

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.

May 22 DVD roundup

Posted on 05/17/2012 by [Harry Thomas](#)

Quite a few TV shows on disc this week.

Mainstream: Red Tails; This Means War; The Woman in Black

Independent: All God's Creatures; Beyond; Newlyweds; Tom Clancy's Ghost Recon Alpha

BD debut: Lethal Weapon Collection

Foreign: The First Beautiful Thing; Mutant Girls Squad

Stand-up comedy: 95 Miles to Go; Hannibal Buress

Concert: Divinyls; Rose Tattoo

Documentary: Grateful Dead; Love Etc.

TV: Ghost Hunters International; My Babysitter's a Vampire; The River; Rizzoli & Isles; Route 66; Teen Spirit

British TV: Sherlock

Kids: The Secret World of Arrietty



Usual rules apply: synopses are taken from the press releases, snarky commentary is extra, and preview links go to YouTube's preview pages. And just in case you were wondering, the DVD prices are the listed retail prices. You can get them cheaper if you buy at discount stores or online.

95 Miles to Go

Schmo-Gun Productions, 77 minutes, R, \$16.95

Ray Romano and his opening act, Tom Caltabiano, decide to bring along film student Roger Lay in order to document a trip through the South as they drive from gig to gig in a rental car. Includes 30 minutes of Romano's act, video commentary, two audio commentaries, alternate scenes, deleted scenes, photo gallery.

All God's Creatures

Osiris Entertainment, 84 minutes, not rated, \$24.98

Jon Smith (Josh Folan) works as a barista in New York City. At night, he savagely kills "filthy women" as his social outlet. He meets Delia (Jessica Kaye), a young prostitute who is trying to escape her troubled past. She forces him to confront the demons within himself. No extras listed.

Beyond

Anchor Bay Films, 90 minutes, PG-13

DVD: \$22.98

BD: \$24.99

A detective (Jon Voight) who has an obsessive hatred for child abductions, puts his retirement on hold when a 7-year-

old girl is kidnapped from an Anchorage suburb. He forms an unlikely partnership with a radio psychic (Julian Morris) to track her down. As the case progresses, the clues indicate that this case has supernatural overtones. Also stars Teri Polo, Dermot Mulroney and Brett Baker. No extras listed.

Divinyls – Live: Jailhouse Rock

Umbrella Entertainment, 85 minutes, not rated, \$19.95

1993 concert at Queensland's notorious Boggo Road prison has the band playing their biggest hits, including "I Touch Myself." Part of a triple bill, which also featured the band Rose Tattoo (scroll down for their entry). No extras listed.

The First Beautiful Thing

Palisades Tartan, 122 minutes, not rated

DVD: \$24.98

BD: \$29.98

A strong and optimistic mother (Micaela Ramazzotti) raises her two children despite her own grief and pain, teaching them to remain open and loving and to cherish the little joys in life. In Italian with English subtitles. No extras listed.

Ghost Hunters International: Season 2: Part 2

Image Entertainment, 500 minutes, not rated, 13 episodes, \$24.98

Second half of second season of show that explores worldwide paranormal behaviors. Episodes: The Spirit of Robin Hood, Sweeney Todd, Wolf's Lair, The Devil's Wedding, The Demons of Nicaragua, Pirates of the Caribbean, Hamlet's Castle, Ghosts of the Eastern Bloc: Ukraine and Poland, Unfaithful Spirit: Germany, Amsterdamned: Netherlands, Army of the Dead: Serbia, Shadows in the Dark: Scotland, Soldiers of Misfortune: Puerto Rico. Extras: deleted scenes.

Grateful Dead: Dawn Of The Dead

Sexy Intellectual, 138 minutes, not rated, \$19.95

Documentary on The Grateful Dead and the psychedelia musical movement that was born in mid-1960s San Francisco. Also covers Big Brother and the Holding Company, Jefferson Airplane, the Charlatans and Quicksilver Messenger Service. No extras listed.

Hannibal Buress: Animal Furnace

Comedy Central, 65 minutes, not rated, \$14.95

"SNL" writer Buress performs in his first comedy special, discussing his three-time jaywalking bust in Montreal, a bloodless airport shoot out and late nights with questionable women. Extras: behind-the-scenes featurette.

