any department. Especially in the hot and smexy department. Pretty sure if this book were any hotter it would catch fire, yea it is that hot! But I promise you, this book is more than hot, it has a great story and great humor. Plus it has a fierce, tough as nails female character, Mayne. She has had a hard life, full of death, pain and loss. She pushes everyone away only to put herself in more pain. Then Eric stalks into her life and everything changes. She discovers that all her pain and loss hasn't been for nothing and that the teachings of the Bible couldn't be more real. Death and Angels exist and she plays a key role everything. Not sure how to handle this new discovery Mayne pushes away again only to gain strength and fight for herself and others like her. But with this new found strength, everything she has grown to love is put on the line and her decisions put Angel

against Angel. Death Knows My Name is a book that will not only have you quivering, and sheds a whole new light on the idea of Death. All I can say is if Death is anything like Eric, then please come and sweep me away, or up! Death Knows My Name will have your quivering, make you laugh, make you cheer and make you fall in love with the characters. So go pick it up already! \*Received a free copy in exchange for an honest review", "I did not know what to expect from this book, hence the saying don't judge a book by its cover. I did exactly that! I have a weakness for books that are IR (interracial) bwwm (black woman, white male). It took awhile because I was not prepared for the plot, but in the end I enjoyed it, my heart ached for Anya, but I knew she was going to be a memory keeper when she called her aunty about the deaths", "Wow...just Wow! Paranormal isn't usually my style. I've stepped outside of my comfort zone at the urging of others and was pleasantly surprised. Not even sure how I stumbled upon &#34;Death Knows My Name&#34;, but it was a banner day when I did! Mayne St LeClair feels cursed. Everyone she loves or gets close to dies. Her only friend, Devon DeMonte, shares her loss literally and figuratively. Ectain &#34;Eric&#34; Edeck can no longer watch Mayne hide away and suffer - feeling as though she is responsible for so much death, and finally appears to her. I say &#34;appears&#34; because Eric is Death...literally. This is where my black and white mind would say, &#34;Ooooookay!&#34; and close the book. But, I kept reading, and I was drawn in further and further by the biblical references/inferences. As the granddaughter of a minister, things I heard, read and discussed for much of my life were woven into the fabric of this tale. Angels, Arch-angels, celestial beings, wars in Heaven - It was amazing! My one issue with the book - the ending left my mind wide open. Still not sure if that's a good thing or not, but I'm positive I would love to see this continued, and hope it's soon! I highly recommend this book! Kudos to Casse Narome!", "I couldn't put this book down! Wow...it was new, it was different, it was wonderful! I loved how real and broken Mayne was, how Devon was the same but managed to stay strong for her, and how Eric swooped in and helped make sense of her suffering. I haven't read many books about angels, but I think I need to read more. This was a great twist on things and helps one see that things do happen for a reason. V was a great, misunderstood good guy wanting to be bad. I thought it was great how Mayne still held out hope for him, wanting him to be good, when he tried so desperately to be bad. The characters were well rounded, developed, and lovable. I really hope there are more books about Mayne and Eric, because they were one hot couple!", 'This was a sweet spin on Death, his duties, and the war between Heaven and Hell. Eric, or Death, is a fierce protector when he loses his heart to Mayne. Mayne is fierce in her own way, but she has been broken by so much loss in her life. I liked Valiance, even though he was such a brat to Mayne, he definitely has redeeming qualities. I would read more from this author and recommend her to others.', "I loved the interaction between Eric and Mayne. While reading a story told in first person isn't my first choice, it worked well for the characters and the storyline. The book had the right amount of passion, humor and mystery all bundled up into a fast-paced story that keeps your interest from the first chapter. I'm looking forward to her other books.", "I'm not sure exactly what to say except that this book was very.....&#34;odd&#34; I guess is the best way to describe it. Kinda creepy. I didn't get very far because I thought a better use of my time would be to scrub the corners of my bathroom floor with a toothbrush. mb", "I loved the story! Gah! One of the reasons that intrigued me on this book was the blurb. It's interesting and I was curious on the story. What I think about it: The story was great and the characters are cool. I was easily get attached to the characters and I was easily got carried away on the story. Its concept was great, it's easy to relate with and it's easy to understand. The characters' personalities are really interesting and the character that really made me curious was Death. I never thought that the character like him would be sweet at the same time a badass! The flow of the story was really great and you cannot get easily bored. This book is really a great read! The author really made a great job in doing this book fantastic and I am looking forward reading the books of Ms. Casse.", 'Death Knows My Name gave a new twist to love story. I am still trying to get over the sadness and loss this book puts forth but in the end its all for the Greater Plan. The men in this book are all desireable Eric and Devon being the first choice but "V" has something alluring about him too. Mayne is the fragile female that has lost everyone she has ever loved or even gotten remotely close to. She is a broken, defeated shell of a lost girl with only Devon and the man that visits her only in her dreams. This book is very hard to set down once you start reading but

