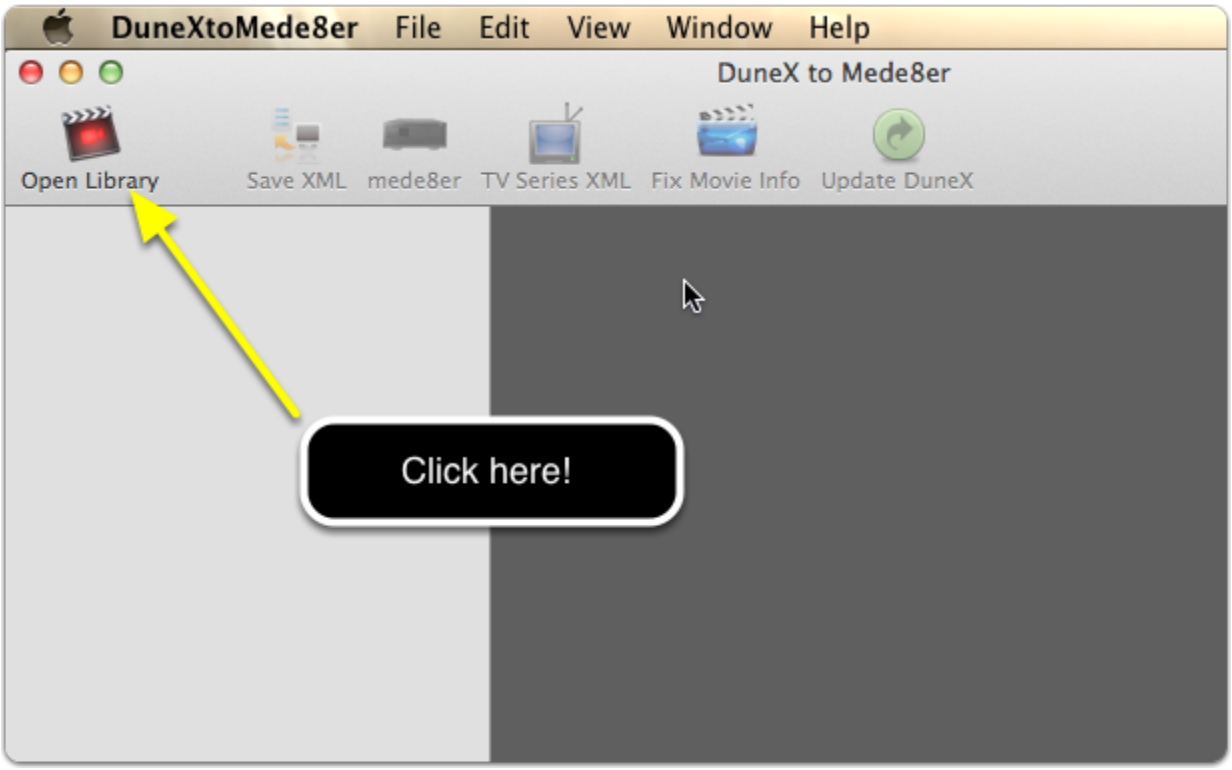
Getting started

This guide assumes that you're familiar with DuneX operations and that your movie collection has already been loaded into DuneX.
Please take note that DuneX does not "clean" its library whenever you add, remove or move items within your folders structure.
In order to get the cleanest environment possible, please issue *RELOAD* and *CLEAN* commands for each of your library paths in DuneX.

When everything is properly set up, you must shut DuneX down in order to commit changes to your library and, finally, open DuneX2Mede8er.
The very first thing to do is opening the DuneX library file: do this by clicking on the toolbar item pointed by the yellow arrow, or by choosing **File-> Open**.
Depending on whether you chose to load thumbnails or not, please allow some time for the process to complete. On a 13" MacBook Pro, hardly a lightning fast machine, it takes *1 minute and 35 seconds* to load a library of **801** items together with their thumbnails, against a time of *23 seconds* to load the same library **without** thumbnails!

Remember: if you get stuck, at any point during operations, you can check this guide accessing its online version directly from the **Help** menu item.



The toolbar

Let's take a look at what you got in the toolbar:

1. **Open Library**. Select and open the DuneX library file in XML format
2. **Save XML**. Click to have the application produce the relevant XML files for the selected movie or for each of the movies in the selected folder. This funtion needs read/write access to the file system where the item(s) is located.
3. **mede8er**. Builds and writes the mede8er.db database for the selected folder. The database is required by Mede8er Jukebox and normally is built by the firmware with the "Scan folder" function. This funtion needs read/write access to the file system where the item(s) is located.
4. **TV Series XML**. Produces all the files needed to enjoy the TV Jukebox offered by the latest version of X2 series firmware; this funtion needs read/write access to the file system where the item(s) is located.
5. **Query Library**. Brings up the query form window. See related pages for a full description of this function.
6. **Fix Movie Info**. Clicking on this button starts a search on TMDB for the movie selected. If any of the field in this panel is empty (showing "missing info") it will be filled with the data retrieve on TheMovieDB. You can specify which language to uese in the setting panel (see later on).
7. **Update DuneX**. This is available only if you use "Fix Movie Info"; the updated informations will be written back to the DuneX library file and thus available both to DuneX and DuneX2Mede8er form now on...

