

ANNABELLE CREATION

Director: David F. Sandberg

Producer: Peter Safran, James Wan

Cast: Stephanie Sigman, Talitha Bateman, Anthony LaPaglia, Miranda Otto

Runtime: 109min

Rating: 7/10

PLOT: A couple lamenting the demise of their little girl Annabelle adopts youngsters from an orphanage nearby. When Janice, a crippled kid, creeps into Annabelle's room and finds a possessed doll, terrifying things begin to happen to the people in the house. The family is soon threatened and victimized by the psychotic doll, which is revealed to have been created by Annabelle's father, Sam Mullins, a toymaker. Soon Janice is possessed by the doll and starts harming everyone in the house, leading to the horrific deaths of the Mullins.



REVIEW: David F. Sandberg, the director of the 2016 American horror movie Lights Out, has depicted himself as a fanatic of the Annabelle series and particularly of the first one due to its old-fashioned horror storyline. He was able to acknowledge how the story of Annabelle: Creation strayed from the main film, and allowed more inventive flexibility for himself by virtue of this movie's independent storyline.

Sandberg somehow managed to make this prequel better than the last one by portraying it as a gore film which showed more graphic violence and chilling music. The alarming music was just enough to create a shivering and thrilling experience for the audience. However, Annabelle: Creation seemed to rely upon strain and anticipation rather than unsurprising, shabby bounce alarms. There is this never-ending suspense throughout the movie and the Annabelle doll seemed more conceivable as a kid's toy due to the mollification of some of Annabelle's elements. If you're into good quality horror movies, Annabelle: Creation is a must watch.

Reviewed by Rushabah Tabassum

The Emoji Movie

Director: Tony Leondis

Screenplay: Tony Leondis, Eric Siegel, Mike White

Starring: T. J. Miller, Maya Rudolph, Patrick Stewart

Weakness: Storyline, Animation

Duration: 86min

Rating: 1.5/10

PLOT: Inside each smartphone there exist icons which denote expressions of various emotions. These icons, usually in the form of faces, are called Emojis, and the movie centers around a problem faced by the main character Gene, the Meh Emoji. Apparently, Gene has all the expressions of the faces of happiness or sadness, which is an impossible occurrence in the world of Emojis. Thus, Gene partners up with the Emoji Jailbreak and the Hand Emoji, Hi-5, to reach the source cloud which will reveal Gene's true expression. However, the villain Smiler is after them to delete Gene from the Emoji world. **REVIEW:** The Emoji Movie, as the name clearly points out, is a movie about the emojis any smartphone users are familiar with. This movie ranks among the lowest rated films of all time, and none of the elements; the characters, the storyline or the overall



concept, is something that can be claimed to be remotely original. The overall story is extremely bad, it is better to say that it does not have any proper plot. Most of the scenes were predictable, and served as only advertisements of different brands, with little to no plot development purpose. The animation quality was poor and the soundtracks were quite annoying.

The story revolves around the Meh Emoji named Gene, voiced by T.J. Miller, who is in a constant struggle to say "meh", as he is capable of expressing other emotions as well. This makes Smiler the dictator want to delete Gene from existence because he thinks Gene is ruining the balance of their world. In this film, T.J. Miller tries to be a comedian but he miserably fails to make his performance fun. The Emoji Movie tries to give a positive message on the importance of being true to yourself and the value of honesty and teamwork, but unfortunately they could not convey the message properly due to the writing quality. Children might like the colorfully animated characters but the film never gets enjoyable enough for anyone older. The Emoji Movie is a waste of time and is definitely not worth watching.

Reviewed by Saqiba Nawshin Junnurine

CLASSIC FILM

THE SHINING (1980)

Director: Stanley Kubrick

Screenplay: Stanley Kubrick, Stephen King, Diane Johnson

Cast: Jack Nicholson, Shelley Duvall, Scatman Crothers, Danny Lloyd

Duration: 144min

PLOT: Jack is a struggling alcoholic. He is a writer and a teacher. He goes to an isolated hotel as a caretaker in the heart of winter. The hotel has a dark past and contains dark spirits. The spirits start to possess Jack and he slowly turns insane. Alongside, his son Danny develops a psychic ability called the Shining that allows him to see spirits.

REVIEW: Directed by Stanley Kubrick, The Shining is a masterpiece of a horror film. The movie is an adaptation of the novel of the same name published in 1977, by the American author Stephen King. It is said that even now, King remains disappointed with the adaptation.

The movie mainly takes place in a fictional overlook hotel. The plot centers around Jack Torrance, his wife Wendy and his 5-year old son Danny. Three-time Oscar winner Jack Nicholson is brilliant in this movie and plays the role perfectly. It is hard to imagine anyone else doing a better job. From the beginning to the end, the film is captivating all throughout. It has both comedy and horror flick. Stanley Kubrick creates an unbearable sense of paranoia and terror with his master direction; the very creepy atmosphere enhanced by great



camerawork. The creepy background music is very effective in setting the mood. When the film progresses, the mood gets more intense, leading to an amazing conclusion that does the setting justice. The Shining is an amazing achievement in the art of horror. Even after thirty-seven years since its release, this movie remains to be a true classic in horror cinema. Watching it is an incredibly creepy yet exhilarating experience.

Reviewed by Saqiba Nawshin Junnurine