

Movie Review by Robert

## The Amazing Spider-Man

*The Amazing Spider-Man* is a 136 minute action/fantasy (or in other words super-hero) movie starring Andrew Garfield as Peter Parker (spider-man), Emma Stone as Gwen Stacey, Peter's high-school crush and as the main villain Rhys Ifans who from the calm Dr. Curt Connors, turns into The Lizard. Columbia and Marvel decided to get Marc Webb as the director and released the movie July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2012.

With this reboot, after the third movie in the previous trilogy was released in 2007, the producers decided to do another origin movie. This one decides to follow the original comic books, though as I have not read them, I cannot say how accurately they are reflected in the movie. In it the quirky Peter Parker finds his father's briefcase which leads him to the cross-species geneticist Dr. Connor. With the help from Peter's Father's equation, Dr. Connor is able to regrow his missing arm. Unfortunately the formula is unstable and the lizard genes take over and turn Dr. Connor into a giant bipedal lizard or a mini-Godzilla if you like. The movie centers on Peter trying to cure Connors and stopping him from turning the whole city into human lizards, as well as focusing on Peter's budding relationship with Gwen Stacey.

Wow, what a reboot. The short 5 year interval since the last movie in the previous trilogy seems to be shorter than the movie itself. At 136 minutes, it seemed to drag on just a little too long. This has nothing of course to do with Andrew Garfield, who I think did a great job of playing the intelligent yet slightly anti-social and quirky Peter Parker. His complete loss of words in front of Gwen Stacey is something every one of us introverted people have experienced at least once in our lifetime, and definitely proved for a humorous scene. I also believe Emma Stone portrayed her character perfectly and even if she didn't her cuteness would make up for it. Together though, they were not able to sell me on the relationship. The build-up into it is not really there and feels under developed even though there's plenty of time devoted to it. Also, Peter's blabbing away his secret takes away the character of other spider-man portrayals that I grew up with, where for example in the animated series, Peter Parker was a bit of a ladies man, but his constant disappearances as spider-man always ruined his romantic life.

For the music's part, I will definitely want to acquire the soundtrack when it becomes available, because of how wonderfully epic some of the pieces are. Unfortunately there were a few scenes where the producers plugged in unnecessarily over dramatic music, which instead of supporting, actually took away from these scenes. While we are on things that annoyed me: Uncle Ben. Usually the loveable father figure, in this movie he seemed completely clueless as to how to raise a teenager.

To summarize I think the movie has great fitting actors for the main roles, but somehow there was no chemistry in the movie, which went on too long. This leads me to believe that post-production is largely to blame and a sequel can be more than just great, it can shine like *The Dark Knight* did after the first in the series *Batman Begins*. Speaking on the first part alone though, if you are not a super-hero or spider-man fan, do not waste your time on going to see it. I myself did enjoy the movie, because, well... it's spider-man.

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