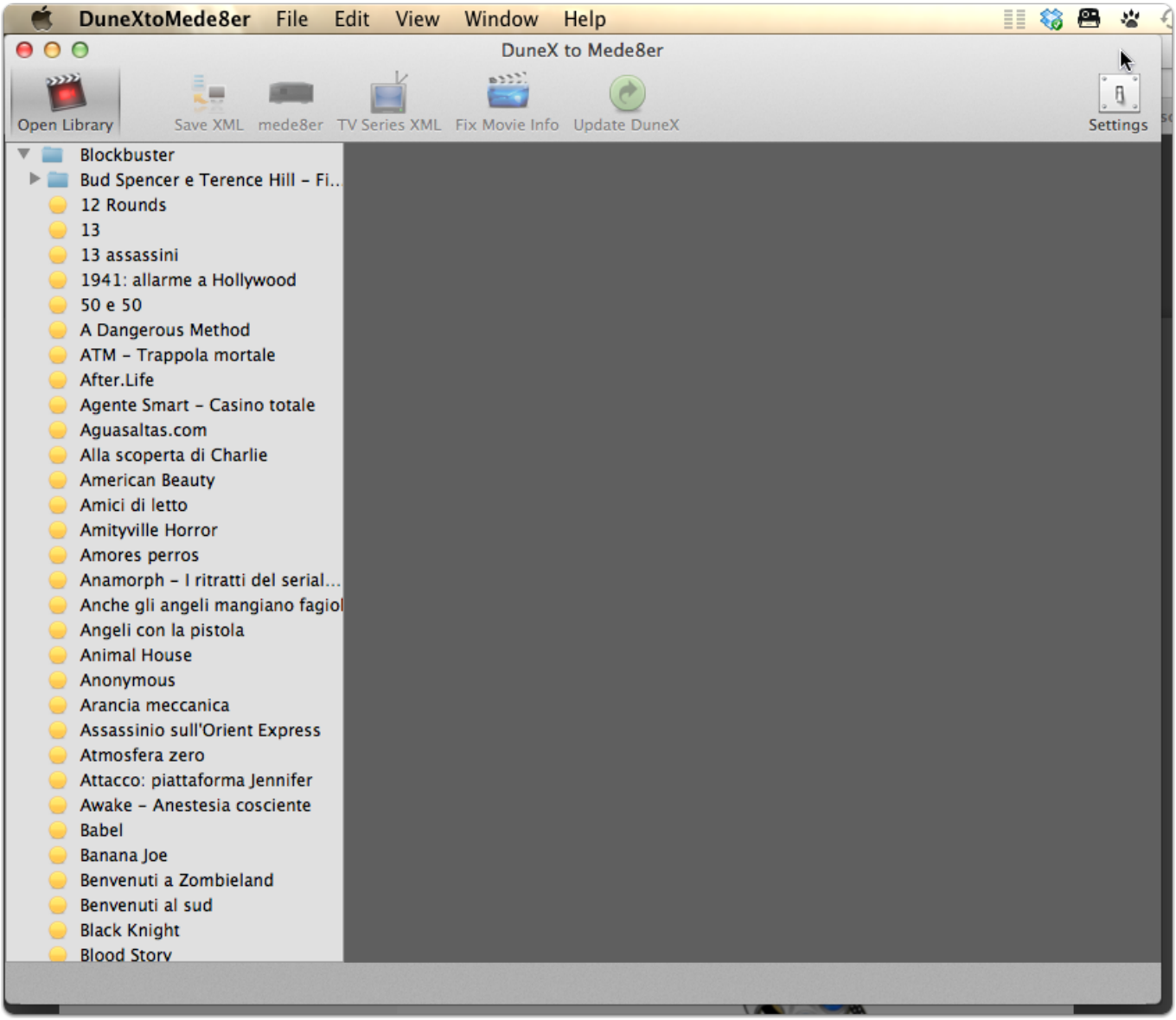
Most of these features are also available through the application menu, in the **File** and **Tools** sections.

The Library outline view

Once the library is loaded, you can easily browse it using the outline view on the left.

You can expand or collapse each node in the tree, by clicking on the small triangle at its left. You can also expand or collapse ALL the root nodes by choosing View-> Expand all items or View-> Collapse all items.

Selecting a folder will show the Library Details panel, while selecting a single movie/TV episode will show the relevant details panel (see following pages); the number of available functions depends on which mode you've entered.

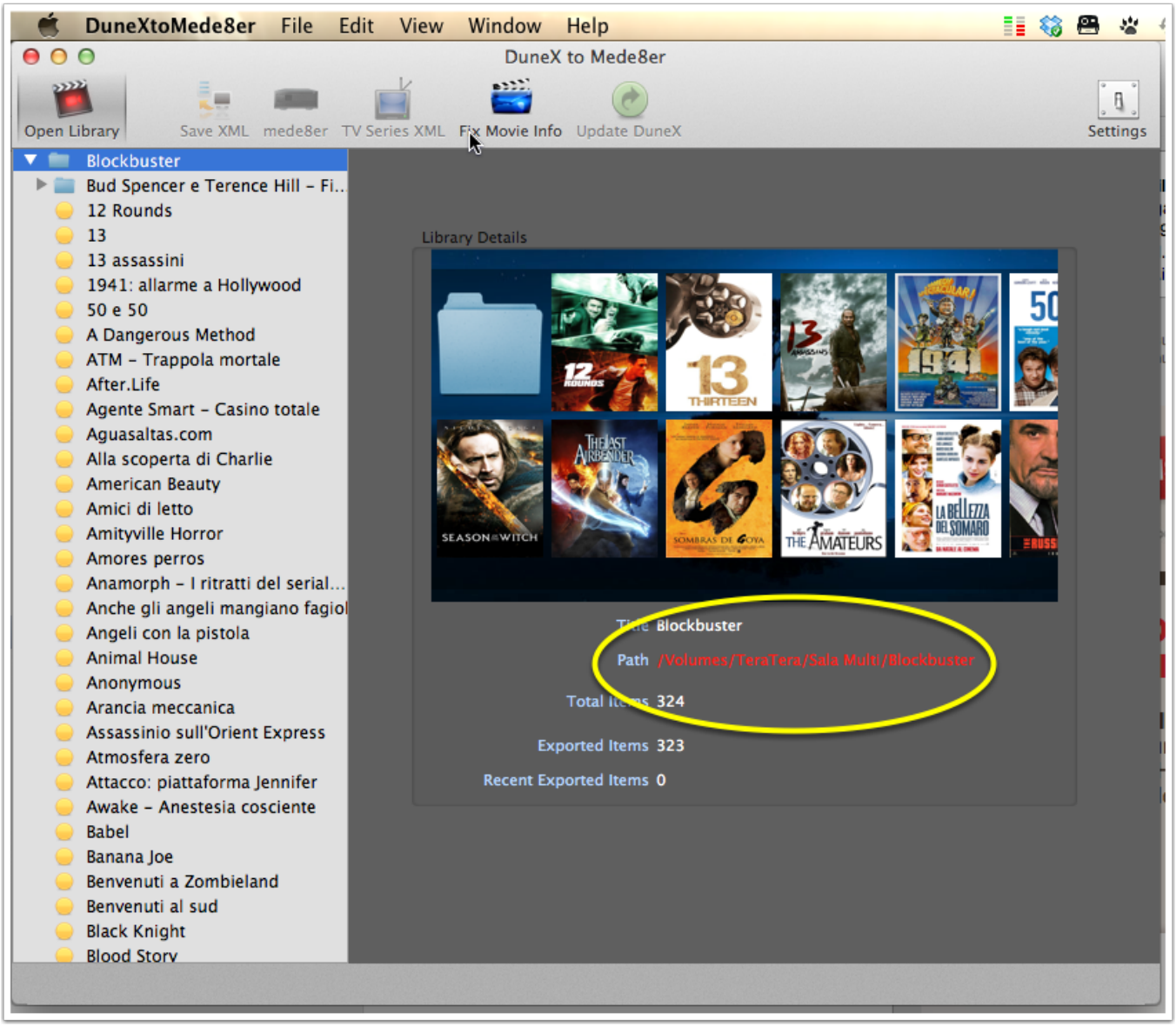


The Library Details panel

If you select a folder, wether it being a root folder or a subfolder, you'll be be presented with scrolling view of your movies' thumbnails and a recap of the status of the items within the folder. Thumbnails are shown only if you chose to do so in the *Preferences* panel (default is NO).
Either way, hovering the mouse pointer above the folder thumbnails will show the movie title.

