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Comedy



Thursday • November

William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet Starring: Claire Danes and Leonardo

Directed by: Baz Luhrmann Rated: PG-13

Playing at Post Oak Malı

Love is an eternal fire which burns brighter in the midst of a torrential rainstorm — at least many would like to believe so.

In the history of literature, no two star-crossed



Claire Danes plays Juliet in Romeo and Juliet.

Starring: Robert John Burke Directed By: Tom Holland Rated: R

Playing at: Hollywood 16

Many people want to lose weight, but most would agree to stay their allotted size if it meant losing their life in the process.

William Halleck is not given the choice In the screen adaptation of the Richard Bachman's (a.k.a. Steven King) novel *Thinner*, Robert John Burke portrays William Halleck, a renowned lawyer who eats as much as he wins — which is

To celebrate a recent win, Halleck decides to have dinner with his friends and wife.

On their way home, a gypsy woman walks into

the street, and Halleck hits her. After being freed from any charges of lovers tried harder to prove love lives on, evening

death, than Juliet and her Romeo.

And now, with the 400-year anniversary of ill-fated pair, comes a revamped, modernized fantastical production of William Shakespea Romeo & Juliet to air.

Claire Danes, best known for her successi but short-lived stint as Angela on My So-Calle

Life, is Juliet Capulet. Leonardo DiCaprio portrays Romeo Mon-

tague and the on-screen love between the tw Although the first 10 minutes of the film m

have the audience thinking *Pulp Fiction*, if on waits awhile, the magic of Shakespeare will reveal itself in this '90s depiction.

The story remains the same, two hearts yearing to be together, but separated by last name.

Montagues and Capulets, clear rivals from start — the parents of Romeo and Juliet, with

plans to keep them apart.

The two marry, they love, their lives fall to death and with all this known, the audiencest gasps for breath.

Danes as Juliet makes remarkable strides her acting

Her smiles fade to tears in a performance

DiCaprio walks with a love-struck heart. He makes the language plain and right in

The tragedy of love returns to the screen in

William Shakespeare's Romeo & Juliet. And yes, in this updated version, all the qu

ties of the original have been met. A

manslaughter, Halleck is accosted by the gypsy father who curses Halleck for killing his da If the storyline sounds straightforward and complacent, the film in its entirety proves no

Burke's portrayal of Halleck is not dynamic enough to keep viewers interested in his characteristics

If Halleck lives, OK. If he dies, who cares?

Joe Mantegna, on the other hand, has his character well under control.

Mantenga plays Richie Ginelli, a man who court case was won by Halleck and who now stands by Halleck in his time of need.

As Ginelli, Mantegna is crafty and presents a stoic example of what a gangster should be.

Thinner proves Steven King will still allow jus

about anyone to turn his novels into B-movies.

If Kathy Bates doesn't make an appearance, it just isn't worth it. C-- James Francis

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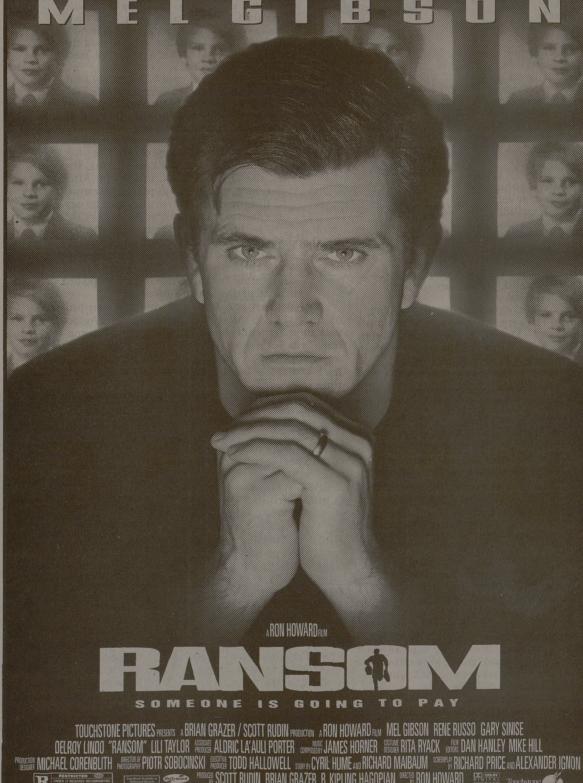
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