



ALLEGIANT

Director: Robert Schwentke
Writers: Noah Oppenheim, Adam Cooper
Stars: Shailene Woodley, Theo James, Naomi Watts, Jeff Daniels, Octavia Spencer
Runtime: 121 mins
Strength: Production Design, Soundtrack
Weakness: Multiple Plot Holes, Acting
Rating: 2.5/5

PLOT: After the ground-breaking revelations of *Insurgent*, Tris must escape with Four beyond the wall that encircles Chicago, to finally discover the shocking

truth of the world surrounding them.
REVIEW: The walled, post-apocalyptic city of Chicago is starting to tear crack after the faction system, which kept the populace in control, was torn down. From this event, the two leaders, Evelyn and Johanna Reyes, appear to dispense their own form of justice with mob trials. Meanwhile, Tris and Four continue their attempt to make it over the wall to contact the real founders of the city. They successfully make it and the story then moves to a complete direction.

The third instalment of the *Divergent*

series is unreasonably sombre, and more targeted at the youth. A series that began as an intriguing sci-fi fantasia, about a dystopian society broken into rival segments defined by dominant personality, has transformed into a plot that loses its roots and focuses more on violence. There are a couple of well-shot, exciting action scenes but the overall effect is a mismatch in terms of plot and character relationship. The plot is needlessly complex and there comes a point where you stop caring about the characters.

The soundtrack of this film was the

redeeming factor. Joseph Trapanese's soundtracks were well paced and well-synchronised with the rhythm of the film. "Chase Through Fringe" in particular was a high adrenaline track that really kept the movie going.

Even though *Allegiant* is targeted at the youth, it is most likely to appeal to only hardcore fans of the series. With the amount of references to previous films, it is likely that an average viewer will give up on the whole story.

Reviewed by Syed Ahnaf Sadeed



Rocky Handsome

Director: Nishikant Kamat
Writers: Ritesh Shah
Stars: John Abraham, Shruti Haasan, Nishikant Kamat
Strength: Fight scenes
Weakness: Story
Runtime: 126 min
Rating: 2.5/5

PLOT: The journey of a vengeful man who embarks on a murderous rampage when the only person he cares about is kidnapped and taken away from him.

REVIEW: Infamously known as Handsome (John Abraham) and living a lonely life in Goa, the story revolves around Rocky's neighbour, an 8 year old girl, who lives with her drug abusive mother. The girl likes to spend time with Rocky but he is too dogged to be delightful. One day, her mother Anna (Nathalia Kaur) steals drugs from the local mafia

and eventually gets kidnapped for the dreadful delinquency, along with her daughter. That's when Rocky embarks on a mission to rescue the girl.

The script doesn't highlight the strong connection between Rocky and the girl, thus, the urge to fight for her does not seem very convincing. Another poor phase of the script is its villains who seem excessively energetic and irritating. Equipped with his buffed physique, John, a hushed hero whose only job is to fight and kill the bad guys, complimented the character well. The action packed fight scenes were commendable and dialogue delivery was apt. The soul of the movie, however, is the charming 8 year old, Diya Chalwad. Undoubtedly, her acting along with the innocence and cuteness will have the audience empathising.

Reviewed by Minam Haque

CLASSIC REVIEW

APOCALYPSE NOW (1979)

Director: Francis Ford Coppola
Writers: John Milius, Francis Ford Coppola
Stars: Martin Sheen, Marlon Brando, Robert Duvall
Runtime: 153 minutes

PLOT: During the Vietnam War, Captain Willard is sent on a dangerous mission into Cambodia to assassinate a renegade colonel who has set himself up as a god among a local tribe.

REVIEW: Francis Coppola's *Apocalypse Now* lives up to its grand title, disclosing not only the various faces of war but also the contradictions between excitement and boredom, terror and pity, brutality and beauty. Its epiphanies would do credit to Federico Fellini, who is indirectly quoted at one point.

The major part of the film is occupied with Willard's adventures as he travels in a small patrol boat provided by the Army. These sequences are often spellbinding, none more so than one in which Willard and his companions are forced to observe an assault on a Vietcong village by American fighter planes and helicopters. With the exception of Mr.

Brando, who has no role to act, the actors are superlatively right, beginning with Mr. Duvall and Mr. Sheen, and including Frederic Forrest, Albert Hall, Larry Fishburne, and Sam Bottoms, who play the members of the patrol boat's crew. Vittorio Storaro, who photographed *Last Tango in Paris*, among other fine films, is responsible for the extraordinary camerawork that almost, but not quite, saves *Apocalypse Now* from its profoundly anticlimactic intellectual muddle.

Reviewed by Mohaiminul Islam