Take a look at the path field in the example: if it is written in red, it means that this particular folder has not been mounted on your Mac and therefore it is not writable. A green colored path means that everything is okay.

Exported items represents the number of movies, in the selected folder, already exported by DuneX. Count is recursive and traverse all subfolders.
Recently Exported items gives you the count of those movies exported since the last time you ran DuneX2Mede8er



The Movie Details panel

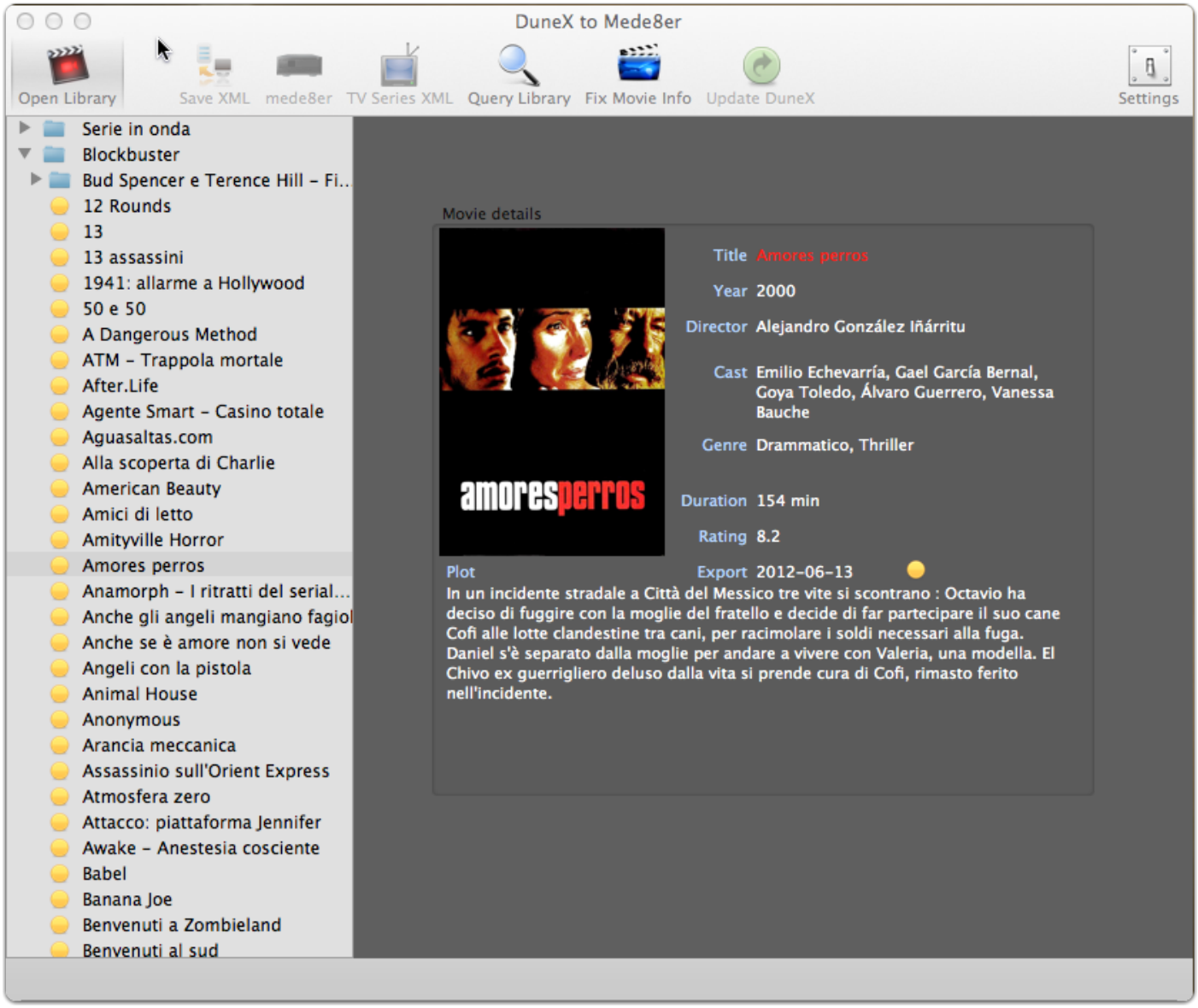
This is what you get when selecting a single movie in the outline view on the left.
All the informations presented on the screen are read straight from DuneX library file.

The colour of the movie title reflects at a glance the file system status of the movie file: red means no access while a green title represents the correct file system status (read/write access to the file).

Pay attention to the colored ball near the *Export date* (and in the outline view on the left):

- **red**: item has never been exported by DuneX, thus cannot be processed by DuneX2Mede8er;
- **yellow**: item has already been exported before last run of DuneX2Mede8er and should not receive any further attention; it is possibile to force processing of these items;
- **green**: item has been exported after your last run of DuneX2Mede8er and thus is fully processable.

Tip: hovering the mouse pointer above the poster/cover of the movie will pop-up a tooltip with some technical info about the movie.


DuneX to Mede8er
Open Library
Save XML
mede8er
TV Series XML
Query Library
Fix Movie Info
Update DuneX
Settings
Serie in onda
Blockbuster
Bud Spencer e Terence Hill - Fi..
12 Rounds
13
13 assassini
1941: allarme a Hollywood
50 e 50
A Dangerous Method
ATM - Trappola mortale
After.Life
Agente Smart - Casino totale
Aguasaltas.com
Alla scoperta di Charlie
American Beauty
Amici di letto
Amityville Horror
Amores perros
Anamorph - I ritratti del serial...
Anche gli angeli mangiano fagiol
Anche se è amore non si vede
Angeli con la pistola
Animal House
Anonymous
Arancia meccanica
Assassinio sull'Orient Express
Atmosfera zero
Attacco: piattaforma Jennifer
Awake - Anestesia cosciente
Babel
Banana Joe
Benvenuti a Zombieland
Benvenuti al sud
Movie details
amoresperros
Title Amores perros
Year 2000
Director Alejandro González Iñárritu
Cast Emilio Echevarría, Gael García Bernal, Goya Toledo, Álvaro Guerrero, Vanessa Bauche
Genre Drammatico, Thriller
Duration 154 min
Rating 8.2
Export 2012-06-13
Plot
In un incidente stradale a Città del Messico tre vite si scontrano : Octavio ha deciso di fuggire con la moglie del fratello e decide di far partecipare il suo cane Cofi alle lotte clandestine tra cani, per racimolare i soldi necessari alla fuga. Daniel s'è separato dalla moglie per andare a vivere con Valeria, una modella. El Chivo ex guerrigliero deluso dalla vita si prende cura di Cofi, rimasto ferito nell'incidente.

