



movie reviews

Reviews Great Movies Answer Man People Commentary Festivals Oscars Glossary One-Minute Reviews Letters Roger Ebert's Journal Scanners Store

CHICAGO SUN-TIMES News Sports Business Entertainment Classifieds Columnists

search

GO Search powered by YAHOO!

register

You are not logged in.

Log in »

Subscribe to weekly newsletter »

answer man

06/09/2010 »

times & tickets

Fandango Search movie showtimes and buy tickets.

about us

About the site »

Site FAQs »

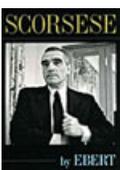
Contact us »

Email the Movie Answer Man »

on sale now



Buy now »



Buy now »

SEX AND THE CITY 2 (R)

Ebert: ★ Users: ★★ You: [Rate this movie right now](#)



You know who they are.

Sex and the City 2

BY ROGER EBERT / May 25, 2010

Some of these people make my skin crawl. The characters of "Sex and the City 2" are flyweight bubbleheads living in a world which rarely requires three sentences in a row. Their defining quality is consuming things. They gobble food, fashion, houses, husbands, children, vitamins and freebies. They must plan their wardrobes on the phone, so often do they appear in different basic colors, like the plugs you pound into a Playskool workbench.

As we return to the trivialities of their lives for a sequel, marriage is the issue. The institution is affirmed in an opening sequence at a gay wedding in Connecticut that looks like a Fred Astaire production number gone horribly over budget. There's a 16-man chorus in white formal wear, a pond with swans, and [Liza](#)

cast & credits

Carrie Bradshaw Sarah Jessica Parker
Samantha Jones Kim Cattrall
Charlotte York Kristin Davis
Miranda Hobbes Cynthia Nixon
Mr. Big Chris Noth
Aidan John Corbett
Steve David Eigenberg
Harry Evan Handler
Smith Jason Lewis
Stanford Willie Garson
Anthony Mario Cantone

New Line presents a film written and directed by Michael Patrick King, based on the TV series created by Star, based on characters from the book by Candace Bushnell. Running time: 146 minutes. [MPAA](#) rating: R

Printer-friendly »

E-mail this to a friend »



DirectBuy advertisement for furniture and home goods. Text: "YOU'LL NEVER WANT TO PAY RETAIL AGAIN. Start Saving NOW! >>". Includes "FREE 30-Day Membership" and "Limited Offer Act Now!". Categories: CABINETS, FLOORING, FURNITURE, LIGHTING, APPLIANCES, ELECTRONICS.

in theaters

latest reviews

- Joan Rivers: A Piece of Work
- Jonah Hex
- Toy Story 3
- Winter's Bone
- Knight and Day
- The Wild Hunt
- Cyrus
- Grown Ups
- I am Love
- The Killer Inside Me

more current releases »

one-minute movie reviews

still playing

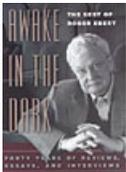
- The A-Team
- Accomplices
- After Life
- Babies
- The Back-up Plan
- City Island
- Clash of the Titans
- Cyrus
- Daddy Longlegs
- Date Night
- Death at a Funeral
- The Eclipse
- Exit Through the Gift Shop
- The Father of My Children
- Get Him to the Greek
- The Girl on the Train
- The Good Heart
- The Greatest
- Grown Ups
- Harry Brown
- Holy Rollers



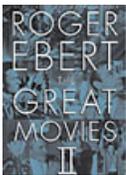
[Buy now](#) »



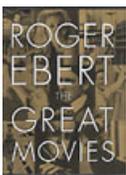
[Buy now](#) »



[Buy now](#) »



[Buy now](#) »



[Buy now](#) »

**NOW: iPads
for only
\$13.58?**

Breaking News:
iPads are being
auctioned at 95%
off retail....

[SwipeBids.com](#)

**Lose 46 Lbs
in 3 Months?**

Discover the
Shocking Truth
About Canada's
Hottest Diet...

