

# BIG HERO 6

**Directors:** Don Hall, Chris Williams

**Writers:** Jordan Roberts, Daniel Gerson

**Stars:** Ryan Potter, Scott Adsit, Jamie Chung

**Strength:** Beautiful animation and character development, family entertainment

**Weakness:** Predictable story

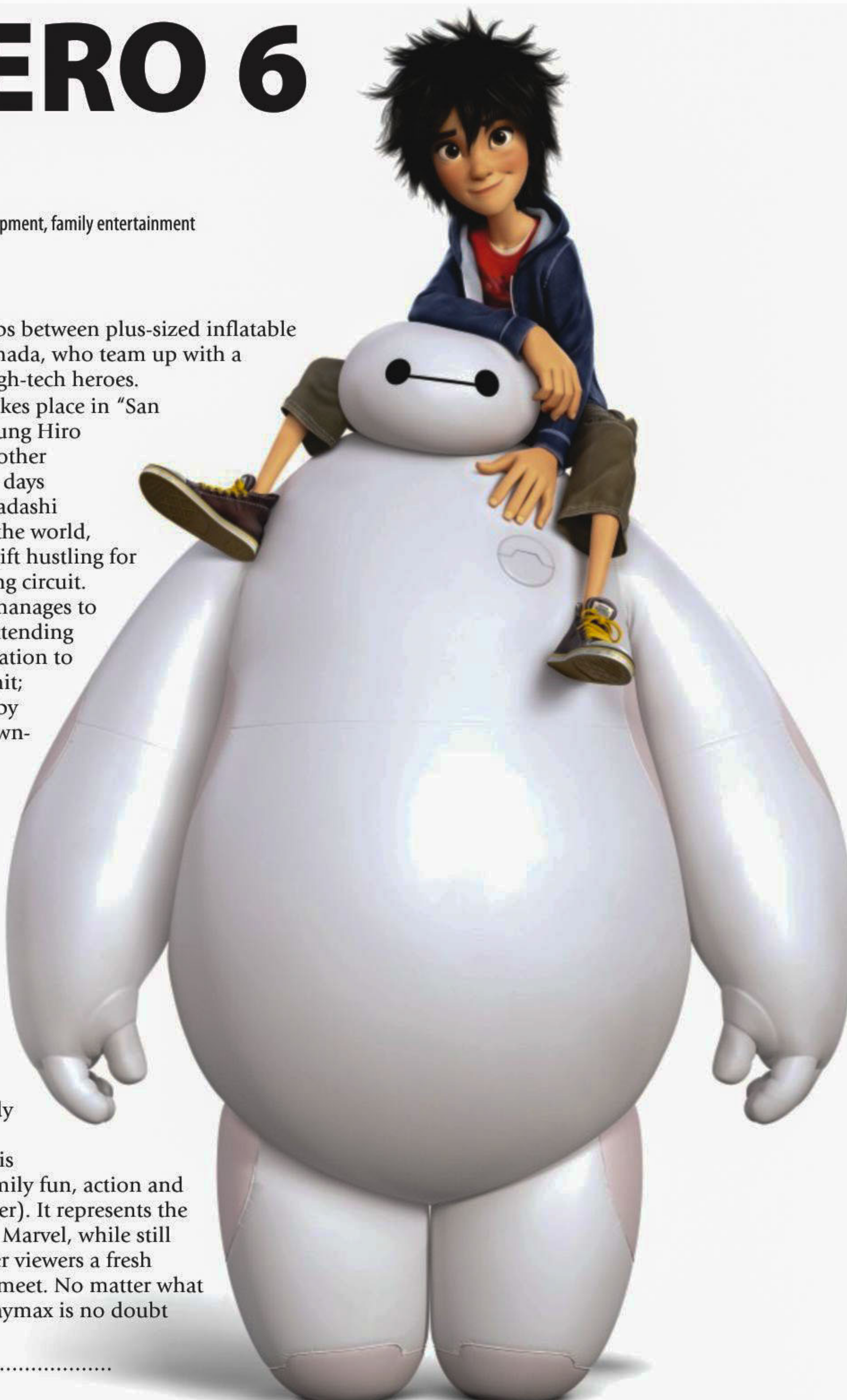
**Runtime:** 102 minutes

**Rating:** 3.5/5

**PLOT:** The special bond that develops between plus-sized inflatable robot Baymax, and prodigy Hiro Hamada, who team up with a group of friends to form a band of high-tech heroes.