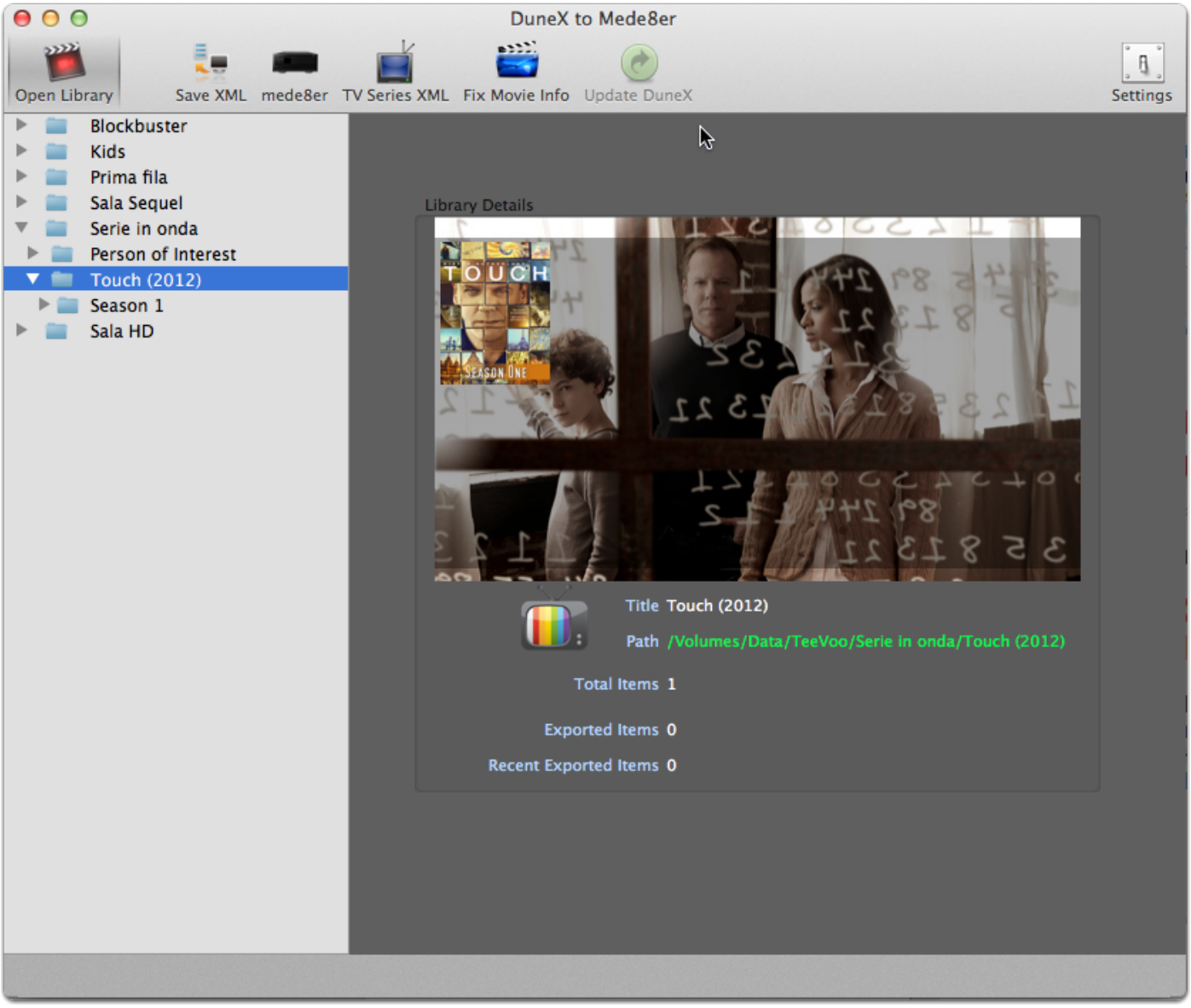
TV Series mode

This is what you get while clicking on a folder which DuneX identifies as "*TV Show*".
A little TV Icon helps you understand that you're dealing with a TV Series structure.
Exported items and *Recently Exported items* have the very same meaning fo the movie library view.

By using the button "*TV Series XML*", DuneX2Mede8er automatically produce the structure (XML and JPG) required for the new TV Series Jukebox.

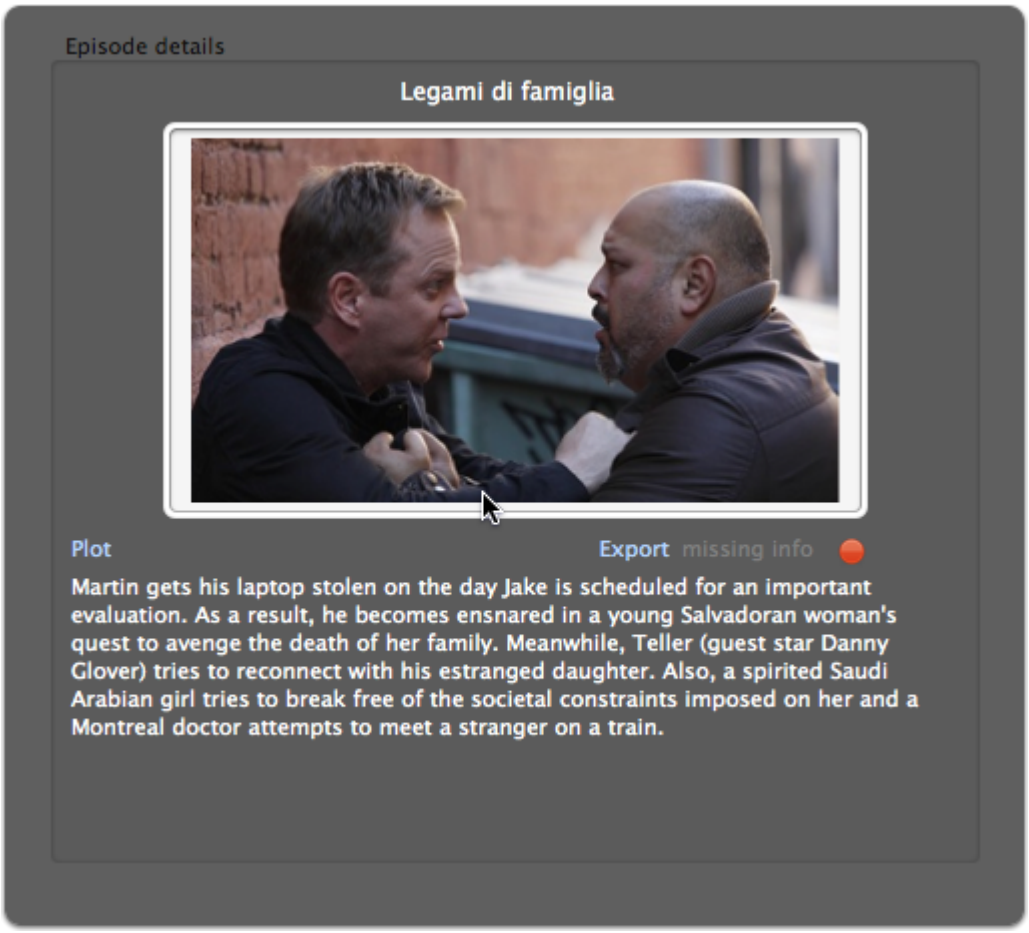
This function is still experimental, so use it with care!!! In any case nothing will be deleted or modified, so your original files will be safe...

