

# MOVIE CITY NEWS

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It's been a long time since I've seen a movie from Jamaica that didn't involve Bob Marley or bobsleds. "**Out the Gate**" is a micro-budget crime thriller whose roots extend back to "The Harder They Come," "Rockers" and "Countryman," right down to the subtitled English. In a story as old as time, a young man is sent to L.A. by his uncle to prevent him from attempting to avenge the murder of a friend. Instead of immediately setting the music industry on fire, as he expects, Everton ends up on the street selling CDs and DVDs shipped to him from the island. Ideally suited to his social skills, the gig helps Everton (E-Dee) connect with several influential people, including the musician Father Times, the record mogul Qmillion, ganglord Badz and several women normally out of a country boy's league. When Qmillion hooks Everton up with a terrific Trinidadian singer (Ms Triniti), he begins to think that he's on his way to Zion. Naturally, the good times can't last. Bad news arrives in the form of Badz, who's pissed over an unpaid IOU that Father Times neglected to mention to his friend. If the story is overly familiar and, technically, "Out the Gate" is an unholy mess, the rest of the movie is redeemed by an excellent dancehall and reggae soundtrack and the enthusiastic acting of a young, virtually unknown cast. – *Gary Dretzka*

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