



THE LEGO BATMAN MOVIE

Director: Chris McKay
Screenplay: Seth Grahame-Smith, Chris McKenna, Erik Sommers
Cast: Will Arnett, Zach Galifianakis, Michael Cera, Rosario Dawson, Ralph Fiennes
Strength: Parody, Action
Weakness: Confusing plot
Runtime: 104min
Rating: 7/10

PLOT: The greatest hero of Gotham City in the Lego World, Batman (Will Arnett), defends the city from all Bat-baddies. This time, he hurts the Joker (Zack Galifianakis) by saying that he means nothing to him and that he is not his greatest enemy. The standoffish behavior of Batman upsets the Joker and this induces him to take revenge. Even though the egomaniac superhero with 'nine packs in his body' always triumphs, he is a lonely man inside. This leads him to adopting his lovable sidekick Robin. Soon, big trouble soon stirs up as the Joker returns with the greatest evils of all times; Lord Voldemort, Medusa, Sauron, Gremlins, Godzilla and many more. To save the city, Batman gives up his lone vigilante act and recruits his allies: Robin, his loyal butler Alfred and a surprise addition, Batgirl.

REVIEW: The movie is filled with plenty of action

sequences and visual imageries to dazzle the audience. The sporadic comedies are absolutely hilarious and definitely act as any fanboy's delight. From the dysfunctional 'bromance' of Batman and Joker to the continual interpersonal disconnection of Robin and Batman, the movie has many parody-infested materials to entertain the audience all throughout the runtime. Even though it gets a bit heavy in the middle, the overall comedy genre makes the whole movie quite light and fun to watch. The numerous cameos are something to look forward to, but it does end up making the plot quite confusing. The climax of the movie includes appearance of famous characters popping out of nowhere, which make things funnier than usual, but again, damages the overall integrity of the plot. Making so many characters appear on the screen at the same time contributes to the confusion which the story steadily builds up. Nonetheless, watching these Lego pieces making cinematic movements is unexpectedly satisfying, and more so with many other surprise additions. If you love parodies, give this movie a watch. The intense 'lego' action definitely makes the movie worth watching.

Reviewed by Raisa Kabir

NOOR

Director: Sunhil Sippy
Screenplay: Althea Delmas Kaushal, Shikhaa Sharma, Sunhil Sippy, Saba Imtiaz
Cast: Sonakshi Sinha, Kanan Gill, Purab Kohli, Manish Chaudhary, Smita Tambe
Strength: Storyline, Cinematography, Acting
Weakness: Climax
Runtime: 116min
Rating: 6.5/10

PLOT: "Noor" is the story of a girl struggling to be a serious journalist while simultaneously trying to solve problems in her love life and trying to deal with weight issues.

REVIEW: "Noor", played by Sonakshi Sinha, is the girl next door that every girl can relate to. She is an independent, hard-working girl who is trying her hardest to succeed in her career. Although her dream is to be a serious journalist, she is stuck writing mediocre articles. Secretly, like most



girls, she is insecure about her weight. She also suffers from hangovers and always ends up as a third wheel to her friend's dates, while cursing her own love life. "Noor" is a film where we actually get to see Sonakshi act in a role which is very different from her previous ones.

The director does a great job at portraying a character of this generation which most others fail at. The story and the dialogues of the film are good, but when they come short, Sonakshi rises to the occasion. The main drawback of the film was that, although it shows many of the problems faced by this generation, it doesn't really offer a solution to it. Had the film provided a better climax, the film would have been a cult favorite for many. Despite that, the best part of the film was how it showed serious issues in a light-hearted manner while simultaneously maintaining the importance of the issue. "Noor" is a defining film in Sonakshi's career and definitely worth a watch for everyone.

Reviewed by Amira Amin

BEGUM JAAN

Director: Srijit Mukherji
Cast: Vidya Balan, Ila Arun, Naseeruddin Shah, Rajit Kapoor, Ashish Vidyarthi, Chunky Pandey
Strength: Acting, Cinematography, Music
Weakness: Overly dramatic
Runtime: 120min
Rating: 6/10

PLOT: "Begum Jaan" is a story set during the time of Indian independence. It's a story of a brothel which is run by Begum Jaan (Vidya Balan). The prostitutes of the brothel are protected by Begum Jaan in a love-and-hate type of relationship. One day, two officers (Ashish Vidyarthi and Rajit Kapoor) from Indian and Pakistan government comes up with an official order stating that the border line of India-Pakistan has to go through Begum Jaan's brothel. She and her associates would have to evacuate the brothel as a check-post is planned at the same place. This provokes Begum Jaan as she decides to



not evacuate her place and this leads to series of confined events.

REVIEW: "Begum Jaan" is Srijit Mukherji's remake of his own 2015 Bangla movie "Rajkahini" which had Rituparna

Sengupta in the title role. The Hindi version brings a lot of promise with exclusive setup and a multi-layered storyline. The location choices helped Mukherji in setting up the right surroundings. No houses

can be seen even in the long shots which gave Begum's brothel a weird balance of tranquility and disturbance in the atmosphere.

Vidya Balan is a powerhouse performer and remains the same throughout the movie. She was strong, infuriated and managed to pull off such a difficult role with comfort. Chunky Pandey looked frightening and played his wicked role perfectly. The other actors did a great job with their supporting roles. As far as songs go, "Aazaadiyan" by Sonu Nigam and Rahat Fateh Ali Khan followed by a remake version of "Woh Subah" by Arijit and Shreya was harmonic and went well with the effusion of the movie. The movie's ferocious display may appeal to some, but the majority might be put off by it. Despite that, watching this movie is sure to make a tormenting tremor last within everyone, for quite a while at that.

Reviewed by Sheikh Sayem Ahmed