While you're here, take note of the path field: this time is green colored, because this path is actually mounted on the computer where the screenshot was taken.



TV Series - Episode details

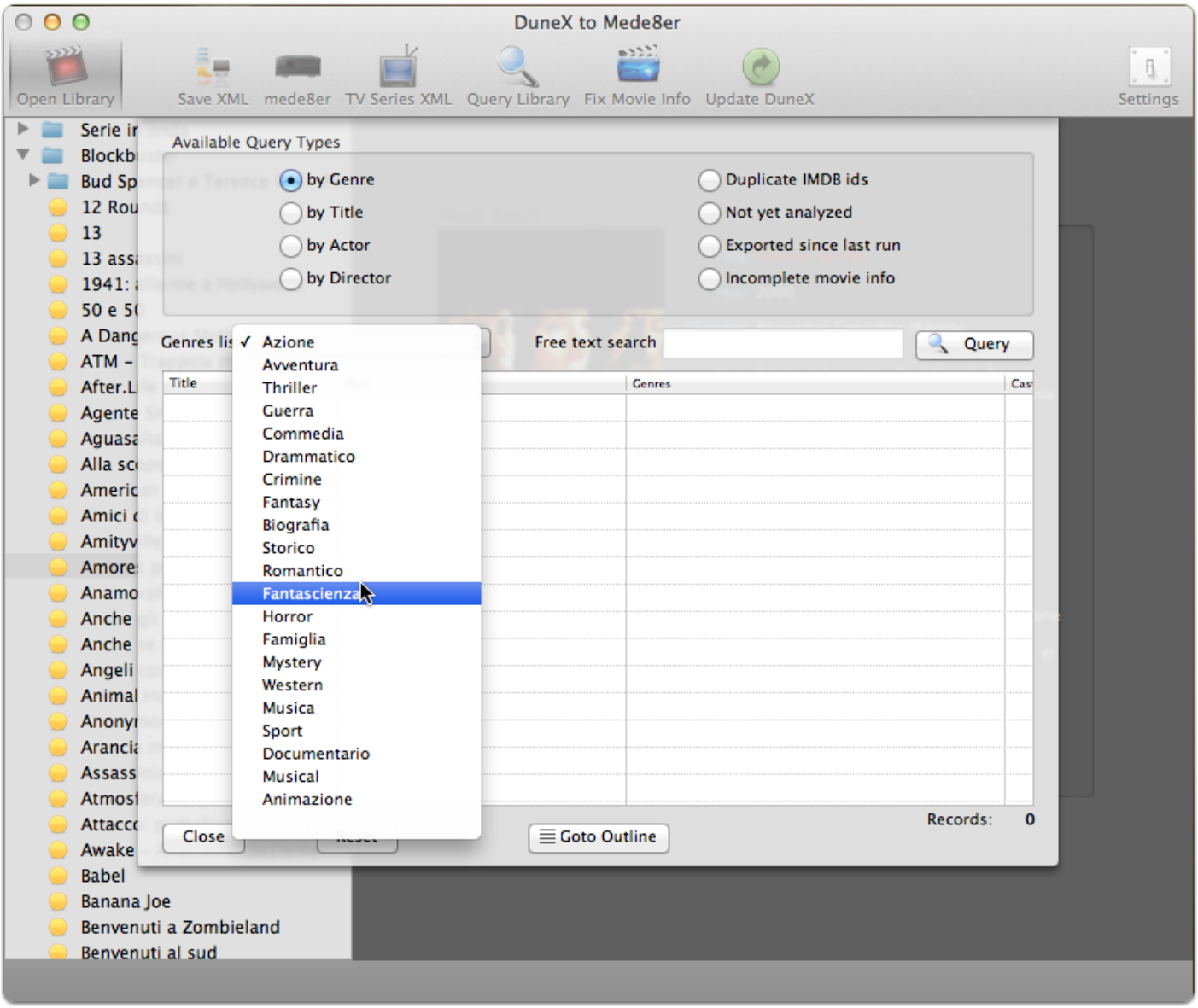
Here you can see the episode detail view.
Only basic informations such as plot and title are shown, along with export date and status.



Library Query *NEW*

Imagine you're dealing with a huge and complex library: tracking your movies, their position and their status, it is not an easy task to accomplish.
Starting with version 1.4, DuneX2Mede8er offers you the chance to **query your library** and easily manage the resulting items. You can search for:

- Genres (or categories), selecting from a drop down menu compiled using the categories used by your movies and not some unuseful standard set
- Titles, cast and directors, using free text, case-insensitive, text searching with automatic wildcard
- Duplicated IMDB Ids: get rid of those duplicated movies scattered all around your library
- Movies that need analysis by DuneX
- Movies with incomplete info (spot, actors, directors...) so you can use DuneX2Mede8er to fix the missing info before writing your precious XML files
- Items that you exported from DuneX since the last time you ran DuneX2Mede8er: all your new releases at a glance!



Library Query - perform queries

Querying the library is simply a matter of choosing the query type, selecting parameter if required, and clicking on the **Query** button.
The queries that need a parameter are listed on the left, while those on the right are ready to be executed as is.

