

THE CLACKAMAS PRINT

Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon blends martial arts, romance, fable, feminism

TAM OLIVER
A&E Editor

Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon is a multifaceted movie gem that mixes martial arts with romance, and fable with feminism.

Directed by Ang Lee, this film has already won multiple awards, such as Best Director and Motion Picture, from the 2001 Golden Globe Awards. Subtitled in English, the film is done in Mandarin Chinese, enhancing its authenticity. This was distracting for about ten minutes into the film. After that point, it was as if the translation came out of the actors' mouths.

Three strong women characters dominate the martial arts' scenes, except when Li Mu Bai (Chow Yun Fat) is around. His fighting is charged from a spiritual power he has found within himself, and with this, he seems undefeatable.

Jade Fox (Cheng Peipei) learned her skills as a martial artist from a

book she stole from Li's master. She is an embittered assassin who hates the fate of women in China.

"Your master underestimated us women," she tells Li. "Sure he'd sleep with me, but he would never teach me. He deserved to die by a woman's hand."

Jen Yu (Zhang Ziyi) is the youngest daughter of a governor soon to be married to a man of her parents' choosing. She has many secrets, including where she learned to fight like she does, which unfolds as the movie progresses.

Yu Shu (Michelle Yeoh) is a Wuxia warrior, a legendary knight that roams the highways doing good deeds and righting wrongs.



Lo, the "Dark Cloud," watches over a caravan, readying his attack.

In battle, she is very focused and controlled, which saves her from killing Jen Yu on more than one occasion.

Since it is a martial arts film, there are many breathtaking fight scenes where characters become

airborne. This is made possible by the efforts of the special effects team that also did *The Matrix*. A sword fight between Li and Jen takes place as they cling to the high tops of swaying bamboo. Jen is especially talented at running up

the sides of buildings, leaping from rooftop to rooftop and, quite frankly, flying. Li is no slouch in the flying department either.

The main plot revolves around who stole the Green Destiny, an ancient jade sword belonging to Li Mu Bai, a Wudan warrior. After meditating at Wudan Mountain, Li had decided it was time he began to live a more peaceful life. He passed the sword on to a friend. After the sword arrives at the friend's house, a masked woman steals it.

As the story of the sword continues to unravel, other subplots develop. Is one of the reasons that Li is ready to retire because of his love for Yu Shu? How many secrets does the mysterious Jen have? Who was that man in her bedroom?

Director Ang Lee is already planning both a prequel and sequel to this magical movie, which is so good that even subtitles haven't slowed it down at the box office.

Authors on campus stand by their work

DAISY BAIN
Staff Writer

Authors' Night was held last week in the Gregory Forum featuring local authors Larry Colton and Jennifer Lauck.

Each author read an excerpt from each other's books. First Lauck read from Colton's book *Counting Coup: A True Story of Basketball and Honor on the Little Big Horn*.

He spent three years writing this book while spending nearly 15 months with a Native American tribe. He lived on a reservation studying the life and habits of a young half-Native American, half-white girl who struggled with racism, intense friendships, romance, corrosive rivalries and troubled families.

Colton spent the rest of the three years trying to perfect and write his book but was disappointed when the true story he had spent so much time on was turned down by publishers.

"I thought I was bulletproof," Colton said.

Because he felt so passionately about his book, he went back and revised it by turning it into a first person point of view, and it was published.

The book has stirred some controversy. Some say that he had portrayed some of the characters in a bad way and that he had no right as a white man to try to portray a Native American family.

Jennifer Lauck, author of *Blackbird: A Childhood Lost and Found*, said it was a difficult book for her to read.

"It makes you deal with it," she said, referring to life's struggles. "If you are able to look at it, maybe they can change it."

The book had so much controversy that his scheduled event at Barnes and Noble was cancelled due to the fact that it wasn't safe for

him to be there. Too many people were angry that he was a white man writing a portrayal of an Indian community.

"I stand by what I wrote," stated Colton, when talking about potential libelous statements in the book. He said he had all the tapes to prove everything he wrote was true.

Colton then read from Lauck's book *Blackbird: A Childhood Lost and Found*. She writes from the standpoint of a child narrator depicting a true story from her own life. This book is the first of more to come, covering her life from age five to age 12.

"It's authentic and real," Colton said.

She tells the story of the death of her mother, then father, and then her abandonment at the age of 10 to a church commune in central Los Angeles.

Frank McCourt, author of *Angela's Ashes*, says of this book that it is "the unblinking look of one child at a hard world written gloriously and movingly."

Lauck has appeared on Oprah and the Rosie O'Donnell show. It has been the third best seller in Scotland and the fourth in the London Times. She has had her book sold in 12 countries and will be touring abroad in the fall.

Both authors were asked what they wanted the readers of this article to contemplate.

"I wanted Basketball out of there," Colton said, referring to the title.

"This book is not a sports book." He stressed that his story did not focus on basketball and that he was upset that the book is found in the sports section in book stores.

Lauck's response to the same question was, "I believe we're constantly evolving and changing." This is the first book about her life, and there is more to come that shows how she grew as a person.

Horoscopes



by Corinne Rupp

Aries: Free your imagination and your heart will follow. Be wild and creative, your dream just might come true.

Taurus: You may have been burned by love before, but give romance another chance. Something new is on the horizon.

Gemini: Success isn't always a linear progression. Watch out for some serious and wonderful curveballs.

Cancer: Good things are coming. The skies have cleared and the sun is shining out through your soul. Yea for you!

Leo: Venus is coasting through your house of love until June. Be open to new ways of feeling and expressing amour.

Virgo: Hold a garage sale with your old thoughts. They're not bad ideas; they're just not really you anymore.

Libra: Surgeon General's Warning: Dropping your preconceived expectations now will greatly improve your happiness when you finally get the thing you wanted and it is not what you thought it would be.

Scorpio: Repeat three times a day for a week: You catch more flies with honey than vinegar.

Sagittarius: The time is right to be selfish but in a kind, loving way. Demand apologies for past wrongs but accept them graciously.

Capricorn: If you don't ask, you will never know.

Aquarius: Being in love with love is fun, but try loving something more challenging—a theory, art, an idea, yourself.

Pisces: Don't be so friggin' uptight 'til Pisces. Learn to relax again. The Virgo's of the world will watch the details this week.

Fine host

Daily menu specials, Weekly food specials
Come visit the espresso bar today

Monday

Breakfast: Peach pancakes w/ choice of meat
Grill special: Chicken corn dog
Entree: Lemon - garlic chicken
Budget entree: Italian - style zucchini pie

Tuesday

Breakfast: Egg+cheese croissant san. w/choice of meat
Grill special: Reuben burgers
Entree: Beef + bean sprouts
Budget entree: vegetable noodle

Wednesday

Breakfast: Raspberry french toast w/ choice of meat
Grill special: Buffalo chicken wing + fries
Entree: Jambalaya

Thursday

Breakfast: Egg + cheese croissant w/ choice of meat
Grill Special: Taco pitas
Entree: Pepper chicken proven
Budget entree: Spinach - parmesan

Friday

Breakfast: Ham scramble w/ hash browns
Grill Special: Chicken melt
Entree: Tuna lasagna
Budget entree: Macaroni + cheese



FINE HOST
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Dining menu also available by dialing extension
2675

Breakfast hours: 8a.m. - 10:30a.m.