

## DVD review



"You mean I actually have to type on it?"

### CONFESSIONS OF A SHOPAHOLIC

**STARRING:** Isla Fisher, Hugh Darcy, Joan Cusack  
**DIRECTED BY:** P.J. Hogan PG (NuMetro)



**THE PLOT:** Bubbly Becky Bloomwood (Isla Fisher) has a shopping addiction so bad that it makes you cringe – quite often. A fashion junkie through and through, her dream job is to work for glamour bible *Alette* magazine. She has to settle for second best when she's offered a post at *Alette's* sister mag, *Successful Saving*. Here the financially hapless Becky suddenly finds herself producing unlikely gems of spending wisdom, using things like clothes and fashion as even-more-unlikely metaphors. The romance in this romcom appears in the form of Becky's editor, Luke Brandon

(Hugh Dancy). He's sensible, a bit strict and rather dashing. When they go on a business trip, chemistry starts to happen...

**WHAT'S RIGHT WITH IT?** Becky's not perfect. She also understands how a good shopping spree soothes the soul more than any cup of chicken soup. And her debt problems are a realistic warning in these troubled times!

**WHAT'S WRONG WITH IT?** Er, the 99 minutes of the flick never seem to pass. Sadly, we yawned more than we laughed. .

**DVD EXTRAS INCLUDE:** There are bloopers, deleted scenes and a music video with Akon – all quite average.

**FILM:** ★★ **EXTRAS:** ★★★  
JACQUELINE COCHRANE

### LOYISO GOLA FOR PRESIDENT: THE FINAL RUN

**STARRING:** Loyiso Gola  
**DIRECTED BY:** Podium 16LP (NuMetro)



**THE PLOT:** South African comic Loyiso Gola stood up at election time earlier this year, and put out a show filled with political jokes. And boy, did people enjoy it! In fact, the *Loyiso Gola For President* show was so popular that the stand-up comic was persuaded to do one last show at Jozi's Market Theatre on 26 April – long after its run had ended, and just four days after the fourth democratic elections in SA. This last-ever *LGFP* show is filled with some of the funniest jokes you'll hear about SA's politicians, as well as how different races view each other...

**WHAT'S RIGHT WITH IT?** It doesn't matter what race you are, where in SA you live, or which political party you support – you will laugh at these jokes! No-one in the political arena is spared by Loyiso's sharp tongue, and he's got the courage to say things many in SA are thinking, but are afraid to say!

**WHAT'S WRONG WITH IT?** We thought there were far too many F-bombs! Then again, it's got a 16LP age rating, so it's not like this was something we weren't expecting... And if you couldn't care less about politics, this definitely isn't for you!

**DVD EXTRAS INCLUDE:** None at all.  
**FILM:** ★★★ CRAIG FALCK

## Book reviews

### SPUD – LEARNING TO FLY

**JOHN VAN DER RUIT** (Penguin, R120)



Spud is turning 16, and his life as you remember it from the previous two books is the same: filled with teenage angst and the hilarious madness of the Crazy Eight! Poor Spud still doesn't understand girls, his parents and why stuff like not making it to into the cricket A-team happen to him. But there is a theatre production on the cards, as well as a trip to Mad Dogs farm – which makes things just a bit better. Oh, and will he be made a prefect? Read, laugh out loud and enjoy. ★★★★★ JENNIFER PLATT

### STILL LIFE

**JOY FIELDING**

(Simon & Schuster, R199.95)



Casey Marshall's perfect life is smashed when a hit-and-run lands her in a coma in which she's unable to move, speak, see or feel – but able to hear everything going on around her! Not great if your friends and family aren't exactly what they seem, even worse if you need to wake up before the killer finishes the job! The motivation behind the baddies' actions and back-story is flimsy at best, although you do root for Casey. It could've been more intriguing – ultimately it left us unsatisfied! ★★★ DONNAY TORR

### WHITE KNIGHTS

**ASTRID FLEMMING**

(A&A Publishers, R195)



Everyone thinks Emma Cooper has the world at her feet. Besides being beautiful, she's just landed a job on Wall Street and has a boyfriend that's about to pop the question. But being a glorified secretary and working 24-hour shifts isn't all it's made out to be. And things get worse when her boyfriend falls in love with someone else! Now Emma turns to her boss for comfort – and that is the biggest no-no in New York. We thought it's a bit long-winded, but the surprise ending makes it well worth the read! ★★★ JESSICA LEVITT