

MOVIE REVIEW



Title: "Avatar"- *Return to Pandora*

Cast: Sam Worthington, Zoe Saldana, Sigourney Weaver, Stephen Lang

Director: James Cameron

Duration: 162 minutes

Release date: December 18, 2009

Genre: Fantasy/Adventure/Action/Sci-fi

"Avatar" is one of the best films you will ever experience. Already grabbing three academy awards it is a must watch for anyone wanting to have the full alien experience like never before. I personally love the film and all the precise details it captures. It is definitely worth the time. It is set in the mid-22nd century. Earth has succumbed to technology and there is the existence of another planet, Pandora, inhabited by an indigenous species called the Na'vi. They are not the typical aliens you will find in other films. They have culture, rules and are a lot like the humans, with emotions. They are stronger, huge and blue with remarkable marks on their bodies that make them interesting.

We are first introduced to Jake Sully (Sam Worthington), an ex-marine and a cripple who wants and I quote "A single thing worth fighting for." His wish apparently comes true due to untimely circumstances and he is dragged into the world of science, an unexpected twist in his life but one that sees him through a world of adventure that even he cannot deny has made him a new person with a purpose and something worth fighting for, a new home on Pandora.

Headed by an ambitious woman, Grace Augustine (Sigourney Weaver), the group of scientists on Pandora seek to understand more about the ways of the Na'vi and through Jake Sully, they do. He ventures as an avatar rider and explores Pandora through the natives' eyes having Neytiri (Zoe Saldana), a Na'vi, as his teacher. He overcomes various challenges until he is accepted as one of them, the Na'vi.

The film is an art to be appreciated as a new level of imagination is brought out. Pandora is a beautiful planet that is at risk of destruction due to human greed. In it exists new creations that are mind-blowing and breathe taking. Pandora is evidence of the great creativity of the director and his crew. The actors are incredibly talented and this is evident in the film. One can relate to the emotions of their characters and it all seems real. Sam Worthington cannot resist to add a bit of humour to the film.

The effects are off the charts, no wonder the film bagged the Best Visual Effects Award. Everything appears so real that it is exhilarating and one is definitely bound to be glued to the screen. The pictures are also very clear bringing out the various colours and tones magnificently. The accompanying music is also very well chosen and played just at the right times, not exaggerated. The editing is on point and as much as I have tried to pick out any faults in the editing I have failed to do so. This is proof of the care and precision that this film was given and the time that was dedicated to it.

The film is fun to watch and does not give one's mind the opportunity to wander off. It also does not dwell so long in one scene considering it is a long film which is impressive. The flow from one scene to the other is smooth and blends well. The camera angles are just right and the viewer is able to catch all the action. The use of slow motion in some scenes makes it intense one cannot miss catching their breath for a while.

Jake Sully proves that one should not always follow the rules because they are not always right and to pay attention to instincts. He rises up from nothing to make a change between two worlds and that is when the climax sets in. when he makes a stand and chooses what he considers to be the right thing to do and he is not alone, but it is a bloody path to follow. He surely has not lost the attitude of a warrior. He falls in love with nature and what it has to offer in Pandora. The result is unexpected and this is what makes it worth watching. It has unpredictable outcomes, a mix of joy and sadness.

I would definitely advise anyone with a love for adventure and fantasy not to miss out on this American epic science fiction film that will leave you satisfied and at the same time wanting for more.

