

Reviews

Films are rated out of four stars ★★★★★

SAW II

★★

Directed by Darren Lynn Bousman
Starring: Donnie Wahlberg, Tobin Bell, Shawnee Smith & Dina Meyer
Rated – 18 93 Minutes



The first time we saw “Saw”, it was difficult, perhaps impossible, to predict the outcome. This time around, we know what’s coming and the result is less effective. The performances are sub-par in this sequel, unable to convey as much terror as true horror fans would like. However, fans of the series will be happy to know that, although many questions are answered in “Saw II”, enough new ones are posed to set up third and fourth instalments.

SERENITY

★★

Directed by Joss Whedon
Starring: Summer Glau, Nathan Fillion, Adam Baldwin
Rated – 15 119 Minutes



Based on the cult TV hit, “Firefly”, this sci-fi adventure lacks enough background information for those who did not see the show. However, it moves the action along briskly and it contains some good chuckles. Summer Glau delivers a star-making performance in what amounts to a virtually silent role as an invincible human weapon. “Serenity” reminded me of a cross between “The Fifth Element” and “Pitch Black”.

THE LEGEND OF ZORRO

★

Directed by Martin Campbell
Starring: Antonio Banderas, Catherine Zeta Jones & Rufus Sewell
Rated – PG 129 Minutes

This is yet another sequel to a movie that didn’t merit one in the first place. “The Legend of Zorro” re-teams Banderas and Zeta Jones, this time in a watered down version aimed at a far younger audience than the 1998 original. It drags on for over two clock-watching hours and never truly generates a



single thrill. I would only recommend this to a die-hard fan of the original who is craving for more. There should be at least five of you out there who qualify.

WALLACE & GROMIT IN THE CURSE OF THE WERE-RABBIT

★★

Directed by Steve Box & Nick Park
Starring: Voices of Ralph Fiennes, Helena Bonham Carter and Peter Sallis
Rated – U 85 Minutes



If you are a fan of this famous pairing, then by all means seek this film out as soon as possible. Kids will revel in the novelty of clay-animation. But for the rest of us, who haven’t been properly introduced to these two, there isn’t much to offer other than a handful of mild chuckles. It is a perfectly innocent effort, not a bad little movie by any means. But don’t get in line expecting to see anything other than a quaint kiddie story that won’t live longer in the memory than the aftertaste of your popcorn.



SKY HIGH

★★★

Directed by Mike Mitchell
Starring: Kurt Russell, Kelly Preston & Danielle Panabaker
Rated – PG 100 Minutes

At first glance this film looks utterly silly in every way. A superhero couple sends their son to “Sky High”, the world’s first and only high school for kids with super powers. Sounds dumb right? Not so. The film is inventive and regularly hilarious, never leaving the audience time to breathe as it bounces from one clever scene to another. Kids will obviously love the movie, but their parents will get just as much out of it. Highly recommended family viewing!