somehow Mayne comes to sad terms with the lives that have been taken from her takes a step in facing all her fears. The night she took a stand on her way home may change her life forever better or worse shes decided shes done being scared. Happy reading ;)', "This book makes you feel many uncomfortable emotions as you go through her gut wrenching loss. It also has hot, steamy scenes. It's Death so it has to be hot and it doesn't disappoint. The action between the characters has a depth that many books lack and there's enough smart ass to keep the story funny and lighten the mood. This is the first book I've read by Casse NaRome and I'll be sure to check out her other books. This is the type of book you can't put down until you finish it. You have to know what is going to happen next and how all will be resolved. The chemistry between Mayne and Eric is there and powerful. I love how close she and Devon are and their banter. You see true friendships as they are being made and long standing friendships being tried and going through hard situations. This isn't just another love story of romance. This is a love story of friendship, love for your fellow human being, a sister's love, an aunt's love, and a the love of new and old lovers. How far would you go for love?", 'This was an interesting book about angels, death and humans. It was a good read and had me interested in the characters. I would read a sequel!', '"\*I Received this ARC from the Author in exchange for an Honest Review\*I absolutely LOVED this book! Casse has taken things we were taught as children and brought them to life in new ways. This story is not for everyone. It is bound to piss a few people off with some of its concepts and the way certain characters are portrayed, but those very reasons are why I love this book so much. Throughout the ARC I only found a sprinkling a very minor errors that I'm sure were dealt with before the book was published. I love how Casse has lifted most of the weight the heavy topics of this book cover by weaving humor in the form of Mayne St. LeClaire into the tale so the reader will smile a bit more than feel the sting of tears. Make no mistake the reader will feel that sting on more than one occasion. While Mayne is the heroine of this book, it's little Anya that stole my heart and actually made me tear up, just another testament to Casse's abilities as story teller to have a character that has such a small role as the one Anya have such a large impact on the reader. I look forward to seeing what other things Mayne and Eric do in future installments of this series. I give this book 5 of 5 paws.cusreviewsFreaky Fiction Writing Author/PR/PromoterCu's Ebook Giveaways FounderFae Books Tour Host/ReviewerLadyAmber's Book Tours HostB3 Book Tours HostI Am A Reader Not A Writer Blog Tour HostShades of Rose Marketing Tour HostGWR Tour HostAs You Wish Tour HostMrs. Potter's Book Publicity Services", "What do you do when everyone you have ever loved has been taken from you and you feel like you are the one to blame? You lock the door to your heart and you throw away the key. The rest of the world is kept at arms length so you can't hurt anyone and they can't hurt you or that's how Mayne thought. Mayne is a girl who holds nothing back she is a tell all type of girl as she figures she has nothing more to lose. Then Eric walks in and all bets are off all Mayne knows is that she needs him but doesn't understand why. Will she risk the chance of opening up that door again? Will she risk her heart for what she knows she wants?Death Knows My Name is one romance that will have your head spinning. I for one am glad I chose to read this book it isn't your grandma's romance that's for sure. It is one book that had me full of emotion and not sure what side I was cheering for. I loved the fact that there is a little bit of action in there just enough that makes you want to throw a punch or two yourself. I can tell you that this book is worth a read and that Casse Narome is a talented writer I would highly recommend any book she writes!"]

## B00EFLT0VU

[ 'Good summary on aspects of yoga. Need to read and digest each sentence .Description of the basic yoga poses is good though would have been better with pictures or illustrations. good and basic idea of the practice of yoga', 'I have bought a couple of yoga books in the past but I liked this one as it is especially about yoga and weight loss. It explains how yoga can help with weight loss and also tells when and how to practice. For each pose, there is a step by step on how to do it, and also the therapeutic benefits. Well written and easy to follow and understand. Highly recommend', 'The Secret of Yoga for weight loss is a great book! If you're looking to lose some weight and be

more calmed, relaxed, and all the other benefits that Yoga brings, you should read this book!", "I'm a big believer in Yoga and I really liked this book. There are many aspects of the book that are informative, wise and helpful. It is all about losing weight naturally, strengthening the body, and relaxing the mind. Yoga is a nice balance of relaxation and working the muscles. This book was a great choice because it covers a lot with great explanations and it's easy to follow.", "I am a yoga newbie, I'll admit it. So when I saw this yoga book I jumped on it. I especially liked how it combined yoga and weight loss and that really appealed to me. I can't wait to get deeper into the book and learn even more about yoga for weight loss.", "This was a wonderfully written depiction of how to lose weight through yoga. It must be understood that though it is geared towards meditation and centering oneself, Yoga can be quite strenuous. The muscles used are ones that previously were not. In this, the pounds begin to come off. &#34;The Secret of Yoga for weight loss&#34; is a necessary book for anyone trying to lose weight without the use of weights or machines.', "The book title indicates that it is for weight loss, and it is indeed! What I also found interesting was how calm and relaxed I felt afterwards! It's well written and guides you in a step by step process. Highly recommend it!", "As a health and fitness nut, I read a lot of books of this type and I'm happy to say it ranks among the best ones I have on yoga. If you want to live a healthier life or just loose a few pounds, good nutrition is one thing, good exercise another. You don't need to go running for that: yoga is a very good choice for your daily dose of physical activity. So definitely check this out.", "It is a well written step by step guide and any beginner could use it as there is clear descriptions of every pose. Although I have been practicing yoga for a while but I wasn't sure which poses were good specifically for weight loss. This book has answered my questions. Thanks.", 'I have always considered stretching to be a vital part of fitness, but never really knew how to take my stretching to a Yoga level. This book is great! It has helped me understand why Yoga and stretching are important and how they can help with weight loss and even how to do some of the best Yoga/weight loss poses! I am looking forward to using this book often! Thank you', "This book is one of the best yoga books that I've read. How yoga can help us with weight loss and its benefits are greatly explained. The explanations are simple and direct to the point so it makes it easier to learn all the exercises provided. Learn how you can effectively do yoga and the best positions to achieve great results. A highly recommended book!"]