**REVIEW:** The story of Big Hero 6 takes place in "San Fransokyo," a futuristic city where young Hiro Hamada (Ryan Potter) and his big brother Tadashi (Daniel Henney) spend their days inventing advanced robotics. While Tadashi works on robots that can help better the world, Hiro, a child prodigy, squanders his gift hustling for cash in the underground robot fighting circuit. Things change when Tadashi finally manages to inspire Hiro towards a greater goal: attending the robotics university. Hiro's presentation to the school turns out to be a massive hit; but that joy is immediately followed by Tadashi's death. Hiro's life takes a downward spiral – until he meets Baymax (Scott Adsit), the inflatable health care robot Tadashi created. The duo stumbles onto the plot of a mysterious villain, who may or may not be responsible for Tadashi's death. Cue in action, adventure and comedy – all delivered with a lot of heart. In terms of visual design, action choreography and sci-fi tech, Big Hero 6 is a feast for the eyes that outclasses nearly every other animated film to come along in the last few years. There is also some great visual and physical comedy – the latter of which almost entirely comes from plus-sized Baymax and his unique body design. Big Hero 6 is family fun, action and adventure suited for any age (or gender). It represents the high potential of mixing Disney with Marvel, while still doing enough of its own thing to offer viewers a fresh journey and interesting characters to meet. No matter what the reception of the film, Hiro and Baymax is no doubt here to stay.

Reviewed by ZAKIR MUSHTAQUE



# Monty Python and the Holy Grail (1975)

**Directors:** Terry Gilliam, Terry Jones

**Writers:** Graham Chapman, John Cleese, Eric Idle, Terry Gilliam, Terry Jones, Michael Palin

**Cast:** John Cleese, Eric Idle, Graham Chapman, Michael Palin, Terry Jones

**Runtime:** 91 minutes

**PLOT:** The not so brave King Arthur and his knights embark on a search for the Grail, encountering many many silly obstacles.

**REVIEW:** In 1975, when the film reached theaters, Monty Python had a cult following. Several Python moments come from the film such as "The Lumberjack Song", "No one expects the Spanish Inquisition!", "Knights of the Round Table" and "The Ballad of Sir Robin". There are silly walks, people singing about the virtues of Spam, at one point we see a group of medieval peasants bringing out the dead and be repressed, a black knight who doesn't know the



meaning of "quit", a taunting Frenchman, the knights who say "Ni", a bunny with a nasty appetite, and a gatekeeper who has three tricky questions to ask.

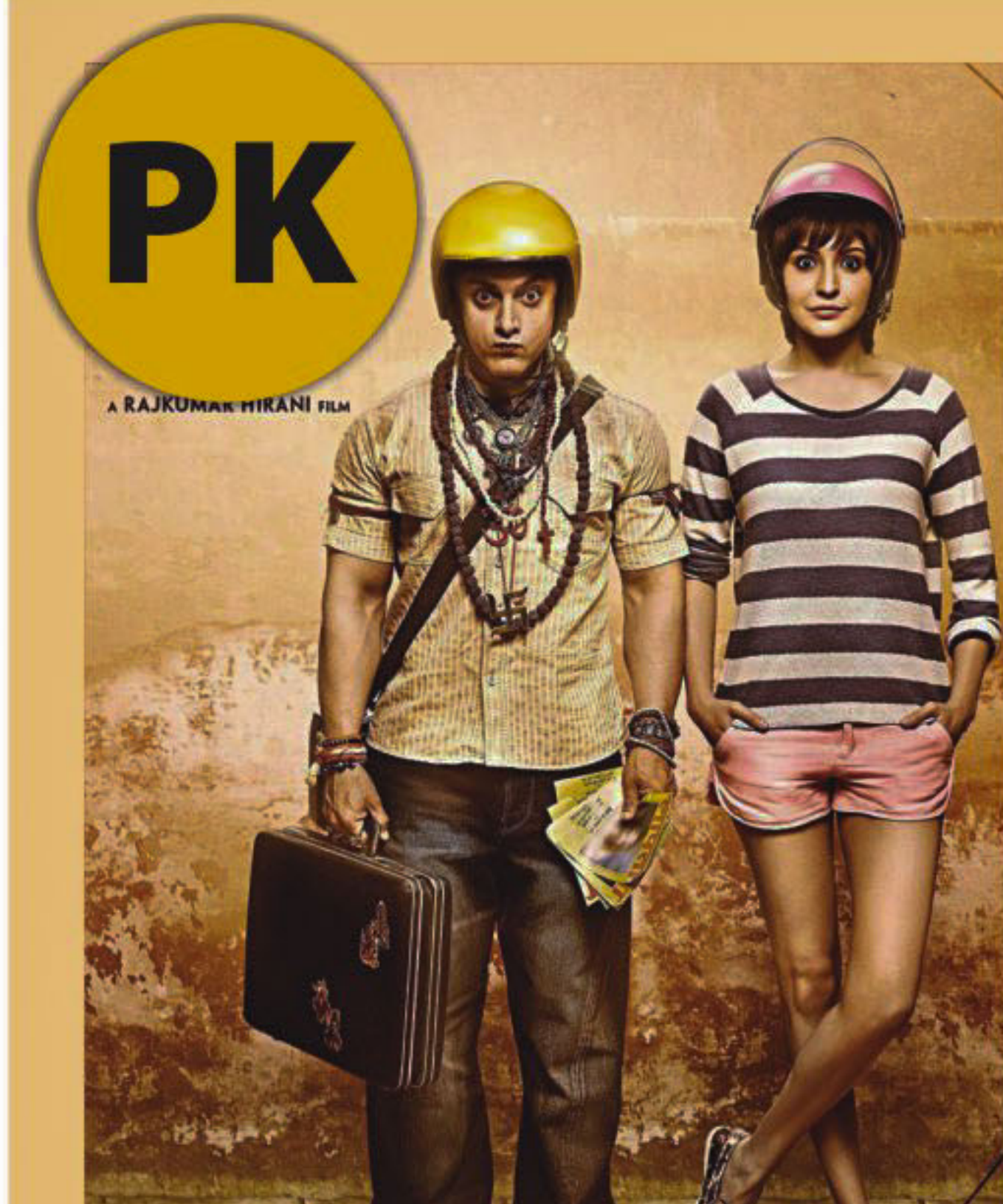
The movie starts out with King Arthur, seeking knights for Camelot. He finds many, including Sir Galahad (Michael Palin), Sir Lancelot (John Cleese), Sir

