Film Reviews

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English 240

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**Synopsis:** Based off of Andy Weir’s novel, *The Martian*, this movie adaptation is the account of Mark Watney’s attempt to get back home and survive alone on Mars after accidentally being stranded on the desolate planet.

**Director:** Ridley Scott

**Writers:** Drew Goddard (screenplay), Andy Weir (book)

**Cast:**

Matt Damon Mark Watney

Jessica Chastain Melissa Lewis

Kristen Wiig Annie Montrose

Jeff Daniels Teddy Sanders

Michael Pena Rick Martinez

**Review:** No one can imagine being stranded all alone in a strange place, let alone a strange planet. Some people might have mixed feelings about going in to see this film because of its stressful nature, some might think it’s boring because it only takes place on Mars. However, in truth, we see more than just Matt Damon desperately trying to escape Mars, which by the way, is not boring at all. We do also see NASA desperately trying to send provisions to help Mark Watney survive while they try to get a rescue team together because it takes approximately four years to reach Mars from Earth.

The odds don’t look good for Mark Watney and right off the bat everyone presumes he is either dead or will die, some people may not think it is realistic and therefore not relatable but there have been plenty of other stories where it looks like the hero will not survive but then comes through unexpectedly. American cultures loves to portray underdogs in their films which could very well be part of the reason why this film did so well. However, this is a unique story and after all, in the film Mark Watney was the first to do just about everything he did on Mars, which made part of his endeavor bearable to him and he came to realize if he died he died for something bigger than himself, which is very admirable. Overall, this film was very entertaining to watch and kept viewers on the edge of their seats wanting nothing but for Mark to survive and get home. The film did a great job of showing the innovative ways Mark survived and the innovativeness of NASA’s different teams all working together. This movie deserves a chance for those who have their doubts.

**Synopsis:** In Mockingjay Part 2, Katniss Everdeen continues her role as the face of the rebellion, the Mockingjay. Meanwhile, she tries to convince the remaining Districts to rally together against the Capitol.

**Director:** Francis Lawrence

**Writers:** Peter Craig and Danny Strong (screenplay, Suzanne Collins (novel and adaptation)

**Cast:**

Jennifer Lawrence Katniss Everedeen

Josh Hutcherson Peeta Mellark

Liam Hemsworth Gale Hawthorne

Woody Harelson Haymitch Abernathy

Donald Sutherland President Snow

Philip Seymour Hoffman Plutarch Heavenesbee

**Review**: War rages on in this Part 2 movie adaptation of the novel, *Mockingjay*, concludes the Hunger Games saga. Peeta has returned to District 13 after being kidnapped by the Capitol, he was found brainwashed and dangerous. Meanwhile, Katniss and the others from District 13 must bring the other districts together to bring down President Snow. This movie adaptation certainly stayed very close to Suzanne Collin’s novel. While it was very exciting for fans, like any other franchise, it was time for this saga to come to an end. No one can blame the filmmakers for what happened in the movie, they were just trying to tell the story the way Suzanne Collins envisioned it. However, I personally felt disappointed by the end of the story, I felt as though this trilogy only got worse after the first installment.