## B00EM5ZH1Q

["Before Leoros and Atlantia, there was Thea, a seemingly normal farm girl. Like most farm girls, she had goats and... weapons. When Thea's uncle Helios dies, she found herself in a lot of trouble. I prefer this novella than Joshua's main story: Legends of Amun-Ra, although both a good in their own right, this one has less characters to content with, and it stays in just one world. I would recommend this, but read his main book first.", "I'm rating Gardens of Ampheia with 3.5 stars because I liked it a lot more than The Emerald Tablet. It read much better, both pacing- and writing-wise. The Gardens of Ampheia is a companion novella to the Legends of Amun Ra series, which begins with The Emerald Tablet. Set about 7,000 years before events in The Emerald Tablet, Gardens tells the story of Thea, the daughter of a farmer, whose life is forever changed when a terrible accident happens. Having promised to lie about it (never a smart thing to do!) Thea is then coerced into testifying against an Egyptian thief, thereby setting into motion events that would impact all of Messenia. I was quite absorbed into the whole story and did not expect the novella to be so short (duh!) so I was quite surprised when it ended, especially since it was a bit of a cliff-hanger, and right after an interesting revelation of Thea's origins! I received a free copy of this book in exchange for a review.", 'Gardens of Ampheia is a novella in the Legends of Amun Ra series. It&#8217;s a short, quick read and very exciting for being so short. This story takes place thousands of years prior to the events in The Emerald Tablet. It follows the main character Thea, a farmer&#8217;s daughter, and how her actions after a terrible accident form the world of Potara as read in The Emerald Tablet. This book gives us some insight into the way of Greek life as opposed to the Egyptian life we read about in the 1st book in the series. As a person who loves History, I



thoroughly enjoyed this book. Silverman has an extensive knowledge of ancient history, and masterfully incorporates it into his stories. I loved his first book, and from reading this novella you can see he's finally getting comfortable in his writing style. The book was only about 60 pages, but I enjoyed every second of it and it leaves you craving more. I hope this trend continues into the rest of the book series.'

'Do you like to escape into another world and time, walking among the its people and feeling what they feel, imagining what it would be like? With "Gardens of Ampheia," Joshua Silverman has created another journey into the world of Potara, first created in his novel "The Emerald Tablet," giving us a look into its past and the events that helped shape its present. Young Thea lives an isolated life with her adopted father who, in spite of being a farmer, insists on training her to fight like a warrior. When a terrible accident happens, Thea's life is turned upside down when she is sworn to never reveal the truth of that day, setting in motion events that will change history and her life. The attention to detail throughout the story creates a living and breathing world laced with the author's knowledge of ancient Greek history and its gods. Intended as an enhancement to the Legends of Amun Ra series, Gardens of Ampheia has succeeded in giving me my Potara fix until book two comes out! My thanks to Joshua Silverman for this copy in exchange for my honest review!'

"Hott Synopsis: Thea is the daughter of a farmer. She is content until she makes a terrible mistake, one that not only endangers her life but exposes her origins. Trained in war, Thea fights through blood and fire, war and peace, to discover the truth. She will face a desperate struggle which will remake the known world of Potara, influencing the next 6,000 years. Hott Review: This review is a difficult one to write. I REALLY enjoyed most of the book. The writing is excellent and I loved the story my problem is that while that is perfect for audiences of all ages there is language and adult content that is absolutely inappropriate for most young adults. I do realize that what is written is nothing more than many teens hear or are exposed to in their schools, however, that doesn't make it something they should all read. My advice is that if you and your child are not bothered by this - absolutely grab Josh's books! He's an amazing writer. However, if you're on the fence get one of his books and make your own decision. As for me - my children won't be reading this. More... Author: Joshua Silverman Source: Author Grade: B Ages: There is some quite graphic and inappropriate content.", "This novella takes the world Silverman created in his Legends of Amun Ra series, which begins with The Emerald Tablet, and builds a new story out the the world's rich history. Taking place in the ancient days of the planet Potara, Gardens tells the story of Thea, a farm girl who is more than she seems. Thea's actions have unintended consequences that will influence this world's history for thousands of years to come. Ultimately, Thea loses what she loves, but learns who she is. From the beginning, the book is full of historical detail and vivid description. Silverman again grounds his world in his knowledge of history, this time focusing more on Ancient Greek culture. I learned a fair amount (even having to use my friend Google to look up new words) while reading a fun and interesting story. Plus, I enjoyed the spunky character of Thea and her journey of self-discovery. This book stands on its own, but will have a deeper significance for those who have read The Emerald Tablet. Overall, a good read and a nice treat for those of us waiting for his next book in the Legends of Amun Ra series, The Soul of the World, to hit shelves.", "Let me start off by saying if you've not read The Emerald Tablet (you can check out my review on here for it as well) then you totally need to. This novella takes place in the same world as The Emerald Tablet, but gives us a brand new perspective as we get to know the past of Potara better. One of the great things about the Emerald Tablet was how we, as the reader, were introduced to so many awesome characters and places. You can only tell so much back story while sticking to the storyline in a book- thus the birth of this novella. In this one, we learn more about Potara 6000 years before The Emerald Tablet takes place. We follow the story of Thea. Like in Joshua's other works, his attention to detail and character depth really drives his story. Although it's only a novella, this story does justice to the series and the world he has created. I highly recommend not only this novella, but the entire series! \*I received this book in exchange for an honest review\*", "I was given an ARC for an honest review. Joshua Silverman's novella, Gardens of Ampheia is a prequel to The Emerald Tablet. A world where Greek and Egyptian beliefs clash with each other, and gods and mystical powers do exist. A wonderful unique world with a mix of mythology. The history of Potara is set 6,000 years before the story in The Emerald Tablet. In this story we learn more about the world

