

FILM REVIEW: 'Skiptrace' a Familiar Unlikely-Buddies Flick

by Kam Williams
For The Skanner News

Jackie Chan made dozens of martial arts movies in his native Hong Kong prior to finding phenomenal success stateside in 1998 co-starring with Chris Tucker in the buddy-comedy "Rush Hour." Their pairing as unlikely-partners proved so popular that they returned to the well to shoot a couple of sequels in "Rush Hour 2" and "Rush Hour 3." And Jackie further

“Nevertheless, a treat is in store for the uninitiated, especially youngsters who've never seen either of these leads ply his trade before

milks the familiar formula in outings opposite Owen Wilson in "Shanghai Noon" and "Shanghai Knights."

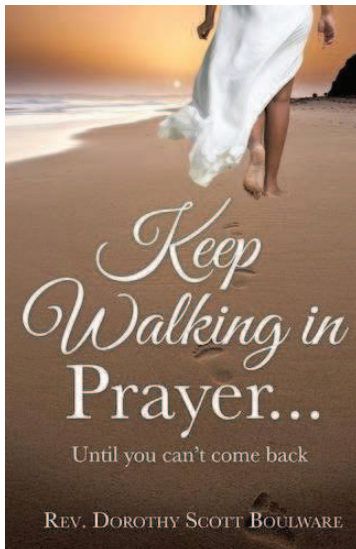
Despite being perhaps a little long-in-the-tooth to still be doing such stunt-driven adventures, the sixty-something matinee idol is back with

Book

cont'd from pg 6

—Excerpted from
the Introduction
(pages x-xii)

Do you believe in the power of prayer? If you are a person of faith, you might appreciate the case eloquently made for precisely that proposition in this enlightening opus by Reverend Dorothy Scott Boulware. The author has been preaching practically her entire life, having started at the age of four when she surprised her family with her first sermon.



Lord.

The book basically consists of a mix of the author's personal anecdotes and testimonies from folks she has interacted with in the course of living a life well lived.

“How can you say you love God who you haven't seen and hate your brother who you see every day?”

“How can you say you love God who you haven't seen and hate your brother who you see every day?” she asked back then. “You're a liar and the truth ain't in you.” And the precocious youngster matured into a sage sister who's been selflessly ministering to anybody who would who listen ever since.

And in her new opus, "Keep Walking in Prayer... Until You Can't Come Back," Reverend Boulware shares plenty of insightful pearls of wisdom she's accumulated over the years. The title was ostensibly inspired by Genesis 5:23-24, a Biblical passage about how Enoch (Methusaleh's father) maintained a constant companionship with the

Perhaps its most poignant entry involves a heartfelt remembrance of "The Day God Showed Up" to help Reverend Boulware's homeless son who was on trial despite having been the victim of stabbing. Against seemingly-insurmountable odds, he prevailed in court with the help of a very well-prepared public defender.

Overall, this passionate how-to memoir has a moving message which might be best communicated by this quote: "While we don't have the power to control outcomes... we do get to rest in the assurance that we are always and forever heard whenever we communicate with the Father." Can I get an Amen?

Skiptrace, a slight variation on the theme co-starring Johnny Knoxville. Knoxville is known for "Jackass," the TV and film franchise in which he and a coterie of deranged confederates perform an array of death-defying feats.

Here, he reprises some of his greatest hits, like rolling down the street in a barrel. The same can be said of Chan, as so many of the picture's chase and fight sequences have a feeling of déjà vu about them. Nevertheless, a treat is in store for the uninitiated, especially youngsters who've never seen either of these leads ply his trade before.

In Skiptrace, Jackie plays Hong Kong detective Benny Chan, and Johnny co-stars as Connor Watts, an American gambler on the run from a Russian casino owner (Charlie Rawes) he fleeced to the tune of a million dollars. At the point of departure, Benny's partner Yung (Eric Tsang) is murdered by a mysterious mobster known as The Matador, and he makes it his mission to bring the creep to justice.

Meanwhile, half a world away, Johnny just happens to wit-



Johnny Knoxville co-stars with Jackie Chan in this stunt-driven comedy

ness the kidnapping of Yung's daughter Samantha (Bingbing Fan). So, that makes him invaluable to Benny when the two subsequently cross paths, as much as the detective dislikes the idea of cooperating with a slippery con man.

Directed by Renny Harlin ("Die Hard 2"), Skiptrace overall is a globe-trotting affair which unfolds at a dizzying pace in the course of visiting a variety of ports-of-call all across the planet. The multi-layered whodunit eventually builds to a big showdown at Kai Tak Cruise Terminal back in Hong Kong, where the case is very satisfactorily resolved.

Though he's certainly no Chris Tucker, Johnny Knoxville does prove a decent enough accomplice for Jackie Chan's endearing combination of antics and acrobatics.

Good ★★

Rated PG-13 for violence, suggestive content, profanity, drug use and brief nudity

Running time: 107 minutes

Distributor: Saban Films

To see a trailer for Skiptrace, visit TheSkanner.com.

Samuel L. Jackson, Kenneth Cole to Host Diversity Event

NEW YORK (AP) — Celebrities from music, film, fashion, sport and academia — including Samuel L. Jackson, Kenneth Cole, Jason Collins, America Ferrera, Salma Hayek, Quincy Jones, and Emilio and Gloria Estefan — have signed up to co-chair a two-day convention to celebrate diversity and unity.

The Rise Up as One event, scheduled for Oct. 14-15 at a location still being worked out, will have performances, talks and cultural expositions. A concert on Oct. 15 will be broadcast live on Univision Network and on Fusion.

Other co-chairs for the event include Henry Louis "Skip"

Gates, Forest Whitaker, Junot Diaz, Nicolas Berggruen, T Bone Burnett, Ximena Caminos, Ava DuVernay, Don Graham, Dr. Henry Jenkins, Mia Maestro, Jonathan Olinger, Eduardo Padron, Residente and Robert Rodriguez.

More details are expected in the coming days.

We honor the many accomplishments of African Americans.



It is our primary goal as a labor union to **better the lives of all people working in the building trades** through advocacy, civil demonstration, and the long-held belief that workers deserve a "family wage" - fair pay for an honest day's work.

A family wage, and the benefits that go with it, not only strengthens families, but also **allows our communities to become stronger**, more cohesive, and more responsive to their citizens' needs.

Our family wage agenda reflects our commitment to people working in the building trades, and to workers everywhere. In this small way, we are doing our part to **help people achieve the American Dream**. This dream that workers can hold dear regardless of race, color, national origin, gender, creed, or religious beliefs.

Pacific Northwest Regional Council of Carpenters

Representing more than 5,000 construction workers in Oregon State.

PORTLAND: 1636 East Burnside, Portland, OR 97214 | 503.261.1862 | 800.974.9052
HEADQUARTERS: 25120 Pacific Hwy S, Ste 200, Kent, WA 98032 | 253.954.8800 | 800.573.8333

Do you want to know more about becoming a Union carpenter?

Go to
www.NWCarpenters.org

