

See what happened to Snow White

At last, you'll discover what really happened to Snow White after that immortal closing — "and Snow White and Prince Charming lived happily ever after."

"Happily Ever After," which opened May 29, is an animated sequel to the Brothers Grimm fairy-tale starring Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs. It features the largest all-star cast ever assembled for an animated motion picture — Edward Asner, Irene Cara, Carol Channing, Dom DeLuise, Phyllis Diller, Zsa Zsa Gabor, Sally Kellerman, Malcolm McDowell and Tracey Ullman.

Filmation's "Happily Ever After" was created in the U.S.-style of classic animation. The film is comprised of more than 100,000 hand-painted animation cells, each placed together to create stunning visual effects and fluid character movement.

PREVIEW

Lou Schelmer, executive producer, is a 25-year veteran of Filmation Studios and creator of the well-known "Fat Albert and the Cosby Kids," "The Archies," "He-Man," "Superman," and the animated "Ghostbusters," "Batman" and "Star Trek."

"Happily Ever After" is based on the screenplay by Martha Moran and Robby London and directed by John Howley. In the movie, Snow White is to be wed. The evil Queen is dead. The Queen's castle has been overrun with zany creatures, including Scowlo the owl (Edward Asner) and his reluctant sidekick, Batsio. The creatures are suddenly disrupted by the Queen's even-wickeder brother, Lord Maliss (Malcolm McDowell). The bitter Lord Maliss consults the en-

chanted Looking Glass (Dom DeLuise) to find out who's responsible for his sister's demise.

Through the mirror, Lord Maliss spies the enchanting Snow White (Irene Cara) and her Prince, on a journey to invite the seven dwarfs to their wedding. Lord Maliss vows revenge on Snow White, while Scowlo sings about the virtues of being "The Baddest" (a hilarious rap song). Snow White and the Prince are attacked by Lord Maliss; she escapes into the forest, he is captured.

Within the dark woods, Snow White discovers the dwarfs' cottage. She is surprised to learn that it is now inhabited by the dwarfs' cousins — the seven Dwarfelles: Sunburn (Sally Kellerman), Muddy (Carol Channing), Thunderella (Tracey Ullman), Blossom (Zsa Zsa Gabor), Moonbeam (Tracey Ull-

man), Critterina and Marina. The Dwarfelles help Snow White find her Prince.

"Happily Ever After" marks the comeback of Cara. Winner of many awards, including two Grammys and an Oscar for the song "Flashdance — What a Feeling," Cara combines her stage, screen and musical talents in "Happily Ever After" and sings the film's catching theme song, "Love is the Reason Why."

"I showed 'Happily Ever After' to some of my neighbor's kids. They went bananas," said Cara. "They really loved it. Their parents were glued to the movie, too. It's a wonderful film."



Fairy tale: "Happily Ever After" is an animated sequel to the Brothers Grimm fairy tale starring Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs.

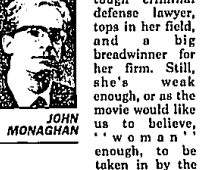
FILM CLIPS

"GUILTY AS SIN"

Released by: Hollywood Pictures
Starring: Rebecca DeMornay, Don Johnson, Jack Warden, Stephen Lang
Directed by: Sidney Lumet
Produced by: Martin Ranshoff
Screenplay by: Larry Cohen
Rated: R (Restricted: Under 18 requires an accompanying parent or guardian)
Runtime: Two hours
Rating (out of a possible four):

Courtroom drama guilty of failed production

REVIEW



John Monaghan

Rebecca DeMornay is a tough criminal defense lawyer, tops in her field, and a big breadwinner for her firm. Still, she's weak enough, or as the movie would like us to believe, "w o m a n" enough, to be taken in by a wiles of an egotistical pretty boy played by Don Johnson.

Consider this just one of the problems with "Guilty as Sin," guilty of every sin imaginable when it comes to producing a courtroom drama for the screen. It's slow, predictable and terribly

acted. In brief, it's a trial. After another in a string of successful acquittals, Jennifer Haines (DeMornay) believes it's time to "feel her oats." She takes the case of David Greenhill, a handsome boytoy charged with first-degree murder. The case against him says that he pushed his wealthy wife out of an apartment window.

The attorney considers this an irresistible challenge. The media, after all, will have a field day with Greenhill, who doesn't hide the fact that he trades companionship for money. Winning this case would prove a real coup. Besides, she thinks he's innocent.

Then Greenhill begins to stalk the attorney and the movie turns into yet another version of "Fatal Attraction." Whispered discussions ooze with sexual tension as Haines realizes she must go all the way with her client, at least as far as the case is concerned.