of Potara. The main lead character is Thea. She is a very strong and determined girl who finds herself in a situation that she never imagined would happen to her. Thea finds out she is more than a farmers daughter. She faces many obstacles and stumbles along the way, learning who she truly is and what she truly believes in. Through her actions and decisions she must make, the future of Potara will be determined and the lives of many will change or end. I enjoy the Legends of Amun Ra series. I look forward to reading the next book *The Soul of the World (Legend of Amun Ra #2)*,  
\*ARC received from the author in exchange for an HONEST review - these are my own honest thoughts\*I'm even more amazed by the world that JS has created. I've previously read & reviewed *The Emerald Tablet*, which introduced me to this amazing world. I LOVE how this story showed us events prior to *The Emerald Tablet* - sort of like showing me the first domino in a domino train. Seeing how past events reflect in how the present works out really grabs me. Love that! Anyways, Although this can be read as a standalone, I did enjoy feeling familiar with the world already here and there. From the very first page, JS draws you in completely and masterfully. The fantasy genre hasn't been a go-to for me but I love this world and continue to be amazed. The story immediately sucks you in and, like a puzzle, you start trying to put clues together. Who were Thea's real parents? Is her "adopted" father really JUST A farmer? Why does he truly insist on her training constantly like she's the next soldier in an army or something? These things are only in the first chapter! I couldn't flip pages fast enough. Now the story has several ups and downs after Thea's world is turned nearly upside down. I won't include too many details because I hate marking my reviews as spoilers. I'll admit I was a tad annoyed with Thea here and there, but overall, I enjoyed her character! 'If you've read "The Emerald Tablet", the first book in the "Legends of Amun Ra" series, you're going to love this novella. The action is set 7,000 years before the adventures of Leoros and his friends on the planet Potara, and it offers a glimpse of its history. Joshua Silverman is very good when it comes to world-building, so, as you read, Potara reveals itself before your eyes as a fascinating world where the Greek and Egyptian influences come together to create something different and unique. Thea is a young girl who lives with her father, Helios, who trains her in the art of sword fighting every morning, even though he is just a farmer. Or, is he? From the very first pages we understand that there is so much more to Thea, that she is not just a farm girl, and it is even hinted that Helios might not be her real father. She is special. Her eyes turn purple when she is scared or angry, and after years of practice she learned how to form and control balls of purple energy. She has no idea why she can do what she does, or if she inherited this gift from her real parents. But when a terrible accident happens and Thea is left alone in the world, she will be forced to find out the truth about her past and follow her destiny. I really liked "Gardens of Ampheia", and it took me little time to finish it. The action is well-paced, the author gives enough details and descriptions, but the story doesn't drag for a second. I could relate to Thea, even though I didn't agree to most of her actions. I could understand her fear and indecision when it came to doing the right thing. As a reader, I think I got used to seeing the lead character making the fair decision without thinking twice and even risking his/her own life. This doesn't happen with Thea, because her fear of being accused of murdering her father is too strong. She is confused and unsure of what to say when she is asked to testify against a poor Egyptian thief, and even though I didn't like her much at that moment, I could perfectly understand her confusion. Thea is not really a heroine, at least not now (and I'm not referring here to her fighting skills, which are perfect). There was one thing I didn't quite get, and I thought it was kind of a poor plot device. So, Thea stabs Helios by mistake, and then runs to the nearest farm to get help. Right... well, why did she leave Helios in the blazing sun with no water and didn't think of getting him inside the house, which, by the way, was very close to where he lay dying? Yes, of course, she had to tell everyone that she found him like that. But when you find someone hurt, you first try take them to a safe place, and then run for help. You don't just leave them out in the open to die of heat and thirst. Then, Thea arrives to the farm and tells the farmer and his son they have to take horses and ride to Ampheia, the nearest city, to fetch a doctor. Why did she go with them? They rode 4 hours to get there, then 6 hours back. All the while, Helios was dying in front of his own house, in terrible agony from the bleeding wound and, of course, thirst, having no one to even comfort him. Did Thea help in any way during the trip to Ampheia? No. She wasn't even the one to find the doctor. So, why did she go? I'm pretty sure the

farmer and his son would have agreed to go alone if it meant saving their friend's life. Anyway, when she gets back to Helios' farm, after 10 (if no more) hours of being away, Thea finds him dead, with his stomach ripped open by birds. A ghastly image that has a strong impact on the reader, but the events that led to it seem very unrealistic to me. Maybe they would've made sense if Thea's presence was actually necessary during the journey to Ampheia, but it wasn't. I think the second part of the story is better than the first one, and I really couldn't turn the pages fast enough to see what Thea would tell the judges. The battle scenes were perfect, just like in "The Emerald Tablet". Vivid images, a lot of action, and a determined Thea who is not very sure of what she is doing, but she knows she wants to save Messenia because it was her word that caused the war. Overall, it was an enjoyable read, and I'm waiting for future novellas that will reveal even more of Potara's complex history.