Bedevere (Terry Jones), and Sir Robin (Eric Idle). They pretend to ride on horses while their servants bang coconuts to make the sound of horse's hooves. The knights satirize witch trials and the black plague, come to Camelot, but after a quick song and dance they decide not to go there. While walking away, God come tells them to find the Holy Grail. They agree and begin their search. Throughout their search they meet interesting people and knights along the way.

The film is a personal favorite of mine for its unorthodox and ever so silly humor. Although I never watched a single Monty Python skit before the film, it got me hooked. In my eyes and in the eyes of the world, it became an instant classic, a category it most definitely belongs to.

Reviewed by WALEED K. RAJAMIYA

## MOVIE REVIEW



**Director:** Rajkumar Hirani

**Casts:** Aamir Khan, Anushka Sharma, Boman Irani, Saurabh Shukla, Sushant Singh Rajput and Sanjay Dutt

**Runtime:** 150 minutes

**Strength:** Aamir Khan's performance deserves great respect

**Weakness:** a bit lengthy

**Rating:** 4/5

**PLOT:** A stranger's childlike curiosity and world-view challenges people's long-held notions, making friends of some and foes of others.

**REVIEW:** PK, buoyed by a magnificent script and outstanding acting all around, is an uplifting fantasy that springs a surprise at every turn but never overplays its hand. It comes as close to storytelling perfection as any mainstream Hindi movie has done in living memory.

This is an unlikely saga of an alien who lands in the desert completely naked like a new-born baby and then proceeds to acquire the ways of human adults in a bid to survive in a hostile environment. His fate hinges on whether he can regain a stolen gadget that he needs in order to return to his home light years away and cling on to his purity as his brushes with mankind becomes increasingly hazardous.

Rajkumar Hirani's first film in five years is a warm, funny and piercingly provocative satire that should blow the blues away. The five-year hiatus between 3 Idiots and this film has clearly served them well. The screenwriters have worked a delicately crafted love story into the taut tapestry of PK, thereby lending it an emotional dimension that usually eludes a high-minded satire.

PK is propelled primarily by Aamir Khan's delightfully droll superstar turn as a nameless seer from outer space who is stranded on Planet Earth - in Rajasthan and Delhi to be precise.

P.K. is dialectic on religion on the big screen, without much of the splendor of cinematic technique. It is rooted in dialogue, scene and character, like Hirani's other films. But the director's biggest feat is the idea, its effortless translation and its politics. Someone in the broad-stroke canvas of populist Hindi cinema has finally spoken on behalf of the agnostic. Given the news headlines, how much more relevant can that get? Do watch out for Ranbir Kapoor - a little icing on a cake so appetizing that it will have you clamoring for more.