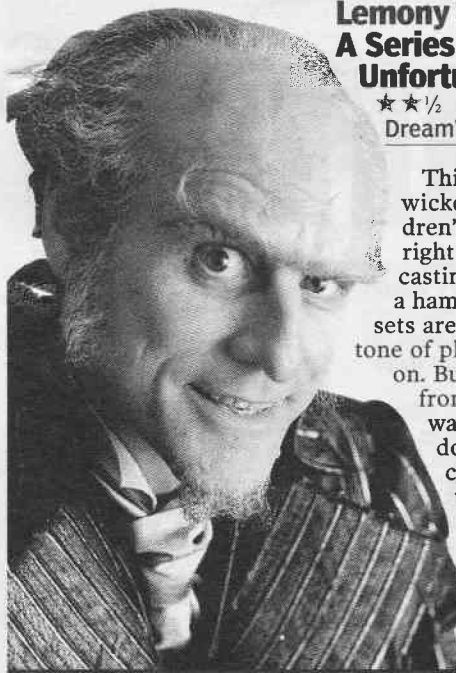


This week's DVDs By MICHAEL GILTZ

Lemony Snicket's A Series Of Unfortunate Events

★★½

DreamWorks, \$38.99



This adaptation of the wickedly amusing children's books got everything right except the story. The casting is great (especially a hammy Jim Carrey), the sets are eye-popping and the tone of pleasant malice is dead on. But squeezing in plots from the first three books was a big mistake: We don't know any of the characters well enough to care when they're killed off. Very amusing extras include commentary, deleted scenes, a making-of documentary and more.

F for Fake

★★★

Criterion, \$39.95

Give Orson Welles a movie camera and he could play forever. He may not make a film in any traditional sense, but he will have fun. You can, too, with this indulgent treatise on forgeries from 1976. The marvelous extras include an 88 minute film on his unfinished projects that represent cinema's most tantalizing tease.

Undertow

★★★

MGM, \$26.98

This gothic children's story — a bad guy invades the home; orphaned kids go on the road in search of treasure — is the latest intriguing film by director David Gordon Green. It's elevated by Josh Lucas (who looks like Matthew McConaughey) and Jamie Bell. The best extra is a commentary by Green and Bell.