., "Thea, the front and center character of this tale, is a mix of things. As with most young ladies her age, she would prefer to stay out a bit late drinking with the nearest farm lad and sleep in the next morning. While she grumbles away Helios's advice for a bit of fruit before her morning run, she still goes on the run. Her life may be a boring routine of training and goat tending, but her mysterious background keeps the reader wondering. Through a mix of events in the story and flashbacks, we learn more about Thea, her purple power, and can make some guesses as to why Helios trains her as a warrior, and also how to be self-sufficient (such as setting snares and preparing her own meals). A long-standing series of conflicts has existed between the Thothians and the larger empire of Egypt and the Grecians for some time, since before Thea's birth. When Thea finds herself at the center of yet another conflict, she is faced with hard choices. Constantly challenged by her friend and neighbor farmer Cilix, her path forward becomes conflicted. I liked that Thea made mistakes in this story and had to live with them. At each step of the way, I could see how one misstep lead to another and yet another. In this sense, Thea was very real. Thea and the reader eventually do get some of the answers to her questions, but it didn't happen in the manner I expected. Also, since we know early on that she is trained as a warrior, her fighting prowess is not exhibited until near the end. Personally, I would have enjoyed a little more of her either on the battle field or perhaps in some sort of bar brawl earlier in the story. There is one soldier who is a bit of a jerk and I wanted to see Thea go all Xena Warrior Princess on his ass. Yet I respect her restraint. I enjoyed the backdrop of the story with the Grecian mythology, culture, and civics. Joshua Silverman's attention to details comes through clearly in his world-building. From the Greek food to the lack of stirrups (yes, they were invented and came into common use far later in human history than you think), the reader gets a clear picture of Thea's world. In a society where women are not generally warriors, Thea has several stereotypes to overcome. This definitely adds to the tension of the story. Thea herself isn't out to prove herself; she is simply trying to make up for her mistakes. Overall, this was a very enjoyable story of a young lady coming of age at a brutal time in Potara's history. My few criticisms concern a handful of typos, one horse who had a sex change, and some goats that had ewes (instead of kids); these few things did not distract from my enjoyment of the tale.", "Purple like the color of the fire? Thea has trained for war her entire life. Living as a farmer, she has a lonely existence until a horrible accident changes her life -- and life on Potara -- forever. Though short, this novella packs a lot of history and action. There is much more to Thea than meets the eye, and she discovers things about herself and pieces of her past, leading to life as it's known in The Emerald Tablet. Thea is a strong character who does the best she can without true guidance. She is ruled by fear and uncertainty, perhaps rightly so. As the story unfolds, it hints at who she will be and what greatness she'll accomplish. Gardens of Ampheia is a great addition to the Legends of Amun Ra world.\*I received a free copy in exchange for my honest review\*\*"]

B00H5QA74Q

["This had the potential to be an excellent book. However, the book was superficial and I never got a feel for the characters. Some things just didn't make sense. Lauren living in a motel during her hi-risk pregnancy. Yasmin continuing to stay with Meeks, yet she had a man. Zara developed a loving relationship with her Mom and son but continued to take abuse. Domo and that whole

relationship was more than a little bizarre. These inconsistencies and lack of depth pulled the rating down. The storyline with some development, could make Part Two an excellent read. Recommended.", "It was Rushed , unrealistic , boring. Wasn't worth the money honestly, don't waste you time lol seriously. Smh ...", 'The book was okay. Took me a long time to finally read it. No grammar errors that came to mind. It flowed very well. Everybody was crazy to me. A lot of betrayal going on.', "This was my first time reading something by this author but I do can't wait till part 2 comes out!! Keep up the good work", "I am an avid reader Nothing better than a great book but THIS is anything but great! I didn't even make it past half of it Sooooo unrealistic and rushed!! It was laughable like really....this is really what u chose to write There is a such thing as character development Keep it moving trust me don't buy", "Soooo the book was ok but I can't understand how u meet a man and within 5 mins y'all going then u sleep with him and his partner but y'all love each other? Where they do that at?", "Yawn! It was nothing spectacular about this book except it didn't have many if any typos. Same type of ghetto girl who rides or dies for a loser. I don't like anybody in this book. It was boring and predictable.", "This book had my attention from the beginning to the end. Kennedy Dior I can't believe this your first book. Can't wait for more I'm a fan.", "This book could have been a little better. I don't like the way it ended, the girl that got betrayed in the worst way possible should have at least found out about the betrayal at then end for better anticipation for part two . I read the whole book in a hurry to see when she find out and not only does it end abruptly she don't find out anything! -\_-", "I've read and reread this book a couple times now. Kennedy you are on fire with the pen; this story had EVERY element. Suspense. Love. Action. Drama. I was happy with the closing. Looking forward to more from Miss Dior.", "So I was initially skeptical about reading this since I'd never heard of this author, but the cover and the sample eased my fears. The book begins with best friends Lauryn and Yasmine. Lauryn has an awesome relationship with her boyfriend Meeks, while Yasmine is a victim of domestic abuse with hers. However, one night changes EVERYTHING! This book has betrayal, secrets, and a love triangle! I didn't find many (if any) editing errors, which is a big pet peeve of mine. I finished this book in a couple of hours b/c I couldn't wait to see what happened next! I look forward to reading the next part, I just pray the author doesn't keep us waiting too long.", "The book was just ok to me. It was slow. That's all I have to say about it. Maybe book 2 will be better", '3.5 stars the most. This book was okay to me, just okay. I felt like it was missing that something to put it over the top. Iy had a good amount of drama, lies, deceit and all of that but still that &#34;umph&#34; was missing. Still a good read. I would read part 2 just to find out what happens', "Good read. My first from the author but I'll definitely check out more work from her. The story line was good and it held my interest."]

