

## FILM SHORTS

**Reviewers: Bob Grimm and Juan-Carlos Selznick.**

### Opening this week

#### After

A love story based on Anna Todd's young-adult novel about a good girl who falls for a bad boy during her first semester of college. Cinemark 14, Feather River Cinemas. Rated PG-13.

#### Hellboy

Another film adaptation (a reboot of the original Guillermo del Toro two-film series) of the Dark Horse character, the half-demon superhero fighting to save the world from an undead sorceress. Cinemark 14, Feather River Cinemas. Rated R.

#### Little

A fantasy-comedy about an overbearing tech mogul (Regina Hall) who, after wishing to be young again, turns into a 13-year-old version of herself (Marsai Martin) and still has to run her company—with a lot of help from her assistant (Issa Rae). Cinemark 14, Feather River Cinemas. Rated PG-13.

#### Missing Link

A stop-motion animated feature from Laika (the studio behind *Coraline* and *ParaNorman*) that tells the story of a monster/myth investigator (voiced by Hugh Jackman) and an adventurer (Zoe Saldana) and their quest to find a particular Bigfoot named Mr. Link (Zach Galifianakis). Cinemark 14, Feather River Cinemas. Rated PG.

### Now playing

#### The Best of Enemies

Historical biopic starring Taraji P. Henson and Sam Rockwell, as a civil rights activist and Ku Klux Klan leader, respectively, who are forced to work with one another on school integration in North Carolina in the early 1970s. Cinemark 14.

#### Captain Marvel

Despite the fact that she's playing a superhero who has the power to shoot electrical bursts from her hands, Brie Larson's Captain Marvel suffers from a disappointing lack of energy. Larson's turn as the title character, aka Carol Danvers (aka Vers), is plagued by lethargy and bizarre line deliveries, and she gives off a detached vibe that she doesn't want to be in the movie. Had the film around her been really good, the lead's bored disposition might've been forgiven, but this cosmic superhero origin story and intergalactic war movie is also riddled with some haphazard storytelling and awful special effects. Cinemark 14, Feather River Cinemas. Rated PG-13 —B.G.

#### Dumbo

The decline of Tim Burton continues with this wasteful remake of the 1941 animated classic that amounts to one big nothing—for kids and adults alike. The original was a little more than an hour long, while this one lasts for nearly two hours that feel like 40. A bunch of unnecessary subplots and added characters take away time from one

of the lone bright spots, the title character, an admittedly cute CGI achievement. Instead of the original's Timothy Q. Mouse, we get the requisite precocious children, one of them played by Thandie Newton's daughter, Nico Parker, who absolutely cannot act. Collin Farrell appears as Holt, the precocious kids' dad, and like most of the human actors in this movie, he seems lost. And V.A. Vandevere, the villain, is played by Michael Keaton, who is at his sneering worst. Cinemark 14, Feather River Cinemas. Rated PG —B.G.

#### Five Feet Apart

Film adaptation of Rachel Lippincott's young-adult novel of the same name about two teens whose newfound love for one another is complicated by the fact that their respective life-threatening illnesses keep them from coming into physical contact. Cinemark 14. Rated PG-13.



#### The Mustang

See review this issue. Pageant Theatre. Rated R —J.C.S.

#### Pet Sematary

Jason Clarke, Amy Seimetz and John Lithgow star in this latest adaptation of Stephen King's horror novel about a family's terrifying dealings with a mysterious burial ground. Cinemark 14, Feather River Cinemas. Rated R.

#### Shazam!

The first big-screen treatment of the classic DC Comics character, the alter ego of troubled teen Billy Batson (played by Asher Angel), who turns into a buff adult (Zachery Levi) full of superpowers when exclaims, "Shazam!" Cinemark 14, Feather River Cinemas. Rated PG-13.



#### Us

A young girl in a 1980s flashback drifts away from her father at an amusement park on the Santa Cruz pier and finds herself in a darkened and frightening hall of mirrors. Things then jump to the present day, where Adelaide and Gabe (Lupita Nyong'o and Winston Duke) are taking their children, Zora and Jason, to the beach. It's the same beach we saw in the flashback, and we find out that Adelaide was that young girl. She's not happy about revisiting the place. The family excursion quickly becomes the worst vacation ever, as another family shows up at night. A quick examination of the intruders reveals what the commercials for this movie have already told you: The family outside is a darker mirror image of the stunned family inside the house. They aren't coming over to borrow the lawn mower. They intend to kill. Writer-director Jordan Peele follows up the success of *Get Out* with another mind bender, one that is also an efficient, bare-knuckled horror-thriller, plus a comedy and a brutal social satire. It's the whole package. Cinemark 14. Rated R —B.G.

#### Wonder Park

A 3-D animated feature about a young girl (voiced by Brianna Denski) with a wild imagination who works with a cast of talking animals to bring a dream amusement park to life. With Matthew Broderick, Jennifer Garner, Ken Hudson Campbell, Kenan Thompson, Ken Jeong, Mila Kunis and John Oliver. Cinemark 14. Rated PG.



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