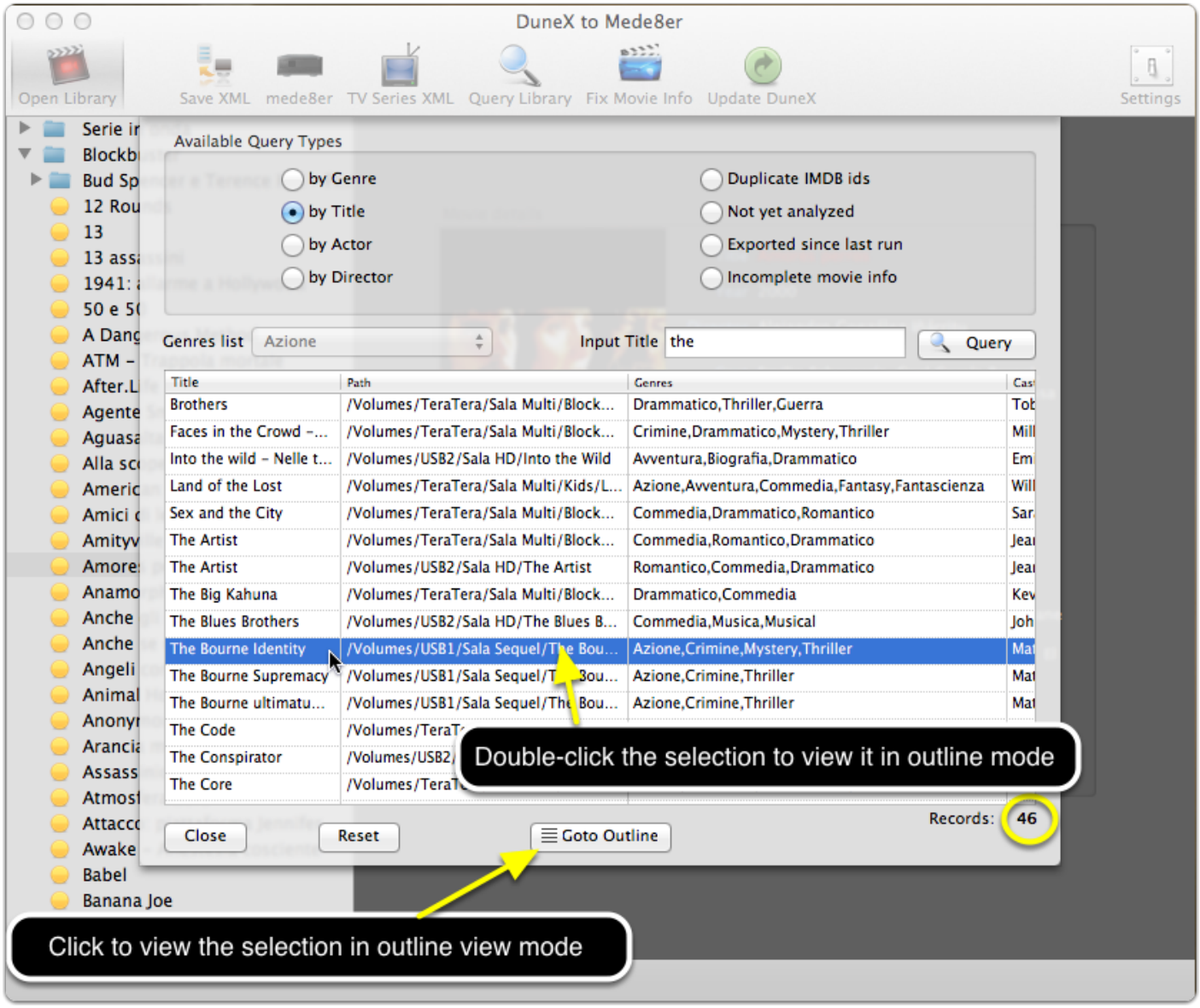
Once executed, the query produces its results in the form of a table whose columns are:

- **Title**
- **Path**
- **Genres**
- **Cast**

You will also find the count of the resulting items In the lower right corner of the table.

Selecting a row a clicking on **Goto Outline** will take you to the outline mode with the selected item highlighted in movie details view. You can achieve the same result by double-clicking on a single row.

Clicking on **Reset** will clear the result table and the parameter field; also the query selection will reset to the default choice (by Genre).
The **Close** button will dispose of the query window, taking you back to the outline view without affecting the currently selected item (movie or folder).

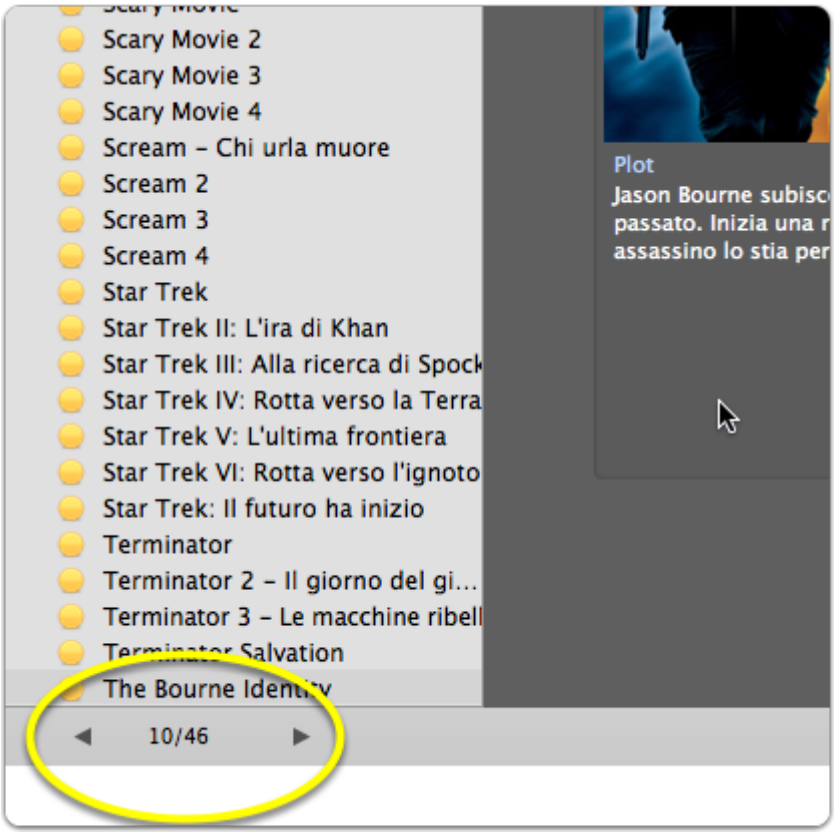

DuneX to Mede8er
Open Library
Save XML
mede8er
TV Series XML
Query Library
Fix Movie Info
Update DuneX
Settings
Available Query Types
by Genre
by Title
by Actor
by Director
Duplicate IMDB ids
Not yet analyzed
Exported since last run
Incomplete movie info
Genres list
Azione
Input Title
the
Query
Title
Path
Genres
Brothers
/Volumes/TeraTera/Sala Multi/Block...
Drammatico,Thriller,Guerra
Faces in the Crowd -...
/Volumes/TeraTera/Sala Multi/Block...
Crimine,Drammatico,Mystery,Thriller
Into the wild - Nelle t...
/Volumes/USB2/Sala HD/Into the Wild
Avventura,Biografia,Drammatico
Land of the Lost
/Volumes/TeraTera/Sala Multi/Kids/L...
Azione,Avventura,Commedia,Fantasy,Fantascienza
Sex and the City
/Volumes/TeraTera/Sala Multi/Block...
Commedia,Drammatico,Romantico
The Artist
/Volumes/TeraTera/Sala Multi/Block...
Commedia,Romantico,Drammatico
The Artist
/Volumes/USB2/Sala HD/The Artist
Romantico,Commedia,Drammatico
The Big Kahuna
/Volumes/TeraTera/Sala Multi/Block...
Drammatico,Commedia
The Blues Brothers
/Volumes/USB2/Sala HD/The Blues B...
Commedia,Musica,Musical
The Bourne Identity
/Volumes/USB1/Sala Sequel/The Bou...
Azione,Crimine,Mystery,Thriller
The Bourne Supremacy
/Volumes/USB1/Sala Sequel/T Bou...
Azione,Crimine,Thriller
The Bourne ultimatu...
/Volumes/USB1/Sala Sequel/Th Bou...
Azione,Crimine,Thriller
The Code
The Conspirator
The Core
Records:
46
Close
Reset
Goto Outline
Double-click the selection to view it in outline mode
Click to view the selection in outline view mode
Serie ir
Blockb
Bud Sp
12 Rou
13
13 ass
1941:
50 e 5
A Dang
ATM -
After.L
Agente
Aguasa
Alla sc
Americ
Amici
Amityv
Amore
Anamo
Anche
Anche
Angeli
Animal
Anonyr
Arancia
Assass
Atmosf
Attacc
Awake
Babel
Banana Joe