## B00JJGLVOU

["Nick's adventure continues! Nick, Ishi and Marie are still on the run and having to look over their shoulder at every turn. Marie, however, has another adventure up her sleeve in England. While Nick wants to get back to the US... Marie persuades him and Ishi to take part in her plan. I love these books! I love the adventure and the fast pace of the story. I love the characters and the thrill of their hunt of treasure. I can't wait to see what the trio gets into next!", 'With Curse of the Druids by Aiden James, the series created by J.R. Rain and co-written by the two of them, goes a new direction with the new installment. Nick and Ishi were joined in Honduras by the beautiful Marie da Vinci whose father was murdered by the villain of that book and avenged. The team next went to the Maldives where Marie duly escorted them both out of there into the sands of Egypt where Nick finished up un-finished business and a lost pyramid with enough gold to set them up for life. What they find is the gold and the hatred of Yassir Ali who sends his assassins out to find them. A world wide visit through countries thought safe brings them to the area of Stonehenge where the Ambrosius Amulet awaits their gathering. Their journey is guided and pushed by Marie, dogged by assassins, and rife with internal bickering. Marie has secrets, let out a little at a time. Driven with a sense of fear, can love survive the growing tension between Nick and Marie and overcome - can the three come together to claim the amulet that may or may not exist. My guess is if the magic in the

third book survives the magic in the fourth, the best is yet to come with a new and driven quest for more treasure and villains who refuse to be ignored. Curse of the Druids, by Aiden James alone at this turn, will lead the reader into new territory. This is a book you will want to read and refer back when the next and the others appear next before your eyes. Surprising twists, character development stretched beyond its limits, and the mystical will make itself known. This, my friends, is my psychic prediction for the rest of the series. Our beginning - Nick Caine #4 - begins right here. Get it and read it..', "One of the things that authors who publish their books electronically need to be mindful of is that readers now have instant access to their own research of items addressed in a book. I find it annoying when an author's characters make inaccurate statements of fact. To wit, in Curse of the Druids, Nick Caine tells his companions that there is an active volcano in England called St. Michael's which showed activity last in 2005. Not having heard of this activity, I looked it up. St. Michael's is not located in England but rather on an island in the Pacific. The island is a British Territory. This mistake makes a few pages worth of scientific speculation in this book moot and caused this reader to be suspicious of other anthropological statements in the rest of this book.", "AM LOOKING FORWARD TO THE NEXT INSTALLMENT OF NICK CAINE ADVENTURES. I'VE READ THE OTHER 3 AND STILL ENJOY HIS ANTICS. ONE DAY HE WILL REALIZE HOW MUCH HE LOVES THE GIRL AND HER SENSE OF ADVENTURE. NOT THAT MUCH DIFFERENCE BETWEEN HIM AND HER. THE NEXT BOOK SHOULD BE JUST AS ADVENTURESS AND I THINK BETTER.", 'I really like this installment of this series. Like the previous books, it is well written, very descriptive, great cast of characters, face-paced plot, action and a nice blend of humor. An entertaining read.', 'I liked the Nick Caine series, but this one was not up to the standards of the previous books. I will probably read the next one and see if it gets better. If not, I will say good bye to Nick Caine.', "I had noticed so many books by this author, and now I know why. This is written for a child. Just plain bad in everyway. I'm glad I purchased this so cheaply because after three chapters I didn't mind deleting it right away. Some of these authors with SO many current books, must make them up in an hour as they are typing.", 'I really enjoy the Nick Caine adventures! It is like Indiana Jones meets the 3 Stooges! In a good way. It has adventure, suspense, love but not trashy, and a really interesting plot! On to the next adventure!', "Our story continues with Nick, Marie, and Ishi as they are running from retribution of an Egyptian on the way to find an amulet made by druids to ensure communication with the gods it has other interesting powers also. This is a fast paced adventure that the author infuses with humor, taunts of otherworldly powers gifted to the wearer of the amulet. Danger spices up the plot and the relationship between the characters keep the stories fresh and entertaining. I love this author's works and I am going to be impatiently waiting for the next installment. One complaint, the story is too short, the book ended way to fast.", "I have been following this series and this one didn't disappoint! Lots of action and descriptions of area of story takes place in made me feel like I was really there.", "As always Aiden James hits a home run with the latest adventures of Nick Caine. I can't wait for the next installment.", "I personally had a problem getting into this book. Once I kept at it I was on the edge and couldn't put it down. Will have to back track and reread the books before this one.", 'Writing as always fast paced. I FEEL that as soon as I got into the story it was over and left me hanging like an old Saturday afternoon serial. Two hours of reading and were left hanging with no ending', "The first three Nick Caine adventures were a collaboration with J.R. Rain and Aiden James. This 4th in the series was the first solo by Aiden James and he hasn't missed a beat!! If you enjoyed the first three, I highly recommend you pick this one up as well. The adventure never stops for Nick, Ishi and Marie as they travel across Europe in the search for a mystical amulet near Stonehenge. The Curse of the Druids is a fast-paced easy read. Loved it!", "Aiden James has completely enchanted me in this newest Adventure &#34;Curse of the Druids&#34; The Nick Caine Series. Our three friends Nick, his love, Marie Davinci, and true to the end friend Ishi (I LOVE Ishi ) are in England on a treasure hunt at Marie's request to find The Ambrosius Amulet, a VERY Mystical and Magical Amulet hidden in the ruins of Stonehenge, a place called Bluehendge. This Amulet goes back even before the time of Merlin. And has powers for whoever is in possession of the Amulet. The dying request of Marias Father was for her to find this treasure before, their evil cohorts do, Because you do NOT want to touch these treasures without good intentions (read the story to find out why). This

