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## DVD Extra

*Is that DVD you've got your eye on really worth the investment? Should you wait a few months until the "Special Edition" hits shelves? DVD Extra lights the way.*

## March 20 DVD roundup

Posted on [03/20/2012](#) by [Harry Thomas](#)

The Oscar contenders continue this week.

**Mainstream:** The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo; The Muppets; The Sitter; Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy

**Independent:** American Reel; Behind Your Eyes; Carnage; National Lampoon's The Legend of Awesomest Maximus; Splintered

**BD debut:** The Ring

**Documentary:** Louder Than A Bomb; One Lucky Elephant

**Foreign:** Battle Royale; Gainsbourg

**TV:** Jane by Design, Scarecrow and Mrs. King

**Kids:** Adventures in Lalaloopsy Land; Victorious

Usual rules apply: synopses are taken from the press releases, snarky comments on YouTube's preview pages.. And just in case you were wondering, the DVD prices get them cheaper if you buy at discount stores or online.

### **Adventures in Lalaloopsy Land: Search for Pillow**

Lionsgate, 70 minutes, not rated, \$16.98

The crew of “adorable” ragdolls search for their missing friend Pillow Featherbed in Peanut Big Top reveals an amazing surprise. Saw a commercial for this during Spring par with “South Park.” The difference is that “South Park” is intended to look cheeky and playful. I call them as I see them. Extras: animated short, Karaoke mode.

### **American Reel**

MVD Visual, 100 minutes, not rated, \$9.95

Satirical buddy drama features David Carradine as James Lee Springer, a singer-uncompromising style hold him back for 20 years. With the help of his best friend/finally got a shot at the big time, but Springer’s own vision conflicts with that of his Hemingway. No extras listed.

### **Battle Royale: The Complete Collection**

Anchor Bay Entertainment, 368 minutes, not rated, 2 episodes, 4 discs

DVD: \$44.98

BD: \$49.99

Dystopian future has the Japanese government fearing its youth, so it devises a game where ninth graders are sent to a remote island, locked into exploding neck collars and are then forced to hunt and kill one another over three days until only one is left. The rules are set by the first film’s survivors. Both films were embraced and the Director’s Cut in Japanese with English subtitles and an English dub; the theatrical bonus disc in Japanese with English subtitles. This is being released to coincide with “Hunger Games,” which features a similar premise. These films are a bit more graphic than the first. Extras include featurettes, cast interviews, documentary, featurettes, film trailers, interview

### **Behind Your Eyes**

Osiris Entertainment, 93 minutes, not rated, \$24.98

A young couple (Frida Farrell and Tom Sandoval) embark on a weekend retreat to a remote location where they are kidnapped and held hostage. Now they must fight for their lives against their mysterious captor who tortures them with secrets from their pasts. No extras listed.

## **Carnage**

Sony, 80 minutes, R

DVD: \$30.99

BD: \$35.99

Liberal New Yorkers (Jodie Foster, John C. Reilly) invite power couple (Kate Winslet, Jesse Brander) to resolve a scuffle between their kids on the playground. However, their social and verbal battle. Directed by Roman Polanski (who must have done the New York scene interviews).

## **Gainsbourg**

Music Box Films, 130 minutes, not rated

DVD: \$34.95

BD: \$43.95

Biopic of the French singer-songwriter who survived Nazi-occupied Paris to romance Brigitte Bardot to include Juliette Greco, Brigitte Bardot and Jane Birkin. In French with English subtitles. -of-featurette, storyboards.

## **The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo**

Sony, 158 minutes, R

DVD: \$30.99

BD/DVD with digital copy: \$40.99

Mikael Blomkvist (Daniel Craig) has just lost a libel suit and control of his magazine Lisbeth Salander (Best Actress nominee Rooney Mara) has just compiled a dossier on a corrupt magnate Henrik Vanger (Christopher Plummer), who wants Blomkvist to investigate the murder of his grandniece some 40 years earlier. Blomkvist agrees in exchange for the suit to. Working with Salander, the two uncover more corruption than they ever imagined. Stieg Larsson. The trilogy of books has already been made into a widely-regarded adaptation has actually gotten even better reviews. I wish I'd had time to watch this. Ultraviolet digital copy. BD adds featurettes.

## **Jane by Design: Volume One**

ABC Studios, 430 minutes, not rated, \$29.99

ABC Family comedy/drama series starring Erica Dasher as Jane Quimby, a high school senior who graduates and gets a top fashion designer assistant's job working for Gray Chandler McQueen. Not listed.

