

'Striking Distance' sings a sorry tune

BY JARED DEAN
STAFF WRITER

T.V. series "Square Pegs," and the movies *L.A. Story*, and *Honeymoon In Vegas*.

Just so we're all clear, let's establish the pattern for an action film. Much like an epic rock song, where you have a strong beginning, a catchy chorus, an impressive guitar solo, and a huge ending, fast-paced action films have their own little pattern for success.

Striking Distance, starring Bruce Willis and Sarah Jessica Parker, follows the action film pattern note for note.

Most good action films start with a bang. Either it's a murder, a chase scene, or a little skin. *Striking* kicks off with two of the three, opting to not show the nudity (tastefully so) attributed to the strangulation and dumping of a body.

The chase scene is not far behind, and probably the funniest part of the film is the "roller coaster crash" scene that's part of the chase. Maybe it's the public's fault for expecting so much from action films, or it could be the film's makers who receive the blame for making their chase scene better than any previous movie.

Whatever the case, the chase is ridiculous. You can even tell at several moments during the fiasco that the film is actually being sped-up. If you don't believe it, just look at the pedestrians walking instead of the cars rolling—people just don't walk that fast.

The next step in an action film is the catchy chorus, or love interest as far as movies go. Enter the beautiful Sarah Jessica Parker. Well, she was beautiful in the

In *Striking Distance* you just want her to wash her face and tuck her hair behind her ears. But Tom Hardy (Willis) has no problem with Jo Christman (Parker), and the love interest portion of the movie is fulfilled, even if it isn't very interesting.

Then there's the guitar solo, or twisting plot and confrontations between the hero and the villain. It's hard to comment on the villain without revealing his identity, so let's just say that he is an excellent part of the movie, the best part in fact, and you'll not want him to baby sit your children. Enough said.

Now we come to the huge ending, which should include another chase scene and a lot of blood. The sad thing is that the end must be bigger than the beginning, or the whole film is lopsided. So the maker of the movie must incorporate something new, say a boat chase, and make it better than the beginning car chase.

Since the car chase was so ridiculous, the boat chase must be ludicrous. But it isn't. It's actually kind of cool.

The ludicrous part is after one of the boats springs a leak and we get to see Hardy and the bad guy duke it out on foot. This is one part that has to be seen to be depreciated.

As far as "Striking Distance" goes, even though it follows the pattern for success, you don't find yourself whistling the tune on the way home. Oh well, just drive safe, you wouldn't want to roll your car.

Horoscopes

By VAEDRA-ROSEMAN SOWERBY

Aquarius (Jan. 20- Feb. 18)
Give yourself a big hug just because you're you. Why? Because you've gotten on so many peoples' nerves this week that you are the only one who actually likes you. I suggest that you change your obnoxious ways before it is too late. You have no color for today so just stay home.

Pisces (Feb. 19- Mar. 20)
Mary had a little fish who was really stuck up. And everywhere that Mary went the fish would get beat up! Look, you are not as great as you think you are so quit putting everyone else down. Your color for today is boisenberry.

Aries (Mar. 21- Apr. 19)
An artist will have a large impact on your life. The way you see the world will change drastically after a near death experience. Beware of people with large briefcases. Your color for today is cherry-red.

Taurus (Apr. 20- May 20)
Don't sink down to the level of your persecutors, rise above them and lash out with knowledge. However, if that doesn't work, hide behind a building and throw tomatoes at them as they walk by. Your color for today is magenta.

Gemini (May 21- Jun. 20)
Quick! Stop reading! Look behind you! Someone is plotting some serious re-

venge on you and they were just watching you read this paper! Watch your back and try your best to apologize to anyone that you may have offended. Your color for today is honey-gold.

Cancer (Jun. 21- Jul. 22)
Get your priorities together and try to figure out what it is that you really want out of life. You can't have your cake, and eat it too. Make that all-important decision, and I am sure that you will see that it's not such a big deal. Your color for today is forest-green.

Leo (Jul. 23- Aug. 22)
You have no horoscope for today. Your life is just boring to the max. Your color for today is black (the absence of color).

Virgo (Aug. 23- Sept. 22)
Who doo-doo and a wing ding ding boo la fring frang. Look! No one understands what the heck you are talking about so slow down and chill out! Your romantic outlook is very full. You must have a lot of plans. Make careful decisions. Your color for today is elephant-grey.

Libra (Sept. 23- Oct. 22)
As your birthday approaches, so does bad luck. Don't do too much partying until the day after your birthday. Give yourself a safe out in all social situations. Your color

for today is any color included on a pizza.

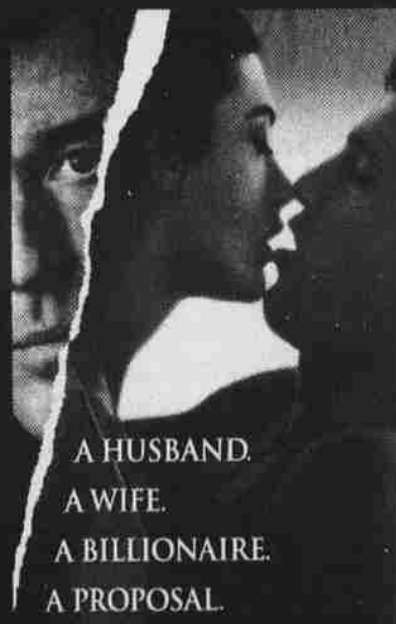
Scorpio (Oct. 23- Nov. 21)
Do you believe in magic? I hope so because that is the only way that you will be getting a date this weekend. People are starting to notice your chronic halitosis. Invest in a pack of gum. Your color for today is barf-green (the same color as your breath).

Sagittarius (Nov. 22- Dec. 21)
The person that you are romantically involved with is cheating on you. Look for differences in their attitude and conversation. Be prepared for the worst. Indulge yourself with fruit and vegetables. Your color for today is purple.

Capricorn (Dec. 22- Jan. 19)
You know that person who your friends are always teasing you about? You know, the one that you say is just a friend? Well, that person doesn't feel that way anymore. Basically, they want you baaaad! Your color for today is lilac.

UNTIL TUESDAY

This Weekend



ROBERT REDFORD
DEMI MOORE
WOODY HARRELSON

A HUSBAND.
A WIFE.
A BILLIONAIRE.
A PROPOSAL.

INDECENT PROPOSAL

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