book is fast paced with danger around every corner. The descriptions of the area around Stonehenge are just amazing! I give this book 5 Blue Amulets a very exciting read!", 'Wow, quite an exciting adventure with danger around every corner. Nick his beloved and friend are off on a wild adventure in search of the amulet. hmmm Marie has other plans up her sleeve. This is a fast pace easy to read book that I highly recommend. The entire series has been a blast to read and the author keeps you wanting more.', 'You know I am truly amazed at the imagination of Aiden James. He grabs you up quickly and you are not released until the journey is over. Each book seems better than the last. Seriously you will not be disappointed. But no spoilers from this girl.', "Once again, the author has given us a book that cannot be put down once the reading has started. The story is filled with action, mystery, and intrigue with a touch of tensioned romance between Nick and Marie. Alas, as with all of the books in this series, the author leaves us wanting more. Hopefully, it won't be too long of a wait. The book flows smoothly and can be read in one afternoon. As with the others in this series, I highly recommend it."]

## B00L9R69TY

["The obstacles with most diet plans that I have identified, is that they have overly perplexing recipes. The amount of special ingredients required and the complex and convoluted cooking preparations are two of the major reasons why busy people like me are always struggling and we fail to lose weight. But it seems to me that 'The Mediterranean Diet' offers none of the complications of those other diet recipes. Instead, in this book New T Mediterranean Diet Cookbook: 45 Delicious Recipes I used to lose over 180 lbs in 6 months by Corine Channell offers an uncomplicated and very straightforward simple style of cooking and even a simpler ingredient list for everyday meal planning and enjoyment. It's as easy as pie to follow. Furthermore; her recipes sound like they will be savory, and satisfying meals that I would just love to eat! This is no ordinary cookbook, folks. Aside from being chocked full of delicious recipes for any time of day, Channell began by explaining the importance, and incredible benefits, of the Mediterranean diet. My mouth was watering just reading the recipes! I can't wait to experiment with this diet.", "Mediterranean Diet Cookbook: 45 Delicious Recipe I used to lose over 180lbs in 6 months by Corine Channell is an awesome book. Chef Andre' is a great chef. He was heavy and was being interviewed for a TV show that he thought would be awesome. When he found out it was about unhealthy chef he was determined. Through changing recipes up to be healthier it worked great. Through this book it is full of great recipes that are healthy and pretty easy to make. It makes you realize to just change some ingredients to healthier ones can help in weight loss and making a lifestyle change. Through this all he did lose weight and enhanced his cooking. This is such a good book as the recipes are easy to follow and sound very delicious. I will be trying them.", "One way my wife and I especially love to bond is over food. Whether it is cooking together in the kitchen, coming home to her amazing cooking after a hard day of work and enjoying a meal together, or simply snacking while we hang out together, food is almost always a central part of our days. When I saw Corine Channell's &#34;New Mediterranean Diet Cookbook: 45 Delicious Recipes I Used to Lose Over 180 Lbs. in 6 Months&#34;, I knew it was going to be a great read, and boy was I right! My mouth was watering over every single recipe in this book! From decadent desserts to mouthwatering entrees and sides, Chef Andre's creations sound absolutely amazing! I almost could not believe that it is possible to lose weight making and eating all of these scrumptious foods, but after reading all the ingredients and preparations that go into each one, I noticed that all of the ingredients are either low fat, all-natural, or at least a lighter alternative to regular components. If you're looking for delicious recipes to lose weight, this book is it for you!", "We should eat to live, and feed ourselves food to sustain us, keep us healthy, and make our bodies operate correctly. When you live to eat, it can present a very big problem if you have a tendency for weight gain." Chef Andre' did; he was a round, jolly man, who had a dream. "Food was his life, and his goal was to someday have a cooking show on TV, if he lived long enough.""Because Chef Andre' was so beloved in his town, and his restaurant 'Better With Butter' one of the city hot spots, a local TV personality wanted to come out and interview him...(he was very excited but never knew