Lethal Weapon Collection

Warner Bros., 468 minutes, R, 4 films, 5 discs, \$79.98 (BD debut)

The films that defined the "buddy cop" genre get a BD debut. New to these releases include commentary by Richard Donner on the first three films, plus four documentaries. *Note: This set was originally scheduled for release on June 12, but it got pushed up to today.*

Love Etc.

Virgil Films, 94 minutes, not rated, \$19.99

Five love stories told over the course of a year in New York city: two teens experiencing their first love; an elderly couple celebrating decades of it; a divorced parent starting over; a couple getting married and a gay man who decides to become a single parent. Part of the OWN (Oprah Winfrey Network) documentary series. Extras: deleted scenes, interviews.

Mutant Girls Squad

Well Go USA, 89 minutes, not rated

DVD: \$24.98

BD/DVD: \$29.98

Rin (Yugi Sugimoto) has always felt like an outcast. On her 16th birthday, she finds out why; a group of soldiers bust in

on her party and kill her parents. She sprouts a claw and kills them. She finds out she is a Hiruko, part of a race of mutant creatures who can transform their bodies into living weapons. The government has ordered them eliminated in the name of public safety, but Rin finds out that there's a training camp for young Hirukos who seek revenge against their tormentors. Splatter-film appears to draw heavily on the "X-Men" stories; it was directed by the three top Japanese splatter-film directors. I showed this to my colleague Rene Guzman of Geek Speak; he read the description on the back and recoiled in horror. Extras: featurettes, interviews, live-action short.

My Babysitter's a Vampire: The First Season

Warner Bros., 286 minutes, PG, 13 episodes, 3 discs, \$24.99

Ethan's (Matthew Knight) mother doesn't trust him enough to babysit, so she hires Sarah (Vanessa Morgan) as a sitter. Ethan has a crush on her, but that's not the worst of the deal. She's a vampire who also destroys creatures that go bump in the night. Ethan finds out that he's a Seer and his best friend Benny (Atticus Mitchell) is a Spell Master. Together, they team up to take on zombies, demons, ghosts, witches and other creatures bent on taking over their high school. Includes the made-for-TV movie that began the series. Take the "Twilight" series, throw in some "Buffy," knock down the level to tweens and stick in a blender. Mix well. No extras listed.

Newlyweds

New Video Group, 80 minutes, not rated, \$26.95

Buzzy (Edward Burns) and Katie (Caitlin Fitzgerald) are newlyweds in New York's Tribeca neighborhood just starting their life together. The in-laws start widening cracks almost right away: Buzzy's wild-child younger sister Linda (Kerry Bishé) comes by for an unexpected visit; Katie's sister Marcia (Marsha Dietlein Bennett) suspects her husband Max (Max Baker) of being unfaithful. Indie romantic humor is supposed to ensue. Extras: deleted scenes, interviews.

Red Tails

Fox, 125 minutes, PG-13

DVD: \$29.98

BD: \$39.99

Air combat on the Italian front in 1944 is starting to take its toll on Allied pilots, which means that the all-black Tuskegee Airmen are finally given a chance to prove themselves. Stars Cuba Gooding Jr. and Terrence Howard. Executive produced by George Lucas. Despite the pedigree and subject matter, the film scored only 36% on the [Rotten Tomatoes](#) meter. BD extras: BD-Live capacity, documentary, featurettes.

The River: The Complete First Season

ABC Studios, 344 minutes, G, 8 episodes, 2 discs, \$29.99

Famous wildlife expert and TV personality Dr. Emmet Cole (Bruce Greenwood) goes missing in the Amazon jungle. His family, friends and crew set out to find him, but nature, magic and wonder have some lessons to teach. Executive produced by Steven Spielberg. No extras listed.

Rizzoli & Isles: The Complete Second Season

Warner Bros., 645 minutes, not rated, 15 episodes, \$39.98

Second season of series starring Angie Harmon as homicide detective Jane Rizzoli and Sasha Alexander as forensic pathologist Maura Isles. They are close friends, polar opposites and solve murder cases together. Also stars Jordan Bridges, Lee Thompson Young, (San Antonio's) Bruce McGill, Lorraine Bracco and Jacqueline Bisset). Extras: alternate scenes, behind-the-scenes featurette, gag reel, Ultraviolet digital copy.