[WeeklyHealthC...](#)

[Minnelli](#) to perform the ceremony. Her religious or legal qualifications are unexplained; perhaps she is present merely as the patron saint of gay men. After the ceremony, she changes to a Vegas lounge outfit and is joined by two lookalike backups for a song and dance routine possibly frowned upon in some denominations.

Then it's back to the humdrum married life of our gal Carrie Bradshaw ([Sarah Jessica Parker](#)) and the loathsome Mr. Big ([Chris Noth](#)). Carrie, honey, how can you endure life with this purring, narcissistic, soft-velvet idiot? He speaks loudly enough to be heard mostly by himself, his most appreciative audience. And he never wants to leave the house at night, preferring to watch classic black-and-white movies on TV. This leads to a marital crisis. Carrie thinks they should talk more. But sweetheart, Mr. Big has nothing to say. At least he's provided you with a Manhattan apartment that looks like an Architectural Digest wet dream.

Brief updates. Miranda Hobbes ([Cynthia Nixon](#)) is a high-powered lawyer who is dissed by her male chauvinist pig boss. Samantha Jones ([Kim Cattrall](#)) is still a sexaholic slut. Charlotte York (Kristin Davis) has the two little girls she thought she wanted, but now discovers that they actually expect to be raised. Mothers, if you are reading, run this through your head. One little girl dips her hands in strawberry topping and plants two big handprints on your butt. You are on the cell to a girlfriend. How do you report this? You moan and wail out: "My vintage Valentino!" Any mother who wears her vintage Valentino while making muffin topping with her kids should be hauled up before the Department of Children and Family Services.

All of this is pretty thin gruel. The movie shows enterprise, and flies the entire cast away to the emirate of Abu Dhabi, where the girls are given a \$22,000-a-night suite and matching Maybachs and butlers, courtesy of a sheik who wants to have a meeting with Samantha and talk about publicity for his hotel.

This sequence is an exercise in obscenely conspicuous consumption, in which the girls appear in so many different outfits they must have been followed to the Middle East by a luggage plane. I don't know a whole lot about fashion, but I know something about taste, and these women spend much of the movie dressed in tacky, vulgar clothing. Carrie and Samantha also display the maximum possible boobage, oblivious to Arab ideas about women's modesty. There's more cleavage in this film than at a pro wrestler's wedding.

And crotches, have we got crotches for you. Big close-ups of the girls themselves, and some of the bulgers they meet. And they meet some. They meet the Australian world cup team, for example, which seems to have left its cups at home. And then there's the intriguing stranger Samantha meets at the hotel, whose zipper-straining arousal evokes the fury of an offended Arab guest and his wife. This prodigy's name is Rikard Spirt. Think about it.

Samantha is arrested for kissing on the beach, and there's an uncomfortable scene in which the girls are menaced by outraged men in a public market, where all they've done is dress in a way more appropriate for a sales reception at Victoria's Secret. They're rescued by Arab women so well covered only their eyes are visible, and in private these women reveal that underneath the burkas they're wearing Dior gowns and so forth. Must get hot.

I wondered briefly whether Abu Dhabi had underwritten all this product placement, but I learn the "SATC2" was filmed in Morocco, which must be Morocco's little joke. That nation supplies magnificent desert scenes, achieved with CGI, I assume, during which two of the girls fall off a camel. I haven't seen such hilarity since "Abbott and Costello in the Foreign Legion."

The movie's visual style is arthritic. Director Michael Patrick King covers the sitcom dialogue by dutifully cutting back and forth to whoever is speaking. A sample of Carrie's realistic dialogue in a marital argument: "You knew when I married you I was more Coco Chanel than coq au vin." Carrie also narrates the film, providing useful guidelines for those challenged by its intricacies. Sample: "Later that day, Big and I arrived home."

