



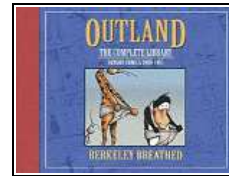
It's become an annual tradition to get another fun and fascinating volume of interesting information from the fine folks at QI, and this year is no exception, as I urge you to pick up your very own copy of the accurately titled **QI: 1,227 Facts To Blow Your Socks Off** (Faber & Faber, £9.99 SRP). So hurry up and get your copy!



If you've yet to experience the magic - and lovely music - of Harry Nilsson's utterly charming children's cartoon special **The Point** (MVD, Not Rated, DVD-\$12.99 SRP), about a little boy who is ostracized for having no point at the top of his head, then this is the way to do it. Why? Because it's been cleaned up and remastered in a collector's edition that puts the special in context as an overlooked gem worth rediscovering.



Fans of *Bloom County* had been teased when that strip ended that Berkeley Breathed's humor and beloved penguin, Opus, would live on in a new strip. That tease became a reality a few months later with the introduction of the Sundays-only **Outland** (IDW, \$39.99 SRP), which has gotten its own much-deserved release in its entirety as the next hardcover collection from the fine folks at IDW.



And after he walked away from the comic strip world (for the second time), I admit to being one of the many equal parts surprised and delighted when I heard Berkeley Breathed was returning to newspapers with his penguin hero in the titular **Opus** (IDW, \$39.99 SRP) - which also happens to be the last in IDW's wonderful hardbound collections of his output, from [Bloom County] and [Outland] to this final Sundays-only run that he walked away from in 2008. He came back twice - Here's hoping for another go.



They're not the artistic achievement of a Pixar film, but much like the *Madagascar* franchise for Dreamworks, Fox's *Ice Age* films are cinematic comfort food - a reliable good time with no pretense to be anything but that. The latest adventure, **Ice Age: Continental Drift** (Fox, Rated PG, 3D Blu-Ray-\$49.99SRP) takes us into the third dimension as our heroes are cast adrift aboard the break up of the titular age - an iceberg. Bonus materials include featurettes, deleted scenes, and more.



While it doesn't quite reach the legendary crowd-pleasing heights of *Harry Potter* or *Lord Of The Rings*, I'd take **The Hunger Games** (Lionsgate, Rated PG-13, Blu-Ray-\$39.99 SRP) over a dozen *Twilights*, as Suzanne Collins' tale of a future society that pits its children against each other to win survival for themselves and food for their region is very much in the vein of classic social commentary sci-fi of yore (think *Logan's Run* with a modern soap opera skin. Bonus materials include a clutch of featurettes and interviews.

