



John Howard's much better in this role

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But by Bondi standards, the rent was cheap

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★★★★★ Excellent

★★★★ Hot

★★★ Cool

★★ OK

★ Crap

1/ ET The Extra-Terrestrial (UIP) TWENTY years on, the clothes are almost back in fashion. With new footage and a few digital tweaks to help ET look less claymation, *ET* turns out to be much better than you remember. But despite the revisions, Drew Barrymore's life still turns to shit when she grows up. **JE ★★★★★**

2/ 40 Days and 40 Nights (UIP) SELF-CONSCIOUSLY cool yet utterly faceless Yanks address each other as "Dude". For no properly explained reason, one of them gives up all forms of sexual activity, including masturbation ("Woah! No way, dude," etc) for Lent. Slightly funny, but mostly useless. **IS ★★**

3/ The Count of Monte Cristo (Buena Vista) NAÏVE young Edmond, betrayed by evil Guy Pearce, spends 13 years in a hellhole jail. He comes out planning to skewer Pearce like a shish kebab. Swordfights, treasure... this is a movie like they used to make, before they thought of something better. **HV ★★**

4/ I Am Sam (Roadshow) SEAN Penn plays Dustin Hanks in a dreary, justice-will-prevail story about a mentally retarded man's parental rights. (Shame they didn't use the obvious tagline: "He's mental; he's parental"). *I Am Sam*, like green eggs and ham, might make you queasy. **RM ★**

7/ Storytelling (Roadshow) A DUDE with cerebral palsy gets picked on in his literature class, then his girlfriend has sex with his lecturer. The lecturer is big and black and likes to tie up his students before having sex with them. The movie is big and black, too, and will make sick-in-the-head people laugh a lot. **EK ★★★★★**

8/ Crossroads (Roadshow) PAINFUL teen crap starring Britney Spears... that's worth every nauseating second. Begin with Britney dancing in her undies in her bedroom, see Britney rotating her middle in hotpants onstage, and end with Britney losing her virginity. You won't need your Kleenex for your eyes. **RM ★★★★★**

9/ The Curse of the Jade Scorpion (Roadshow) WOODY Allen shows his age – by making yet another film set before anyone else but him was born (1940), and by looking like he might die any second. This is a little film with old jokes, saved by Charlize Theron, who is so hot I ate my entire seat. Whole. **IS ★★★★★**

10/ Mean Machine (UIP) FORMER English footy captain (Vinnie Jones – it's fiction) fixes a match, assaults a cop and gets put away. Like most jails, this stir has its own soccer team. The evil prison governor makes Vinnie coach. Of course, it's a close game. Of course, the not-so-bad bad guys win. **RM ★★★★★**



"Look, there's an egg in your ear!"

"Christ, you're old"

Vinnie puts on a late spurt

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