

TABOO OPINIONS #68

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9-13-05 **Reviews? You call these reviews?**

CONSTANTINE is a Keano Reeves vehicle which shows him handsome, stalwart against Evil, and...

The movie is about a deal made between God and the Devil involving the fate of mankind...and how Constantine, apparently a former priest, dying of lung cancer and perversely unwilling to stop smoking, somehow falls in love with a pretty female detective who is investigating the strange, supernatural death of her twin sister...and is willing to give his life for her.

It's full of shock demon visuals, death, and precious little nudity worth seeing.

But the story idea---the God-Satan "arrangement" and the perverse role of angels in this situation---is worth seeing and thinking about. The film does have some underlying intellectual content.

WILD ORCHID is worth sitting through for the wild nudity and pretty, bizarre locations (in and around New Orleans, provocatively enough, in a Sodom and Gomorrah aspect), but forget Mickey Rourke's tepid acting...and the stupid script. I only wish Jacqueline Bisset had done a topless scene. Has she ever shown her ample breasts to the camera?

WEEDS is Showtime's 'groundbreaking' satire of middle class weed use and selling, as Elizabeth Perkins, as a recently widowed mother retails pot to stay in the neighborhood.

I only watched almost all of the first episode---no nudity---and precious little humor except tongue-in-cheek as Perkins in the opening scene objects to the local school selling sugared soft drinks to kids, and then visits her marijuana supplier for a new inventory.

MISS CONGENIALITY 2 is a watchable crime/FBI comedy fantasy in which Sandra Bullock (getting a little long in the tooth) continues as a maverick agent who is cursed/helped by her previous undercover role

as Miss Congeniality in the Miss America beauty pageant. No nudity, of course.

FUCKUPS, THY NAME IS (AGAIN!) FEMA

You may have already forgotten about FEMA's mid-September attempt to get relief money to the multi-multi thousands of Katrina hurricane displacees by giving a member of each "family" a debit card with \$2000 in a new bank account...or whatever. The details of its proposed and supposed workings are not available. And never will be.

FEMA was simply overwhelmed with people wanting--needing--demanding a card. So, after registering a couple thousand in Texas, and giving out that many cards, FEMA stopped the process and said evacuees had to have a regular bank savings account into which FEMA would deposit the \$2000 per "family"...if only the underwater banks were open, had power, employees and operable computers.

Or (said the feds, backpedaling like mad) an 800 number could be called... If only the displaced hundreds of thousands had access to phones...and if only the feds had had the wit to staff enough people (on sudden notice!) to accept the deluge of calls.

Well, DUH! That is very low quality government excuse bullshit.

No one in FEMA ever dreamed the demands for staffing would be so extreme, they said, as a reason for canceling the card distribution. No word on how smoothly the 800 number is faring.

Currently the Red Cross is issuing a form of debit cards, apparently successfully. But FEMA, hindered by hoards of afraid-of-responsibility officials and bureaucrats intent on covering their asses at any cost, cannot think-through, activate and staff a needed, ill-conceived relief program.

Never mind the likely problem of (lack of) proper identification papers, cards and etc, the certain theft (at gun point) of the cards, and consequent police and security problems...

You really have to think like a street criminal to cope with crime in this situation. Now, if the Katrina criminals were fellow middle-class officials indulging in the usual corruptions of office, no problem! The FBI, etc. could move in all suited and papered up.

Unfortunately, the common people---so damned inconvenient!---are absolutely contrarian and..and...physical!

Oh, well, what's an extra billion dollars here and there?

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