what the interview was all about until he was asked)...whether he'd like to be a contender for a television show. The catch was the show would be about an unhealthy and overweight chef who changed his eating habits, which in turn changed his restaurant into the prime health conscious hot spot....This was a win-win deal. Now, losing weight before an audience was a little humbling, but you do what you have to do if the dream means enough to you. Chef Andre\ agreed, and a cooking/weight loss guru was born. (He wondered if he would be changing the name of his restaurant to \Better Without Butter!)"Herein lies the story you read in this well written book. It is a very entertaining story shared by Corine Channell of what Chef Andre\ learned on his 6 month journey. First of how he was able to humble himself to accomplish this goal. Second he learned how people behave and interact and respond to things. This he learned by bringing a street band into the restaurant and giving them a platform to be heard, his way of giving back. Along the way he gives you very helpful, healthy tips on which foods to substitute, as he shares 45 of his most loved recipes. Last but not least, he learned that everyone has the same chances of seeing his or her dream come true. "That if you set your mind to a task, no matter how large (even if it its your own body), with some motivation and a whole lot of hard work you truly can do anything!", 'This book was about a chef by the name of Andre who also wrote this amazing book filled with very healthy recipes.Chef Andre cooked to eat but not other wise healthy for you.Until he was asked to do a cooking show about and unhealthy and overweight chef who had to change his eating habits but also ment he had to change is recipes in his restaurant with healthy conscious foods.by having his own show was a big dream for him so he decides to do it. The format of the show was Andre had to recreate his recipes to a more healthy virgins but have the same great taste.The whole object of the show was to help him and his followers lose weight and cook and eat healthy.This book was amazing and filled with lots of recipes for everyone to try.', "I love the recipes in this book! They sound extremely tasty and don't appear that difficult to prepare. I love the story of Chef Andre and his struggled to lose weight and still cook good food. I one of those who love butter, cooking, and soul food too much, so I was very happy to find some of my favorite recipes in healthy versions. I have to agree with the format of the book and will be trying out the deserts first. The Mediterranean Diet COok book is a very easy read with wonderful recipes. I actually had to stop in the middle of the book to try the Cheesy Potato soup recipe before I could finish the book. The results let me tell you-AWESOME! This book will get a lot of use in my in my kitchen. Thanks Chef Andrea for the inspiration and the wonderful recipes.", 'I really enjoyed Corine Channell's book, &#8220;New Mediterranean Diet Cookbook: 45 Delicious Recipes I used to lose over 180 lbs. in 6 months.&#8221; I didn&#8217;t expect it to be a story about a chef and how he lost weight by altering his own recipes. I was pleasantly surprised and really connected with Chef Andre&#8217;s story. My son is also a chef and has always been a big guy. He recently lost over 50 pounds by using his food knowledge to start eating right. I am certainly going to share this book with him. l&#8217;m also very excited to try the recipes included in the book. They all seem very simple, but more importantly, they are low fat, low sugar and just the kind of things that I like to eat. I definitely recommend this book to anyone out there wanting to eat better without giving up delicious, satisfying foods.', "What a great book about a chef who was asked to be a contender for a TV weight loss cooking show. If he could create delicious meals and loss weight in the six month challenge, the station would pick up his own TV show. This book has 45 recipes that don't even sound like &#34;diet&#34; meals, just delicious and healthy meals. I can't wait to try some of the chicken and soup recipes. He also has many delicious dessert recipes. The chef met the challenge and his meals were featured in his restaurant. A great book that I recommend to anyone to read, whether on a diet or not.", "I have always been a bit reluctant to try dieting books. Let's face it, diet food is basically tree bark with a glass of water. But when I stumbled upon this book, it really grabbed my attention. Mediterranean food at its best and I get to lose weight? A match made in Heaven as far as I'm concerned.Corine shares some great recipes that are very easy to follow and taste great. And every portion of the meal is covered -- appetizers, soups, salads, main courses and desserts. If you are like me, you'll especially enjoy the second chapter where Corine lets us know that it is perfectly fine to have dessert first!", "This book is just making me hungry after reading this. I just love how this diet book is all about food. I love how you can make so much food and still be on a diet. I

have been looking all over for good diet books and I think I found the right one now. If the gym is not your thing, then this book is it. I can't wait to start making some of the food in this book and have a great diet. This is a great diet book. You just have to read this book because it is a really great book!", 'Wow! What a yummy book to read! Chef Andre has some amazing recipes in this book that I absolutely can not wait to check out for myself! All of the yummy fruit tarts and desserts were making my mouth drool just from reading them. And to think that I can eat these delicious sounding recipes and actually begin to lose some weight makes them even better! I have been overweight for a very long time, and I will try anything that I can to lose the weight and start getting healthy. These recipes are outstanding and I am really looking forward to trying them. I actually wrote two of them down and am about to head to the grocery store right now to pick up the ingredients! This is the exact book that I have been looking for. One that is not only inspirational but one that also has some great recipes to help guide me on my way to a whole new body!', "The story was cute but contrived for the purpose of the book. I expected to read about Channell's weight loss, not some fictional chef's. The recipes seem a bit bland, there isn't any spices to add flavor to the recipes. I can find better ones on foodnetwork.com.", 'When food is your passion, it can truly be a recipe for disaster for your body, but it doesn't have to be. The Mediterranean Diet Cookbook by Corine Channell is an amazing collection of &#8220;killer&#8221; recipes that have lost their &#8220;killer&#8221; status. Recipes for everything from desserts to good, solid comfort foods have been trimmed of the fat, sugar, and unnecessary calories while still retaining their familiar flavors. Along with the recipes is an inspirational story about Chef Andre, who was 180 pounds overweight &#8211; 180 pounds &#8211; all of which he lost while creating this wonderful collection of old favorites made healthier without sacrificing taste. The key is in knowing that the true flavor is in the seasonings and spices, not necessarily the unhealthy fats and sugars. These 45 healthy recipes are easy to follow, full of flavor, and with ingredients that are now readily available in most groceries and supermarkets. Appetizers, main dishes, desserts &#8211; it&#8217;s all in there. Highly recommended to read and use on a regular basis.']