Library Query - navigating the results

Once you've got back to outline view, either by clicking on the "**Goto Outline**" button or by **double-clicking on a selected item** in the Query window, you can use the highlighted controls to cycle through the items resulting from your query.
Each item will be highlighted in its position in the outline tree, automatically collapsing and expanding nodes as required and updating the contents of the movie/TV episode details panel.

Those controls will track your position inside the *result set* and will remember the content of the result set even you manually change focus in the outline tree; the controls will be cleared only if you click on the **Reset** button in the query window.

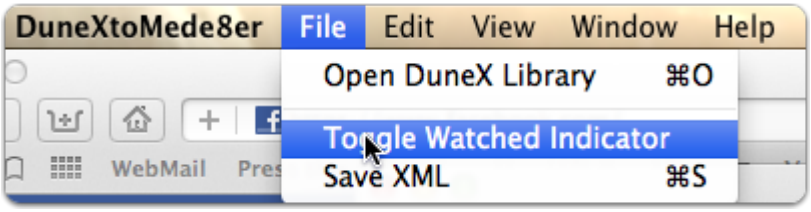
While in outline view, you can freely select any other item, movie or folder, regardless of it being a result item or not; you can go back to the whole result set by click on the Library Query button in the toolbar or continue cycling through the set by using the arrow-shaped controls.



Manage "watched" status

Version 1.3 adds a new menu item, under the File section, to easily toggle the watched indicator on and off, for each individual movie.
This function works only at movie level and is therefore not available when an entire folder is selected in outline view.

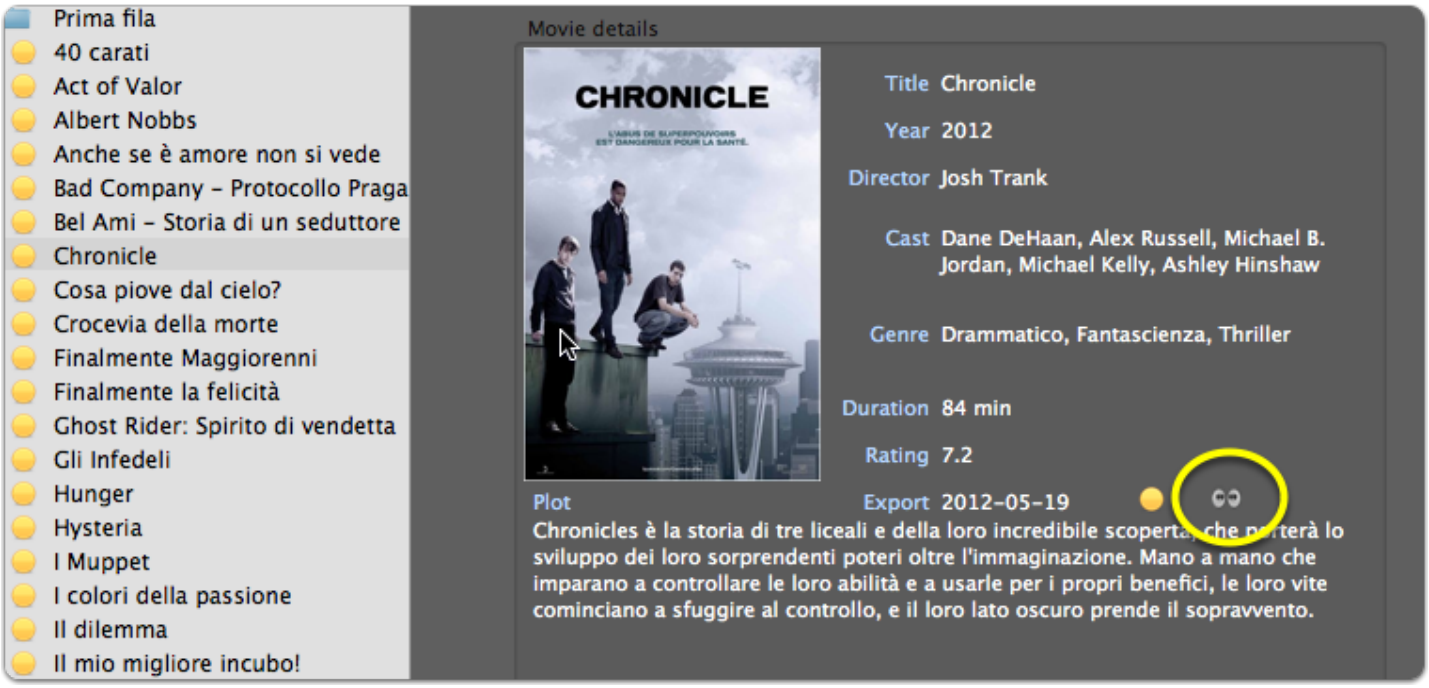
Warning: this function requires write access to the file system where the movie is located, as managing the watched status implies writing or deleting a particular file.



Check "watched" status

You can always check wether a movie has been "watched" looking for the "eye" icon in the movie details view, as you can see in the following example.

Warning: this function requires read-only (at least) access to the file system where the movie is located, as managing the watched status implies reading a particular file.

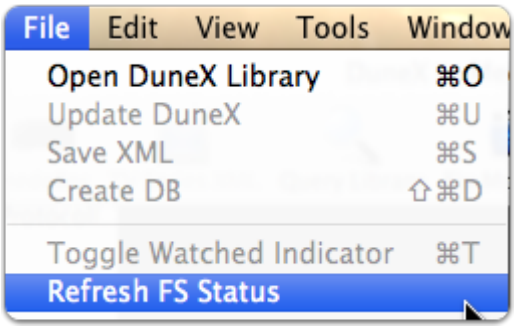


Refresh file system status*NEW*

You launch DuneX2Mede8er to update your library with some new release; so you load your 1000+ items library and start working, only to nootice that you forgot to mount the disks (local or network) where your movies are. You're stuck, 'cause DuneX2Mede8er cannot do its job...
Since file system status is normally checked when loading the library, you're required to quit the application, do the approriate mounting, launch once more DuneX2Mede8er and reload your library. What a waste of time!

