

ANIME REVIEW

DRAGON BALL'S HEIR

TAIMUR RAHMAN

One Punch Man was a fairly unknown series until the anime was released. It was originally a webcomic that started way back in 2009. The webcomic rapidly gained popularity and was later adapted into a well-drawn manga for Shonen Jump. Once the anime came out this October, it has been the talk of many.

One Punch Man revolves around Saitama, a man who can destroy everything with one punch. It may seem odd for a protagonist to be super-powerful, since we've grown used to the same formula of the protagonist aspiring to be strong. Other than Saitama, the rest of the cast are unique in their own right. I particularly like how characters all have their ranks in terms of how strong they are and how they are based off of typical anime archetypes. Really takes you back.

The anime looks beautiful. It absolutely fleshes out the manga in colour and



jaw-breaking animation. It retains its humour and has solid fight scenes. The art style is definitely worth mentioning. I believe the voice acting and soundtrack

lacks impact, but that's just the vibe they want to set. Everything about Saitama screams average.

One Punch Man is a nostalgic flashback

to when we used to get adrenaline rushes from watching Goku or Superman beat up bad guys. You can find hints of Digimon from its dynamic art and action sequences. One Punch Man managed to recreate the old days with an incredibly fresh outlook.

I can't say that the story is anything special. Granted, it is unique, but nothing else. And as for the concept itself, I'm unsure on how long they can drag it before it gets stale. As for the anime, there's a lot to cover on the manga so it will remain fresh for a long time.

Verdict: One Punch Man is pretty funny, has amazing action scenes and characters.

It is the best anime to come out in late 2015. It is also the anime that have Dragon Ball Z fanboys worked up on who's the strongest fictional character.

*Taimur Rahman is a man of few words. He can be reached at taimurrahman98@gmail.com*

TV SHOW REVIEW

THE MARVEL CINEMATIC UNIVERSE'S MASTERSTROKE



AANILA KISHWAR TARANNUM

A few months ago I found out from a Facebook group that Jesse Pinkman's girlfriend and the Tenth Doctor were to star in a Marvel TV show together, and ever since then I had been hyped to watch Jessica Jones; despite never having been too interested in movies and series based on superheroes. Last week I realized that the only way I could avoid getting spoilers from the million Tumblr posts about Jessica Jones was to finally watch it, and I was not at all disappointed.

Jones is a "retired" superhero working as a private investigator, and the first episode starts off with her getting a case that forces her to confront the demons in her past. This episode was excellent, and I was hooked from the start. As a devoted Whovian, the main attraction for me before I started watching this show was David Tennant, and he exceeded all my expectations. Tennant was brilliant in the role even though I thought it would break my heart to see my beloved Tenth Doctor as the villainous Killgrave.

This was certainly a role that pop culture nerds will gush about for a long time.

I hadn't thought that Krysten Ritter would be equally good at playing the protagonist, and I am glad she proved that wrong. The supporting cast matched Tennant and Ritter's performances and basically, brilliant acting all around. The show is fairly well paced, although I thought the storyline was a bit stretched for 13 episodes. The plot explores each character's background substantially and has excellent character development.

The most interesting thing about Jessica Jones is that from the very first episode, it

holds quite a lot of trigger warnings; the most evocative of those is the one about rape. The essence of this show, after all, is that Jessica Jones tries to overcome the trauma of getting raped and tries to defeat her rapist. I haven't watched other Marvel shows, but from what I've heard, Jessica Jones is darker and has more adult content than any other Marvel TV series. It contains violence and a considerable amount of blood and gore. The fight sequences are well choreographed but I felt there were a few scenes where the fights were unnecessarily long and those are what dragged the season. What I really appreciated is the way this series highlighted issues such as PTSD, child abuse and eating disorders.

Jessica Jones is a show dominated by strong female characters, and that is very impressive and refreshing for the viewers. Rachael Taylor (as Trish Walker) specifically was excellent among the supporting actors. The one problem I have with the story is that the character of Luke Cage (Jessica's love interest, played by Mike Colter) wasn't explored in more detail. But then I found out that he's getting a separate series next year, so that settles this issue.

Jessica Jones is definitely a masterstroke from the Marvel Cinematic Universe. Especially for all the Whovians out there; you're missing out on Tennant's extraordinary role if you don't watch this. Nail-biting suspense and excellent casting—this is a show you must binge-watch as soon as you get the time.

*Aanila Kishwar Tarannum started hating on everything the moment she realized why her parents put so many As in her name: because they knew her transcript would be devoid of any vowels. Find out about her relentless rants on facebook.com/Aanial.*