Truth in reviewing: I am obliged to report that this film will no doubt be deliriously enjoyed by its fans, for the reasons described above. Male couch potatoes dragged to the film against their will may find some consolation. Reader, I must confess that while attending the sneak preview with its overwhelmingly female audience, I was gob-smacked by the delightful cleavage on display. Do women wear their lowest-cut frocks for each other?

- [Home](#)
- [Hubble 3D](#)
- [The Human Centipede](#)
- [I am Love](#)
- [Iron Man 2](#)
- [Joan Rivers: A Piece of Work](#)
- [Jonah Hex](#)
- [The Joneses](#)
- [Just Wright](#)
- [The Karate Kid](#)
- [Kick-Ass](#)
- [The Killer Inside Me](#)
- [Knight and Day](#)
- [The Last Song](#)
- [Leaves of Grass](#)
- [Letters to Juliet](#)
- [The Losers](#)
- [Marmaduke](#)
- [Micmacs](#)
- [Mother and Child](#)
- [My Son, My Son, What Have Ye Done](#)
- [A Nightmare on Elm Street](#)
- [October Country](#)
- [OSS 117: Lost in Rio](#)
- [The Perfect Game](#)
- [Please Give](#)
- [Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time](#)
- [Princess Kaiulani](#)
- [Ricky](#)
- [Robin Hood](#)
- [The Secret in Their Eyes](#)
- [The Secret of Kells](#)
- [Sex and the City 2](#)
- [A Shine of Rainbows](#)
- [Solitary Man](#)
- [Splice](#)
- [The Square](#)
- [Survival of the Dead](#)
- [That Evening Sun](#)
- [Toy Story 3](#)
- [Vincent: A Life in Color](#)
- [Vincere](#)
- [Who Do You Love?](#)
- [The Wild Hunt](#)
- [Winter's Bone](#)

[more current releases >>](#)

on dvd

new on dvd

- [She's Out of My League](#) ★★★ (6/22)
- [Remember Me](#) ★★★ (6/22)
- [The Last Station](#) ★★★ (6/22)
- [The Good Guy](#) ★★★ (6/22)
- [The Craziest](#) ★★★ (6/22)
- [Death Race 2000](#) (6/22)
- [Youth in Revolt](#) ★★★ (6/15)
- [Mystery Train](#) ★★★ (6/15)
- [The Book of Eli](#) ★★★ (6/15)
- [Sylvia](#) ★★★ (6/8)

[more new on dvd >>](#)

coming on dvd

- [The Eclipse](#) ★★★ (6/29)
- [Everlasting Moments](#) ★★★★★ (6/29)
- [Hot Tub Time Machine](#) ★★★ (6/29)
- [The White Ribbon](#) ★★★★★ (6/29)
- [The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo](#) ★★★★★ (7/6)
- [Legal Eagles](#) ★★★ (7/6)
- [A Single Man](#) ★★★ (7/6)
- [Chloe](#) ★★★★★ (7/13)
- [Formosa Betrayed](#) ★★★ (7/13)
- [The Greatest](#) ★★ (7/13)



Note: From my understanding of the guidelines of the [MPAA](#) Code and Ratings Administration, *Samantha and Mr. Spirt* have one scene that far, far surpasses the traditional [MPAA](#) limits for pumping and thrusting.

[The Greatest](#) (7/19)

[more coming on dvd >>](#)

great movies on dvd

- [Pink Floyd: The Wall](#) (2/24)
- [The Big Lebowski](#) (3/10)
- [Gone With the Wind](#) (4/13)
- [Vivre sa Vie / My Life to Live](#) (4/20)
- [Viridiana](#) (4/29)
- [Walkabout](#) (5/18)

[more great movies on dvd >>](#)



© copyright 2010, rogerebert.com

[Privacy Policy](#) [Terms of Use](#) [Submission Guidelines](#)

DirectBuy
The Home Improvement & Furniture Club

Imagine Your Dream Kitchen at Direct Insider Prices.

- Cabinets
- Flooring
- Furniture
- Lighting
- Appliances
- Electronics

Get Your FREE Visitor's Pass