

DVD REVIEW

Reviews by Terhi Pääskylä



L'amore di Marja

FS Film Oy
(English subtitles)

This biographical film about Finnish-Italian Anne Riitta Ciccone is a fierce description of difficulties in a multicultural marriage. In the story, which takes place in the 1970s, a former flower girl Marja (Laura Malmivaara) moves to her husband's home country Italy, but finds

it difficult to integrate into the society of her new home village. For the wellbeing of her husband and children, Marja is ready to change herself and sacrifice her own dreams, showing how strong a woman's love for her family can be.

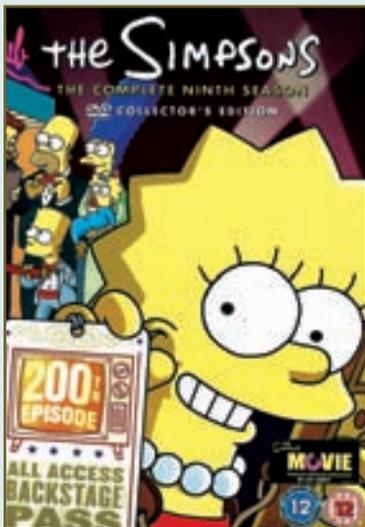
NEW ON DVD



Scoop

FS Film Oy

Woody Allen is back with this twisted story combining love, murder and magic. A recently deceased reporter returns once more from behind the grave to finish a story interrupted by his sudden death. During a magic show he becomes connected with a young journalism student Sondra (Scarlett Johansson) and leads her on the trail of a suspected murderer, known as one of England's most popular aristocratic bachelors. Searching for clues in order to prove that the man is guilty, Sondra realizes that the scoop of her life may also be the love of her life.



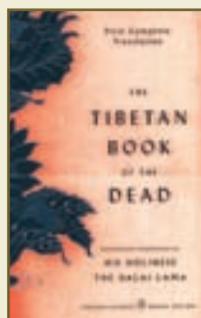
The Simpsons - The Complete Ninth Season

FS Film Oy

The world's favourite Springfield family is back with all its not-so-idyllic adventures seen in the series' ninth season, first televised in 1997-1998. In addition to all the season's 25 episodes, this four-disc compilation includes numerous special features, including deleted scenes, original sketches and commercials which offer that little bit extra to real fans. A pack of stylish postcards is also included, perfect to be sent to friends or kept as decoration - or who wouldn't want to see the Simpsons family walking across that same zebra crossing as The Beatles once did?

WHAT TO READ THIS MONTH

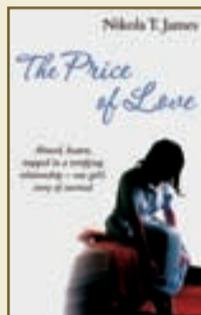
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The Tibetan Book of the Dead

Penguin Books, 2007, 535 pp, in English

It is the first time this book, the most significant of all Tibetan Buddhist texts available to the West, is translated into English in full. The translation, made with the close support of leading contemporary masters, has been praised for its clarity and beauty, revealing the secrets of enlightened living and life after death. The introductory commentary written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama throws light on the theme, and the help provided by appendixes, notes and a comprehensive glossary of key terms makes this cultural masterpiece more understandable to the western reader.

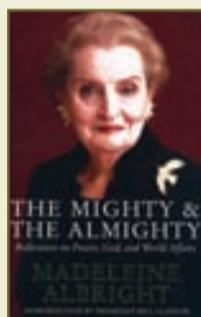


Nikola T. James:

The Price of Love

Sidgwick & Jackson, 2007, 296 pp, in English

A heart-rending true story of a girl whose life was first shadowed by her father's violence, then later by the bullying, sexual assaults and rape she suffered at school. And as if that wasn't enough, she fell for the charming stranger, who after becoming her first husband turned her life into a living nightmare. But she gained the courage to fight back and eventually managed to turn her life around, inspiring others to do the same. Written without self-pity, this is her survival story with a happy ending.

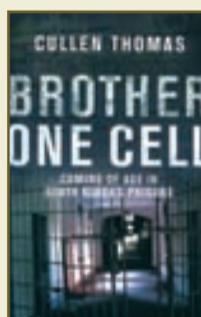


Madeleine Albright with Bill Woodward:

The Mighty & The Almighty - Reflections on Power, God, and World Affairs

Macmillan, 2006, 322 pp, in English

In this thought-provoking book, the former US Secretary of State provides her readers with a provocative look at the role of religion in world affairs. Does America have a special mission, derived from God, to bring liberty and democracy to the world? How should America and the West deal with violent Islamist extremists? These and numerous other current questions are covered, as Madeleine Albright carefully examines religion and foreign affairs, not forgetting sharp critique, nor positive praise for those who she thinks deserve it. According to Albright, the right kind of partnership of politics and religion could very well be the key to justice and peace.



Cullen Thomas:

Brother One Cell - Coming of Age in South Korea's Prisons

Sidgwick & Jackson, 2006, 408 pp, in English

A powerful autobiography of a young American, who left for South Korea in search of adventure and came back more than four years later deported, after having spent three and a half years in Korean prisons. Struggling to survive in extreme conditions, the rare foreign convict met with a colourful group of life-hardened men, who inspired each other to suffer their sentence with dignity and strength. Despite his rough years - or thanks to them - Cullen found within himself a sense of freedom, as well as gratitude for his co-prisoners, the Korean community and everything he had experienced.



Sean Thomas:

Millions of Women Are Waiting to Meet You

Da Capo Press, 2006, 300 pp, in English

Little did the men's magazine know when they asked Sean Thomas to try Internet dating and write about his experiences. This memoir tells the hilarious story of what happened next. Meet the girlfriend candidates, such as Bongowoman and Lizziegirl, and read about the woman who ended up dumping Sean because he didn't like soup. But the experience of dating so many women also made the author dwell into more extensive themes such as male sexuality in general - and why pantyhose became so damn popular. Guaranteed to make you laugh, this book will probably also answers some of your fundamental 'men and sex' related questions along the way.