

Let's All go to the Movies



After a hectic holiday season with snowy road trips to St. Louis and Minnesota, my wife and I woke up Sunday with no plan for the day.

We decided to take in a movie. With the real world on fire we thought we'd treat ourselves to a 'feel good' flick, a comedy, an adventure story, really any motion picture you can get lost in for a couple hours. The local metroplex has 14 screens, certainly we could find a film that we would be willing to pay \$20 a ticket to watch. Perhaps head on out to the lobby and grab ourselves a snack. Heck, you can enjoy a box of popcorn and a couple of sodas at the theatre for under \$30. We had arranged the financing.

Here's what was playing at the theater.

Avatar: Fire and Ash: "takes audiences back to Pandora in an immersive new animated adventure with Na'vi leader Jake Sully..."

Greenland 2: Migration: "in aftermath of a comet strike that decimated most of the earth..."

Primate: “a group of friends’ tropical adventure turns into a terrifying primal tale of horror...”

I Was A Stranger: “when a Syrian doctor is forced to flee Aleppo...”

The Housemaid: “hoping for a fresh start a young woman becomes a live-in maid for a wealthy couple who harbor sinister secrets...”

Zootopia 2: “the animated tale of two detectives who find themselves on the twisting tail of a mysterious reptile...”

Marty Supreme: “a young man with a dream of becoming a world class table-tennis player goes to hell and back in pursuit of greatness...”

The Raja Saab: “in Telugu spoken with English subtitles...”

Gundam Premiere Night: “don’t miss your chance to be part of Gundam history where mobile suit Gundam’s iron-blooded orphans challenge the wedge of interposition. Animated, and in Telugu with English subtitles...”

David: “when the giant Goliath rises to terrorize a nation...”

Anaconda: “a midlife crisis pushes lifelong friends to the depths of the Amazon where they encounter a giant anaconda...”

The SpongeBob Movie-Search for Squarepants: Sponge Bob and his Bikini Bottom friends set out to find The Flying Dutchman...”

Five Guys at Freddy’s 2: “based on a video game, a night security guard at Freddy Fazbear’s Pizzeria is dragged into the black heart of a supernatural nightmare...”

Mana ShankaravaraPrasad Garu: “in Telugu with English subtitles...”

Since we know how *David* ends and we’re not into horror, animation, ping pong, nor fluent in Telugu, we passed on movie night. The Golden Globes were on that evening; let’s just stay home and tune in. Let’s see what films were nominated for best picture. Perhaps we’ll stream one of those.

Here are some of the nominees for Best Picture.

Blue Moon: “tells the story of Lorenz Hart’s struggles with mental health during the opening of the musical *Oklahoma*.”

Bugonia: “two conspiracy-obsessed men kidnap the CEO of a major company when they become convinced she is an alien who wants to destroy earth.”

No Other Choice: “abruptly laid off, a desperate man goes to extreme lengths to eliminate the competition for the job he wants.” (In Korean)

Nouvelle Vague: “follows the shooting of the movie *Breathless*, one of the first feature films of French New Wave cinema” (In French)

It was Just an Accident: “In Iran a man bumps into his former torturer.” (In Persian)

Sinners: “Criminal twin brothers return to their hometown where they are confronted by supernatural evil.”

Sentimental Value: “Sisters Nora and Agnes reunite with their estranged father Gustav who offers Nora a role in his comeback film.” (In Norwegian)

So with the current choices in movies confined to remakes, foreign language films, cartoons, movies about movies, horror, sequels, murder, movies derived from video games, shoot-em ups, aliens taking over the earth and the apocalypse, we skipped the metroplex and turned off the Golden Globes. My wife took the time to call her family while I watched *Godfather* for the 117th time.

Anyway, the popcorn was cheaper at home.

That’s all I’m sayin’

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