Rose Tattoo: Live In 1993 From Boggo Road Jail

Umbrella Entertainment, 54 minutes, not rated, \$19.95

1993 concert at Queensland's notorious Boggo Road prison has the Australian band playing their biggest hits, including the Rolling Stones classic "Street Fighting Man." Part of a triple bill, which also featured the Divinyls (scroll up for their entry). No extras listed.

Route 66: The Complete Series

Shout! Factory, 6,000 minutes, not rated, 116 episodes, 24 discs, \$129.99

Iconic 1960s series featured two guys tooling down Route 66 in a Corvette, meeting people along the way. Robert

Kolarik was kind enough to review this one for me; it can be found [here](#). Extras: essay, featurettes.

The Secret World of Arrietty

Buena Vista, 94 minutes, G

DVD: \$29.99

BD/DVD: \$39.99

Disney trots out the latest Studio Ghibli film; this one is based on the award-winning novel "The Borrowers" by Mary Norton. Little people called Borrowers live in their secret world below the floorboards of Shawn's (voice of David Hendrie) aunt's house, where they "borrow" scrap supplies such as sugar cubes. Shawn discovers them and strikes up a friendship with the tenacious and tiny Arrietty (Bridgit Mendler). Will Arnett, Amy Poehler, and Carol Burnett also lend their voices. My kids watched this the other day; reaction was mixed. One liked it, the other wasn't as thrilled. I think it's because the Japanese anime style is different than the American animation. Extras: alternate ending, making-of-featurette, music video. BD adds: music video, storyboards.

Sherlock: Season Two

BBC/Warner Bros., 270 minutes, not rated, 3 episodes, 2 discs

DVD: \$29.98

BD: \$39.98

Second season of BBC reboot of the Sherlock Holmes legend, with Benedict Cumberbatch as Holmes and Martin Freeman as Watson in three new stories: "A Scandal in Belgravia," involving Holmes in the plans of Irene Adler (Lara Pulver); "The Hounds of Baskerville" finding the pair investigating the claims of Henry Knight (Russell Tovey) about a supernatural beast; and "The Reichenbach Fall" reunites Holmes with his old adversary, Jim Moriarty (Andrew Scott). Extras: behind-the-scenes featurette, episode commentary.

Teen Spirit

Image Entertainment, 82 minutes, not rated, \$27.97

Popular girl (and class queen bee) Amber Pollock (Cassie Scerbo) has worked for years to be the Prom Queen of her high school, but a freak accident ends her life. Stuck in Limbo, she is told that the only way she can avoid an unpleasant after-life is to get the school's least-popular girl, Lisa Sommers (Lindsey Shaw) voted as the replacement Prom Queen within a week. No extras listed.

This Means War

Fox, 97 minutes, PG-13

DVD: \$29.98

BD: \$39.99

Foster (Chris Pine) and Tuck (Tom Hardy) are covert CIA operatives, partners and best friends. But when they both fall in love with Lauren (Reese Witherspoon), they turn their considerable talents and gadgetry on each other. Includes three alternate endings, which indicates that she gets to choose one or the other, plus a third option. Also stars Chelsea Handler, Angela Bassett and Abigail Spencer. Directed by McG. BD extras: alternate scenes, commentary, deleted scenes, gag reel.

Tom Clancy's Ghost Recon Alpha

New Video Group, 25 minutes, not rated

DVD: \$7.95

BD: \$14.95

A group of special forces soldiers – The Ghosts – armed with the most lethal weaponry they can carry, are tasked to stop a Russian ultra-nationalist from detonating a dirty bomb in Moscow. But as is always the case, the mission proves to be just the tip of the iceberg. Based on the video game series inspired by the novellas of Cold War potboiler Tom Clancy and intended as the video prequel to the video game Tom Clancy's Ghost Recon Future Soldier. Extras: making-of-featurette.

The Woman in Black

CBS, 95 minutes, PG-13

DVD: \$30.99

BD: \$35.99

Daniel Radcliffe plays Arthur Kipps, a widowed lawyer who is sent to a remote village in order to sort out the affairs of a recently deceased eccentric. He soon discovers that the townspeople are keeping a deadly secret; the house that belonged to his client is haunted by a vengeful ghost. Radcliffe in his first post-”Harry Potter” role; I’m interested to see what he’ll do with his career and if he can outwit the child-star/franchise jinx.

Extras: commentary, featurette, making-of-featurette, Ultraviolet digital copy.



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