

AGGIE LIFE

THE BATTALION

RAIDED

REEL CRITIQUE

Lara Croft: Tomb Raider
Starring: Angelina Jolie, Jon Voigt

For Lara Croft fans looking for the fantasy girl to be brought to life, expect disappointment. For everyone else, if you are willing to go to the new (Tomb Raider) movie with an open mind, expect a good time, an interesting plot and great CGI.

Lara Croft is the heiress to the Croft fortune, and seeker of ancient mysteries in an adventure in the tradition of Indiana Jones. Her latest mission is to find an artifact that gives its wielder control over time. The planets are coming into alignment, and she is in a race against the Illuminati, a secret society of elites who want the artifact for their own purposes. Lara Croft must travel to the jungles of Cambodia and Siberia to find both halves of the powerful tool before Manfred Powell (Iain Glen), agent for the Illuminati.

See **TOMB** on Page 6.

In the beginning, there was Lara Croft. A pixelated heroine for all ages, and a tomb raider whose adventures rivaled those of Indiana Jones. The video game changed the nature of gaming with its revolutionary perspectives and motion control. Instead of seeing the game through the eyes of a faceless designated hero, the player was Lara Croft — an actual game figure that could be followed from room to room and adventure to adventure. Tomb Raider I spawned a trilogy, and when that simply was not enough for Lara Croft's new-found fans, Tomb Raider: Last Revelation, The Lost Artifact and Chronicles all followed.

The face of Lara Croft has appeared on everything from t-shirts to watches to playing cards. But her most stunning appearance may have been in Details' Sexiest Women of the year list of 1998, the only woman on the list who was not flesh and blood. She has been featured in Time, Rolling Stone, and Entertainment Weekly's "It" issue. She has her own candy bar, action figures and monthly comic book. All this before the movie was even considered by Paramount Pictures.

Suddenly, you are a Lara Croft fan, but you are not into computer games? You might check out Top Cow's monthly Tomb Raider series. The first four issues can be purchased at most bookstores in the science fiction section, under Graphic Novels, or at the comic book store of your choice.

The Saga of the Medusa Mask tells a different story of Lara Croft's past but dives right into international intrigue and adventure. Working closely with Eidos, makers of the Tomb Raider game, artists for Top Cow tried to stay as true to Lara Croft as possible. The stories are wonderfully told, and the art is beautiful. However, Lara Croft's adventures in comic book raiding are not very popular. "The comic does okay, but it's no X-men," said Josefina Morales of Lytle's Comics and Games.

When you want to let your friends know that you

See **LARA CROFT** on Page 6.



Story by Jenni Cross

Photos Courtesy of Paramount Pictures



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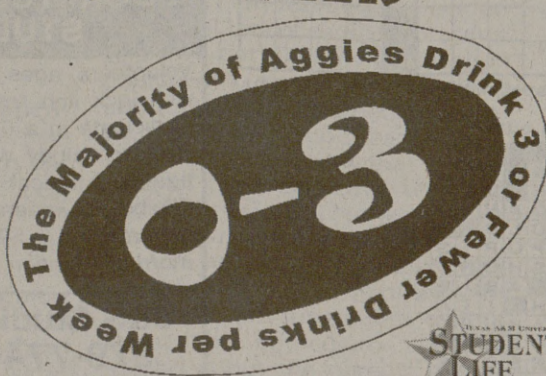


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