DeMornay plays a professional (with more than a passing resemblance to Hillary Clinton) outraged but also inexplicably turned on by Greenhill's crude advances. When he slinks close to her, well within personal distance, she can hardly resist his incredible handsomeness. Her lips part, her breathing grows heavy and we don't know whether she'll scratch his eyes out or fall into bed with him.

appropriately snake-like and well-coiffed. Still, it takes a real actor to play a character this shallow and egotistical — even when the role would seem tailor-made for the former "Miami Vice" heart-throb.

Victorian director Sidney Lumet must have signed on solely for the money. His credentials are solid, having previously directed "Twelve Angry Men" (1957) and "The Verdict" (1982), stellar courtroom dramas well worth seeing before this.

Remember the wizened old law buff who helps Jimmy Stewart in "Anatomy of a Murder?" He's here, too, in the form of Jack Warden as a cluttery old legal investigator who digs up dirt to help Haines' clinch her cases.

For his part, Johnson is appropriately produced failure for Hollywood Pictures. This division of the Disney empire has yet to create a movie that does more than pull together pieces of earlier, better screenplays.

"Guilty as Sin" is now playing at these suburban movie theaters: AMC Southfield City, Showcase Auburn Hills, Star Rochester Hills, AMC Laurel Park, Showcase Westland and AMC Old Orchard.

To leave a message for John Monaghan, dial 953-2047, mailbox number 1866, on a touch-tone phone, fax him a note at 691-7279, or write him in care of Entertainment Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36261 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150.

What's upcoming

Action, drama, romance — there's something for everyone this summer at the movies. More than 60 motion pictures will be released between now and the end of August at suburban movie theaters.

- "Made in America," "Dave," "Silver," "Guilty as Sin," "Cliffhanger," "Menace II Society," "Life with Mikey" and "Super Mario Bros." continue at theaters across suburbia.
- Here's a list of what's in the wings:
 - Opening Friday, June 11 — "Jurassic Park" (Steven Spielberg's spectacular of genetically engineered dinosaurs) and "What's Love Got to Do With It" (Tina Turner's story).
 - Opening Friday, June 18 — "The Last Action Hero" star-
- Opening Friday, June 25 — "Dennis the Menace," starring John Hughes as Dennis and Walter Matthau as Mr. Wilson, and "Sleepless in Seattle," a romantic comedy with Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan.
- Opening Wednesday, June 30 — "The Firm," based on a novel about lawyers starring Tom Cruise, Gene Hackman and Holly Hunter.
- Opening Friday, July 2 — "Snow White," an animated classic, and "Son-in-Law," starring Pauly Shore as a Los Angeles rock 'n' roller in a rural versus city love story.

REEL TO REEL

If you've seen a new movie lately, either good or bad, we want to hear from you. Call Kevly Nymnik, Entertainment editor, 953-2105, to comment on newly released movies. If you reach her voice mail, leave your comments, name, city and day-time phone number. To fax comments, dial 691-7279. Or write: Entertainment Editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36261 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150.

Share your views about new flicks

Movie: "Cliffhanger"
Reaction: Runs out of steam
Moviegoer: Michael Charach of Southfield

"After the first 30 minutes of breathtaking visuals and furious action, 'Cliffhanger' runs out of steam," said Michael Charach of Southfield about "Cliffhanger," now showing at suburban movie theaters.

"Watching Sylvester Stallone run around the same mountain for two hours seems like an eternity."

Movie: "Benny and Joon"
Reaction: Bored and dismayed

Moviegoer: Beverly Viedrah of West Bloomfield

"I sat through the ever-so-slow 'Benny and Joon,' mostly bored, and occasionally admiring of Johnny Depp's ability to reimagine Buster Keaton," said Beverly Viedrah of West Bloomfield about "Benny and Joon," now showing at the Showcase Westland, Star Winchester and United Artists Oakland.

"I was horrified at its simplistic conclusion. I may be wrong, but the innate message which I perceived was that Joon, a probably schizoprenic

young woman (whose identification card suggested her to need continuous supervision) was singularly capable of working through her delusions, hallucinations and manic-depressive characteristics merely by being placed (unsupervised) in an apartment of her own.

"Hollywood frequently provides us with escape movies but I believe the concepts expressed herein could be dangerous ones."

Charach and Viedrah had opinions about recently released movies, and we're sure you do, too. Let us know what you think.

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Photos: (left) John Gales and Philip Gaudier in PhotoFest BELLSOUND; (right) Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture and David Hoffmann in Theater's LES PRÉSAGES. Photos © Singlet

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