

FILM SHORTS

Reviewers: Bob Grimm, Juan-Carlos Selznick and Neesa Sonoquie.

Opening this week

47 Meters Down: Uncaged

Teen girls diving among Mexican ruins on holiday find themselves stranded in shark-infested waters. Feather River Cinemas. Rated PG-13.

The Angry Birds Movie 2

It's angry birds vs. green pigs in installment two of the video game-turned-animated-film series. Cinemark 14, Feather River Cinemas. Rated PG.

Blinded by the Light

Gurinder Chadhatk (*Bend It Like Beckham*) directs this story of a British teen of Pakistani descent who begins to develop his own voice as he connects his circumstances with the lyrical themes in Bruce Springsteen's music. Cinemark 14. Rated PG-13.

Good Boys

Three sixth-grade boys embark on an epic, R-rated coming-of-age odyssey. Cinemark 14, Feather River Cinemas. Rated R.



Maiden

See review this issue. Pageant Theatre. Rated PG-13 —J.C.S.

Where'd You Go, Bernadette

Cate Blanchett stars as a devoted mother/wife who runs away in order to reconnect with her long-sacrificed passions. Directed by Richard Linklater (*Boyhood*, *Before Midnight*, *Before Sunset*). Cinemark 14. Rated PG-13.

Reopening this week



Toni Morrison: The Pieces I Am

A two-hour portrayal of the great American novelist and Nobel Prize winner (who died earlier this month). In a way it's a documentary-style biopic, but with a strong autobiographical element. Morrison tells her own story here, in her own words, speaking directly to the camera (and to her unseen and unheard interviewer, Timothy Greenfield-Sanders, who is also the film's director). As such, *The Pieces I Am* gives us a dramatically detailed sketch of her life story—novelist, editor, teacher, mother, African-American icon. But its most extraordinary and rewarding qualities reside in its extended up-close encounters with the woman herself—the exceptionally large-spirited human being this film lets us see and hear. One showing: Sunday, Aug. 18, 7 p.m. Pageant Theatre. Rated PG-13 —J.C.S.

Now playing

The Art of Racing in the Rain

Film adaptation of Garth Stein's 2008 best-selling novel about a dog named Enzo (voiced here by Kevin Costner) preparing for his future reincarnated life by studying his race-car-driving caretaker, Denny (Milo Ventimiglia). Cinemark 14, Feather River Cinemas. Rated PG.

Dora and the Lost City of Gold

A live-action adaptation of the popular Nickelodeon animated series about the adventure-loving 7-year-old, Dora, and her monkey pal, Boots. Cinemark 14, Feather River Cinemas. Rated PG.



Fast & Furious Presents: Hobbs & Shaw

Hobbs & Shaw is actually a spinoff from the series. In other words, rejoice! The leaden, dreary Vin Diesel is nowhere to be seen in this movie. Now we can have some real fun! *Hobbs & Shaw* is a bizarre hybrid of spy thriller, action flick, screwball comedy and science fiction. Here, *Furious* franchise regulars Hobbs (Dwayne Johnson) and Shaw (Jason Statham) are tasked with protecting the latter's sister, Hattie (Vanessa Kirby), after she injects herself with something that will have worldwide consequences if she's captured. The main antagonist is Brixton (Idris Elba), a former Shaw ally who has turned into some sort of bionic badass dubbed, by himself, "Black Superman." Stuntman-turned-director David Leitch, who gave us the first *John Wick* and *Deadpool 2*, knows his way around an action scene, and his edits create constant action and laughs—thanks in large part to Johnson and Statham's great timing and onscreen chemistry. And while it's expected that the tough-guy leads will kick ass in movies such as this, it's Kirby who steals the show as the action hero of this installment. She is a total badass. Cinemark 14, Feather River Cinemas. Rated PG-13 —B.G.

The Kitchen

Melissa McCarthy, Tiffany Haddish and Elisabeth Moss star as three women living in New York City's 's Hell's Kitchen in the 1970s. After their mobster husbands are put in prison, they join forces to take over their criminal enterprises. Cinemark 14, Feather River Cinemas. Rated R.

The Lion King

Jon Favreau (*Elf*, *Iron Man*) directs this photorealistic CGI remake of the 1994 Disney animated classic that features an impressive cast of voice actors, including Chiwetel Ejiofor, Donald Glover, Beyoncé, Seth Rogen, John Oliver and, naturally, James Earl Jones as Mufasa. Cinemark 14, Feather River Cinemas. Rated PG.



Once Upon a Time in ... Hollywood

When Quentin Tarantino is behind the camera, mayhem and artistic license win out—history and conventionality be damned. Movie No. 9 is a dreamy doozy, and maybe the director/screenwriter's most unapologetic film yet. Set in 1969, *Once Upon a Time in ... Hollywood* captures the dying days of both sixties culture and the Golden Age of Hollywood. And through Tarantino's storytelling lens, they die hard—in mysterious and hallucinogenic ways. For leading men, we get the pairing of Leonardo DiCaprio and Brad Pitt starring as insecure, has-been actor Rick Dalton and his trusty stuntman, Cliff Booth, respectively. Dalton's career has devolved into playing the bad guys on weekly installments of TV's *The F.B.I.*, while the blackballed and past-his-prime Booth is relegated to driving the actor around and acting as his confidant. The setup allows Tarantino to go hog wild with the sixties visuals and soundtrack. The end of the sixties was bona fide nuts, and this is a nutty movie. It also manages to be quite heartfelt and moving. Cinemark 14. Rated R —B.G.

Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark

Alvin Schwartz's 1980s series of children's scary short stories gets the cinematic horror treatment. Cinemark 14, Feather River Cinemas. Rated PG.

Spider-Man: Far From Home

This sequel to *Spider-Man: Homecoming* (2017) picks up after the events of *Avengers: Endgame*, and finds Peter Parker/Spider-Man recruited by Nick Fury to battle new threats to the world. Cinemark 14. Rated PG-13.

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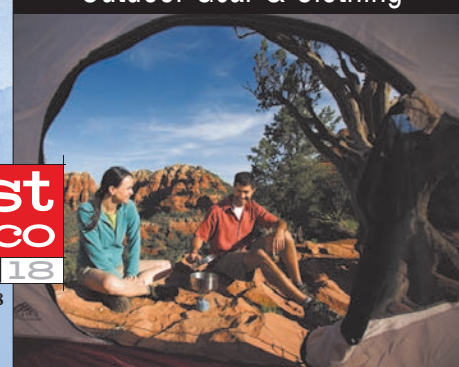
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