This pain it's over: simply use the new function in file menu called "Refresh FS status" after mounting your disks (no need to quit the application), and DuneX2Mede8er will update its library reference so you can perform your due maintenance.

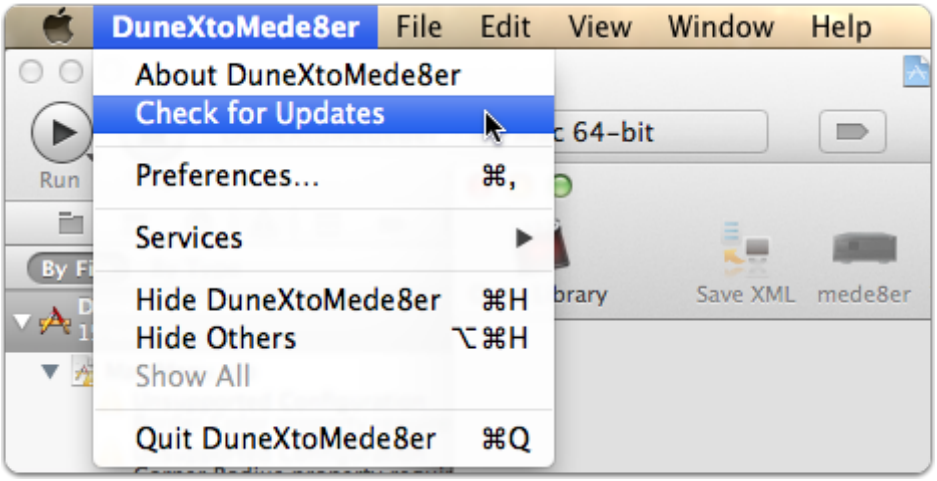
You can always check if a folder/movie is accessible or not, by looking at the color of its title in the detail panel: green is okay, red means "no way"!



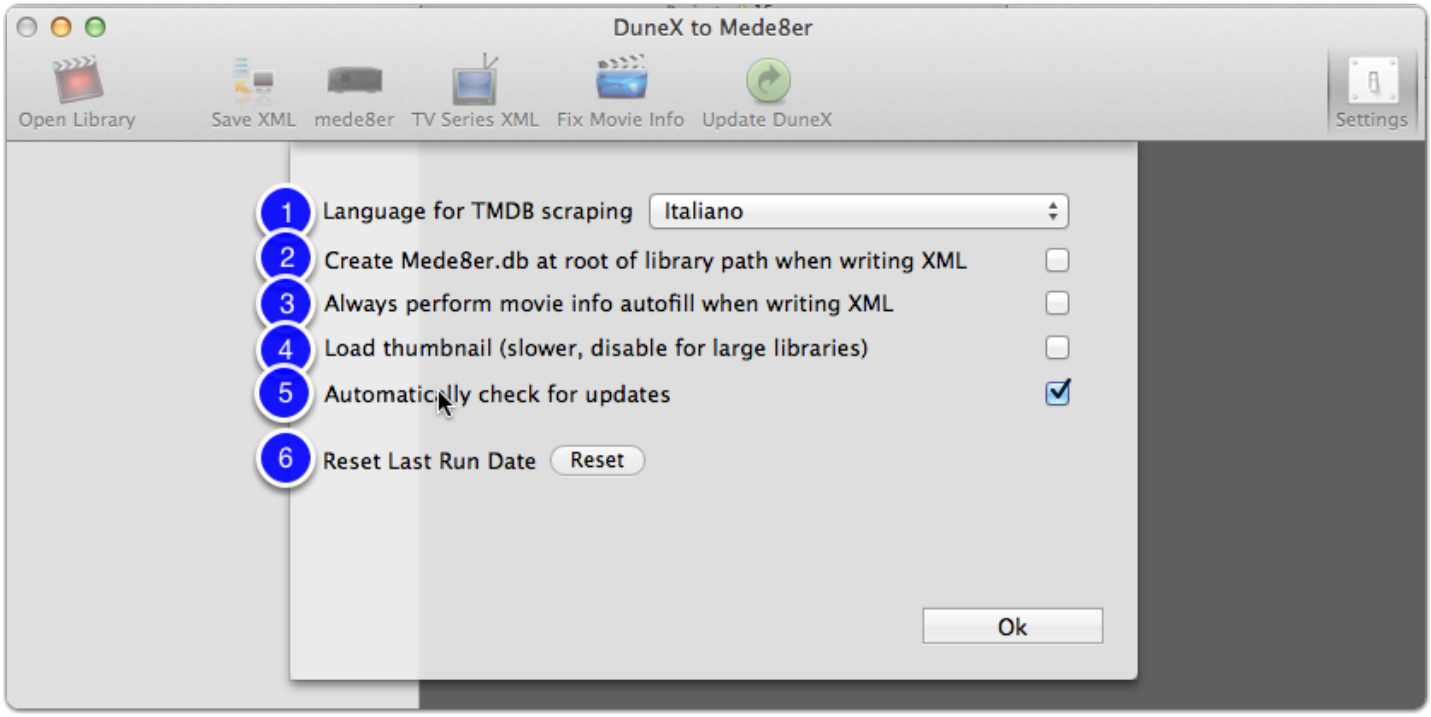
DuneX compatibility and automatic updates

Starting with version 1.3, DuneX2Mede8er is compatible with the soon-to-be-released version 0.9 of *DuneX*; *DuneX* has undergone a lot of changes and I made every effort possibile to make *DuneX2Mede8er* work with this new version while retaining backward compatibility with the current stable version of DuneX.

Also version 1.3 introduces **automatic updates** through the use of the wonderful *Sparkle* framework (*http://sparkle.andymatuschak.org*). DuneX2Mede8er checks his home website (www.myrtaart.com) for an appcast XML which lists available updates along with a detailed changelog.
Checking is performed automatically if the relative setting is checked in the preferences panel, but can also be forced using the following menu item...



The Preferences panel

Here is a screenshot of the "*Settings*" panel:

1. Choose your preferred *language* for scraping with **TheMovieDB**
2. When checked, it creates automatically the **mede8er.db** whenever you perform the **Save XML** action on a library folder.
3. When checked, it searches automatically on **TMDB** for updated movie infos in order to fill the voids while writing the XML files for an entire folder
4. If checked it retrieves all the poster images while loading the library from file. This is not recommended for large libraries as it has an impact on loading time and RAM usage.
5. If checked, DuneX2Mede8er will check once in a day for updates; it needs an Internet connection to www.myrtaart.com
6. DuneX2Mede8er save the date when it was last used. This information is used to identify (by color) the status of each movie. You can reset the last run date back to **January, 1st 1970** by clicking on the button *Reset*.