

The Hurricane captures all that is in its path and delights audiences all the same

by Kelly Walsh
staff writer

"Here comes the story of 'The Hurricane.' The man the authorities came to blame, for something he ain't never done." Bob Dylan had it right on the money with his famous song also entitled *The Hurricane*.

The Hurricane was Rubin Carter (Denzel Washington), a 1966 middleweight boxing contender sentenced for a triple murder he didn't commit. Carter spent more than twenty years of his life in prison knowing that he was paying another man's debt.

"If you are black, might as well not show up on the street unless you wanna draw the heat." One late, misty night in 1966, there was a robbery and triple murder which was thought to be a hate crime. The only thing that was known about the murderers was that they were black and drove a white car with "butterfly lights" in the back.

When two cops pulled over Hurricane, 29, and John Artis, 21, they were held for questioning. Lt. DeSimone paid off two witnesses and lessened their charges to bribe them into testifying against Carter, even though one of the men shot said that Carter wasn't the man. "... Wounded man looks up through his one dying eye, why'd you bring him in here? Boy, that ain't the guy."

"There's the story of The Hurricane won't be over till they clear his name." A Canadian boy, Lesera Martin (Vicellous (VI) Reon Shannon), read Carter's autobiography and couldn't let the case rest. He convinced the three adults he lived with to take interest, and the four moved to New Jersey, refusing to leave until Carter was free. Carter's case had been heard in a New Jersey court two separate times before, but this time it was taken to federal court. Finally, after 20 years had passed them by, Carter and Artis were free.

"... Couldn't help to make you feel ashamed to live in a land where

justice is a game." It took four people from Canada to free Carter. They moved to New Jersey, spent an estimated \$400,000 dollars (a small price to pay when buying freedom), and rearranged their lives all for a man they read about in a book. Their kindness and dedication resulted in letting two men salvage the rest of their lives. Not many people can say they have ever done something so meaningful, or sacrificed so much.

The loyalty and morality of Artis is also shocking. He was put in jail and sacrificed more of his life than he had lived, all because he would not tell a lie. If he had said Carter committed the crime he would have lived his life outside the 10-foot cell. This is a story of what happens when you truly believe in something... when you do not give up because you are walking uphill.

The Hurricane is not a shocking movie in terms of plot. It is shocking in terms of loyalty and strength. Look what can happen when people truly believe in something, and do something about it.



Denzel Washington portrays Rubin "Hurricane" Carter, a boxer wrongfully accused of a crime. Vicellous (VI) Reon Shannon plays a young man inspired by Smith's book who forms a bond with the famous boxer. Shannon's character's name is Lesera Martin, a young man who has not yet seen the light of opportunity. Shannon has appeared on *Touched by an Angel*, *NYPD Blue*, and many other shows. Washington won a Golden globe for his performance in this film. Check out the website at www.the-hurricane.com.

Uncomplicated them: members of the Gathering Field strip their music for Behrend

by Leanne Acklin
staff writer

As fans crowded Bruno's in search of decent music, Bill Deasy and Dave Brown of the Gathering Field seemed happily obliged to offer a naked display... of music, that is.

Deasy and Brown returned to Behrend on January 21 after a three-month absence to perform acoustically some of their faves, including crowd pleasers "Rhapsody in Blue," "Complicated Me," and "Lost in America."

A contradiction to the Gathering

Field's usually uplifting music combined with hopelessly realistic lyrics, Deasy and Brown performed "Saint Jude." "This is one of the darkest little stories I've ever written," Deasy commented. That statement was curiously reflected in both the lyrics and the music itself, which worked itself up in a lengthy guitar interlude only to suddenly stop and briefly leave us all in silence, desperate for them to begin again. It was a refreshing parallel to the tone of the lyrics.

Deasy and Brown engaged in a simplified version of "Storytellers," giving a brief explanation or comment before each song and interacting

heavily with the crowd. The pair did covers of Matthew Sweet and Bob Dylan, and Deasy promoted his newly released solo album between songs.

As with all decent acoustic shows, the opportunity to hear songs at their infant and most true form was both relaxing and captivating. Even at their roots, these songs were enough to get the audience swaying to the music. The response to the tunes was authentically appreciative and the night was definitely enjoyable. Thank you Bill and Dave, and good luck with your newborns!





DICK

and

Jane



Dear Jane,
I am interested in a girl that has a boyfriend. Should I tell her that I like her or keep it to myself?
Going Crazy

Dear Going Crazy,
Sometimes it is hard to tell from the outside if the relationship is marriage material or in great peril. That in mind, it is always worth trying. If she happens to be madly in love, then it won't matter (since you won't have a chance anyway).
How well do you know this girl? If you barely know her, you could also pretend you didn't know about her boyfriend. "Forget" she told you. Or ask her out for hot chocolate. If she is at all interested, she will probably take you up on the hot chocolate. That is, as long as she knows it doesn't commit her to anything more. Once you have your foot in the door...
If you know her as a friend it is much harder. Whatever you do, don't tell friends to tell her. In fact, don't tell them at all. It makes you look like a wuss (and it is very high-

school). Catch her in a normal situation, like if you are both watching movies with a bunch of friends. When you are alone for even a moment, compliment her. (Note: Don't just blurt out that you like her) "Why are you so beautiful?" (try not to make it that hokey). If you have never shown your feelings for her before, she'll be shocked. Shocked is good. And then the ball's in her court. Be on the watch for signals. Is she waving a white (ok, I give in: I like you) flag, or the red (go away) flag? Usually these are easy to spot if you pay attention. So, go for it, and good luck!
Jane

Dear Dick,
My girlfriend always beats me up. I know it is wrong to hit a girl and I probably never would. But, sometimes she hits me so hard that it makes me cry. I can't talk to anyone about this. What should I do?
Battered

Dear Battered,
There is no good reason to stay in an abusive relationship, whether you

are a woman or a man. Before you should even consider hitting your girlfriend (even in self defense), consider getting yourself as far away from her as possible. If you can't talk to friends about it, there are a lot of toll free hotlines like 1-800-799-SAFE that can talk to you about your options. "Husband battering" (or abuse of men by women) is more common than most people think. Check out this website for more info: www.vix.com/pub/men/battery/battery.html. (Also, as a side note, when you write to "Dick and Jane," you are only writing to Jane. The name is a joke-get it? Dick and Jane?)
Jane

If you have questions about your relationship or sex (and who doesn't??) write to Jane at dickandjane@wild-mail.com, or put your letters/questions in the Beacon mailbox marked "Dear Jane". All correspondences are confidential. As many letters will be answered as possible.

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Aries (March 21-April 19). Never allow the mean professor to eat you up.

Taurus (April 20-May 20). Break on through to the other side, or just think 70s.

Gemini (May 21-June 21). Pay attention to Lex.

Cancer (June 22-July 22). Wearing black this week is fine. It's dreary outside anyway.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22). Enjoy the scenery of Erie this week: black and white.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Write inspiring messages in the ice in the million dollar staircase.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Fight the powers that be.










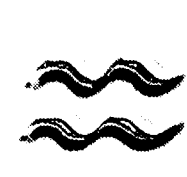

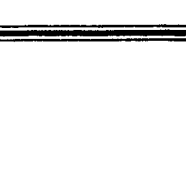
Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Melons, they're not just for breakfast anymore. (nudge, nudge, wink, wink)

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Travel to Cleveland and check out the shows at the Odeon.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). See if you have what it takes to come up with a final answer.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb 18). Stand strong and watch what you are standing in.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20). Deep thought-the moon signifies a changing world and bedtime buddy.

by Bongo the three legged monkey