

Entertainment Guide - Beware of Greeks Bearing Guns (2000) 2

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Review - DVD

DVD Review: Beware of Greeks Bearing Guns (2000), (Fox), ***1/2 (85 minutes plus extras) M

Some reviewers panned this warm-hearted little comedy, but I like it. It starts with a shooting in wartime Crete, and a furious widow vowing revenge. Flash forward to present-day Melbourne, and a bunch of old Cretan migrants discover the killer is living among them. They call the old village, and the widow's twin grandsons, Manos and George (both played by Greek TV legend Lakis Lazopoulos), head down to settle the debt. Manos is a gentle schoolteacher and a reluctant hitman, George a hard-drinking firebrand hell-bent on vengeance. Although a little folksy, the film isn't at all hokey. It's very funny in parts (such as when Manos puts up a sign, "School closed due to a vendetta", and the children cheer), and the mistaken-identity capers are kept to a minimum. John Bluthal (*The Vicar of Dibley*) is great as the cheerful old svengali who sets up the hit, and Zoe Carides is good (but not stretched) as Manos's old flame. There's an unexpected gem of an extra on the disc: *Bowl Me Over*, a short (15-minute) film by **Angie Black** about four Greek widows who join a Melbourne lawn bowls club, featuring Arianthe Galani, Noeline Brown and Terry Norris.

F: DVD5 A: Dolby 5.1 V: 16:9.

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