

# TABOO OPINIONS #63

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## 8-9-05      A FEW MORE DEVASTATING REVIEWS

**HIDE AND SEEK** (Rated R for violence. No sex or nudity.) features star child actress Dakota Fanning and Robert De Niro as her father.

She steals the film. He does a fine job in a difficult role.

Listen, I'll blow the ending to you because it's a flawed, ho-hum horror movie and you shouldn't pay to see it. Though in Comast's On Demand showing viewers are given an alternate ending, which is interesting.

Fanning's little girl character is largely impassive, but occasionally frantic as she copes with her "imaginary" friend who turns out to have killed her mother and later her father's new girl friend, and a suspicious local upstate NY sheriff.

De Niro plays her psychologist father who is revealed late in the movie to be homicidally schizoid: he is the "friend".

There are plot and character holes you can drive a truck through, and the movie is definitely noir.

Dakota Fanning is a stunning beauty-in-the-growing, and her development as an actress will be well worth watching.

**THE BOURNE SUPREMACY** (Rated R for violence. No sex or nudity) has Matt Damon in the title role --- an amnesiac CIA killer who is in hiding in India while his memory fragmentarily returns. But he is framed for murders in Berlin ...

I've never really liked Damon as an actor --- too unemotional and too lacking in personality. Though in this film he handles the physical aspects very well.

My grump with the movie is the jump-cutting, jumbled scenes, 'realistic,' anarchistic pacing, and distinction-less change of locales.

**KINSEY** (Rated R for nudity, sex) has some “personal” sex and nudity (primarily Chris O’Connell’s homosexual nude display in a motel room with Liam Neeson’s Kinsey, and a glimpse of Laura Linney’s breast during her matrimonial duty with husband Kinsey) as well as human sexual behavior examples in this well-acted film about the beginnings of the sexual revolution and the time-honored lies, stupidity and prejudices of anti-sex government, Church and churches’ dogma.

Worth seeing, but it has a documentary feel to it.

**HITCH** (Rated PG-13 for an occasional swear word, I guess) uses Will Smith at his intelligent, charming best as he portrays a NYC dating matchmaker in this clever, inventive romantic comedy as if follows (not too closely) the boy-meets-girl, boy-loses-girl, boy-gets-girl formula. A fine, funny script.

#### **8-13-05 TWIXT THE CUP AND THE LIP**

It looks now like the still-aborning Iraq government will not be able to create its constitution in time to meet the Aug. 15 deadline. The Sunnis, Shiites and Kurds are still wrangling over ‘federalism’ and who gets the oil money.

But I have great expectations that the U.S. government, using its time-honored and almost always effective diplomatic tools --- threats, bribery and force --- will convince the Iraq representatives to put aside their differences for a while and present their legislature with a constitution they can all hold their noses over and vote to accept. It may cost us billions, but getting out of Iraq by this time next year is vital for Republican U.S. election success. And screw the consequences in Iraq after we’re gone.

But the insurgency might not let us bug out under a shameless cover of proclaimed “success.”

It’ll be fun watching the maneuvering, dancing and lying.

**END TABOO OPINIONS #63**