### **Louder Than A Bomb**

Virgil Films & Entertainment, 100 minutes, not rated, \$19.99

Documentary about four Chicago high school poetry teams who prepare to compete in a poetry slam. Rated as one of the ten best documentaries of 2011 by Roger Ebert. Part of the Documentary Club series. Extras: alternate scenes, outtakes.

### **The Muppets**

Disney, 103 minutes, PG, \$29.99

BD/DVD: \$39.99

BD/DVD with digital copy: \$49.99

Walter, the world's biggest Muppet fan (and a Muppet himself, although the film never shows him), visits his beloved (human) brother Gary (Jason Segel, who also wrote and produced) and his friends to visit the Muppet Theater. However, it's fallen into ruins, with the cast of the Muppet Show. Walter finds out that a rich oil baron (Chris Cooper) will take possession of the theater for oil (in the middle of Hollywood?), so the trio go looking for Kermit and the gang to help them. BD offers a new wrinkle – the “intermission” “pause” button, plus all of the spoof trailers. This was better than I'd hoped, after seeing the original “Muppet Movie.” Extras: bloopers. BD adds commentary, deleted scenes, and trailers.

### **National Lampoon's The Legend of Awesomest Maximus**

Image Entertainment, 91 minutes, not rated

DVD: \$27.97

BD: \$29.97

Spoof of gladiator and ancient warrior movies has Horny King Looney of Troy (Rip Torn) send his son Awesomest Maximus (Will Sasso) to maintain the peace treaty with Greece. Prince Maximus starts the war is on. Also stars Ian Ziering, Kristanna Loken, Tony Cox, with rapper Ludacris. No extras listed.

## **One Lucky Elephant**

Virgil Films & Entertainment, 81 minutes, not rated, \$19.99

Documentary about circus producer David Balding, who discovers that his star elephant's nine-year odyssey follows to find her a good home. Part of the OWN (Oprah Winfrey) series. Extras: interviews, photo gallery.

## **The Ring**

Paramount, 115 minutes, PG-13, 19.99 (BD debut)

There's a video tape that causes anyone who watches it to die seven days later. Naomi Watts tracks down the video ... and watches it. Now she has seven days to save her own life. Paramount says this is a BD debut – but I couldn't find it or already out there. Extras: featurettes, interviews.

## **Scarecrow and Mrs. King: The Complete Third Season**

Warner Bros., 1,038 minutes, not rated, 22 episodes, 5 discs, \$39.98

Penultimate season of the show has spy Lee Stetson (Bruce Boxleitner) and housewife Amanda King (Kate Jackson) become true partners as Amanda gets full operative status. No ex

## **The Sitter: Totally Irresponsible Edition**

Fox, 82 minutes, not rated

DVD: \$19.99

BD/DVD with digital copy: \$29.99

Noah (Jonah Hill, before his slim-down) is a twenty-something lazy boy with no job and with a hot girlfriend who only likes him for his oral skills (and we're not talking about the neighbor's kids for a night (who are rather messed up on their own). An assortment of extras appear: drug dealers, gangsta thugs, police officers, upper-crust snobs. Comedic extras appear to be on the BD only: alternate scenes, deleted scenes, digital copy

## **Splintered**

Well Go USA, 85 minutes, not rated

DVD: \$19.98

BD/DVD: \$26.98

Troubled teen Sophie (Holly Weston) goes into an abandoned building in search of

animal beast that kills for pleasure. She is locked into a dark isolated room where she waits for the inevitable. Daytime brings Gavin (Stephen Martin Walters), who doesn't let her escape the building. Extras: behind-the-scenes featurette, deleted :

### **Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy**

Focus, 127 minutes, R

DVD: \$29.98

BD/DVD with digital copy: \$34.98

Feature film version of the classic John LeCarre Cold War espionage novel has his Smiley (Best Actor nominee Gary Oldman) called back to MI-6 after being forced to do very wrong. It seems that there's a Soviet mole in the agency, and it could be one of the Jones, Ciarán Hinds, Colin Firth, and David Dencik), according to Smiley's former boss. *Available exclusively at Target beginning March 18.* Extras: bloopers, featurettes, deleted scenes.

### **Victorious: The Complete Second Season**

Nickelodeon/Paramount, 312 minutes, not rated, 12 episodes, 2 discs

DVD: \$19.99

Second season of Nickelodeon drama featuring the students of Hollywood Arts High School. *Available exclusively at Target beginning March 18.* Extras: bloopers, featurettes, deleted scenes.



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- Former KSAT reporter Lozano dies at age 42

**FROM AROUND THE WEB**

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