

Justice League

Director: Zack Snyder

Screenplay: Chris Terrio, Joss Whedon

Starring: Ben Affleck, Henry Cavill, Gal Gadot, Ezra Miller, Jason Momoa

Strength: Chemistry

Weakness: Storyline, Direction, Characters

Runtime: 120min

Rating: 6/10

PLOT: In Gotham City, Batman comes across alien creatures that show potential to be a threat to humanity. Meanwhile, in Themyscira, Amazons go head-to-head against the reformed villain Steppenwolf who has come back to Earth to find the three "mother boxes". Bruce Wayne enrolls Wonder Woman in enlisting a team of superheroes to stop Steppenwolf and his dread-eating parademons from destroying the world. They need all the help they can get, because according to legends, when the three boxes come together, they will unleash mass destruction; creating a new world entirely for Steppenwolf's taking.



REVIEW: The long anticipated movie of the year has finally arrived after facing obstacles such as script issues, massive reshoots and a change in directors. Unfortunately, it came out as a disappointment. The film starts off with the world's mourning of Superman's death. Batman (Ben Affleck) and Wonder Woman (Gal Gadot) recruit Flash, Aquaman and Cyborg to fight off a pending invasion. The movie feels as if it was made only for the comic fans, which is coupled with the common complaint that the storytelling was very rushed. The time constraint of two hours was to be blamed for this, because every character was one-dimensional.

Characterization is where the film really showed its weakness. Cyborg was underplayed and the film didn't serve to introduce him properly. Jason Momoa was brilliant as Aquaman and Wonder Woman was amazing as usual. The scene stealer was Flash with his quirky personality and enjoyable super-speed moments. However, Batman was the most disappointing. Despite his dark persona no one in the movie takes him seriously. And Steppenwolf is basically the worst villain of DC. His character lacked the impact one would expect from a supervillain. The action scenes are as usual and visual effects are pretty average, with the final battle being quite generic. There are plot holes here and there and anyone can predict the ending within the first one hour of the movie. But the ending had a big surprise for DC fans with two amazing post-credit scenes. Overall, Justice League was not the perfect superhero movie. It failed to fulfill expectations but proved to be better than Batman V Superman: Dawn of Justice in many ways.

Reviewed by Saqiba Nawshin Junnurine



GEOSTORM

Director: Dean Devlin

Cinematography: Roberto Schaefer

Cast: Gerard Butler, Jim Sturgess, Abbie Cornish, Daniel Wu

Weakness: Poor visuals, Scripting

Duration: 109min

Rating: 5/10

PLOT: In the year 2019, calamitous environmental changes occur, which bring the pioneers of the world together to make a perplexing system of satellites known as the 'Dutch Boy' built by the architect Jake Lawson (Gerard Butler). However the 'Dutch Boy', built to fight off cataclysmic events, starts to malfunction and Jake along with his brother Max (Jim Sturgess), is put in-charge for understanding the program's glitch before a catastrophic threat called Geostorm takes place and erases humankind.

REVIEW: Directed by Dean Devlin, Geostrom is an American global disaster movie quite similar to 2012

and Gravity. It portrays a series of natural disasters occurring due to the climate change along with the family affairs of two irritated brothers, which is pretty boring. Devlin fails to make Geostorm a standout planetary disaster movie mainly due to the absence of elegantly composed characters and poor visual effects. A few scenes are repeated throughout the movie and the whole catastrophic situation named Geostorm feels unreal.

Gerard Butler who plays the lead role in the film seems, as well as the other characters in the movie, disorganized. The dialogues are very poorly written and monotonous. However, Butler's acting skills were much appreciated even with the dull appearance and bland dialogues. All in all, Geostorm has failed to meet the expectations of the viewers as a catastrophic movie even though many were pleased by the trailer which seemed quite impressive.

Reviewed by Rushabah Tabassum

KINGSMAN: THE GOLDEN CIRCLE

Director: Matthew Vaughn

Screenplay: Matthew Vaughn, Jane Goldman

Cast: Channing Tatum, Taron Egerton, Colin Firth, Julianne Moore

Duration: 141min

Rating: 6/10

PLOT: After the ultraviolent encounter with Valentine and the shocking death of Galahard, Eggsy joins Kingsman as the new Galahard. Things were going better than ever for Eggsy until the headquarters of Kingsman blows up overnight and the world is held hostage. Members of Kingsman seek out in search of allies; stumbling upon the Statesmen, a spy organization similar to the Kingsman but set in the US. With desirable twists in the story, unexpected revelations and zero compromises on the gruesome details of violence, the Kingsmen set out on yet another adventure to save the world.

REVIEW: The first Kingsman film had a cartoony yet an ultraviolent take on action movies but the sequel took the franchise's absurdity a step further. The Golden Circle is filled with the goofiness expected from the name of Kingsman. It begins with the unexpected resurrection of two important characters that play the role of a hero and a villain respectively.

Kingsman: The Golden Circle is a fun movie to watch with its high-end gentleman act and fun reve-



lations of gadgets once in a while, but it's nothing different from the original Kingsman. Yes, the plot is slightly different from the last one but this film was very predictable from the very beginning because of its similarity to the first movie. The cinematography and climax were nothing different from the first one. Even though the genre claims to be action and adventure, the movie has a knack for humor and comedy. Whether that's a good thing or not depends on the viewer's tolerance for illogical gruesome

death and action scenes that are exaggerated beyond understanding. Even so, the music and the portrayal of these scenes make it rather fun to watch in a weird way.

Among all these absurdity Elton John shows up and brings in a little breath of fresh air. Channing Tatum also makes a brief appearance making the film perkier with his usual charisma. The film also portrays Julianne Moore's impressive talent at playing a villain. Overall, the movie was like a rollercoaster on its own. With new emotional ties in place and nastiness to the idea of a weird portrayal of the President of the United States, it's a film that explores the concept of going big with ideas both good and bad. An exhausting, exhilarating yet fun watch.

Reviewed by Munia Islam