



FOX STAR STUDIOS PRESENTS
A CLEAN SLATE FILMS PRODUCTION

Phillauri

Director: Anshai Lal
Screenplay: Anvita Dutt
Cast: Anushka Sharma, Diljit Dosanjh, Suraj Sharma, Mehreen Pirzada
Strength: Storyline, Acting
Weakness: Cinematography
Runtime: 130min
Rating: 7/10

PLOT: The typical Punjabi 'munda' Karan returns from Canada to marry his childhood sweetheart Anu. However, due to being born under an unlucky star, he must first marry a tree to cleanse himself of his bad luck. He begrudgingly agrees

but the next morning he finds out that instead of marrying the tree, he has married the ghost of Shashi who used to reside on that tree. Since that tree has been cut off, Shashi can't return to the tree and thus, hovers around Karan all day long. In the midst of all the wedding festivities, Karan and his fiance Anu try to figure out the reason behind why Shashi hasn't been able to leave this world after death and thus, she starts the tale of her own love story nearly a century ago.
REVIEW: "Phillauri" is the love story of two couples set in two different centuries

nearly a hundred years apart. The movie starts off with a very typical Punjabi couple getting married after dating for nearly a decade with the support of their extremely meddling but loving family. Once Shashi's character is introduced, the movie seems to seamlessly transition from one love story to another in two different centuries. The acting of all the cast members is worth mentioning. Every cast member seems to blend in their character really well while Anushka Sharma's acting steals everyone's attention. She proves yet again that she not the

typical actress to be cast in a Bollywood Masala movie with a shelf life that expires after 30. She is definitely here to stay and make a difference while doing so. The only downside of the movie is the cinematography. Although, the storyline is very different and strong, most of the scenes felt a bit too long and at times will make the audience impatient. However, for those looking for a break from all the Tamil remakes, "Phillauri" is definitely worth a watch.

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Reviewed by Amira Amin

LIFE

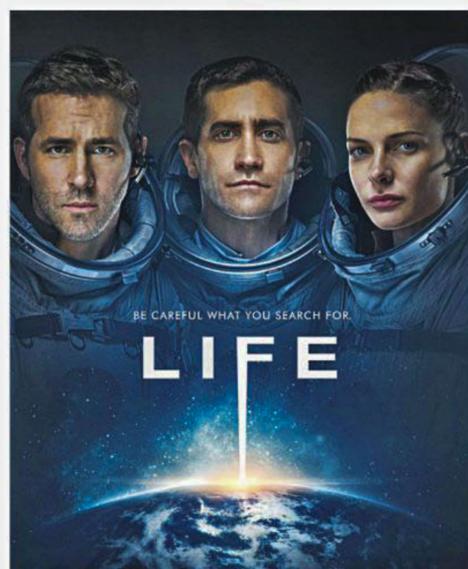
Director: Daniel Espinosa
Screenplay: Rhett Reese, Paul Wernick
Cast: Jake Gyllenhaal, Ryan Reynolds, Rebecca Ferguson
Strength: Acting
Weakness: Plot
Runtime: 103 min
Review: 6.5/10

PLOT: Astronauts (Jake Gyllenhaal, Rebecca Ferguson, Ryan Reynolds) aboard the International Space Station are about to make one of the most important discoveries in human history: the first evidence of extraterrestrial life on Mars. However, in the process they realize that they have encountered something more than they bargained for. The lifeform they discover turns out to be more intelligent than originally thought and end up being life-threatening. They must ensure that this life form in no way reaches Earth even if they have to sacrifice their own lives in order to do so.

REVIEW: With actors like Ryan Reynolds and Jake Gyllenhaal, the movie seems to have very promising elements. However, it just doesn't live up to its full potential. The main plot is already a cliché, one where a group of people are stuck in an enclosed space with a dangerous alien agent.

Even though the director has tried to make the story a bit different from the norm, it still remains quite easy to predict. The scariest part of the movie is perhaps the disturbing way in which the alien kills its preys. The development of the characters also doesn't do justice to the caliber of the actors. Nonetheless, despite the movie failing to stand out in its genre, it is still a good watch for those looking for a good scare.

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Reviewed by Amira Amin



RINGS



Director: F. Javier Gutiérrez
Cast: Matilda Lutz, Alex Roe, Johnny Galecki, Vincent D'Onofrio
Duration: 102min
Strength: Sequel of a popular movie
Weakness: Poor story development
Rating: 3/10

PLOT: High school sweethearts Julia (Matilda Lutz) and Holt (Alex Roe) become involved in a predicament regarding a cursed video, which leads to Holt going missing. Unwilling to lose her beloved, Julia watches the video, knowing that those who do so could be free of the curse. However, the couple soon come across the mysteries of a cursed death and find themselves trapped in a horrid cycle.
REVIEW: All horror fans know "The Ring" movie series, and admittedly, the first movie had the right amount of suspense

and horror which made it so enjoyable to watch. The sequel failed to maintain this by adapting a nonexclusive jumpscare horror fest. "Rings (2017)" does not have any of the masterful components that made the first movie great. Thus, we see yet another great film franchise completely destroyed by dreadful remakes.

A huge drawback was that, the movie's story made little to no sense, indicating bad writing and lack of insight from the producer and director. The concept is basically the same as the first movie, too, which means there is no new entertainment to be obtained from watching the sequel. The film is only recommended to the diehard fans of "The Ring" movies. Truth to be told, "Rings (2017)" is unjustifiably awful. It's not worth your money, time or effort.

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Reviewed by Shamma Shawki Arpita