

Movie Review by Robert

Tower Heist

Studio: Universal Pictures

Director: Brett Ratner

Tower Heist is an action comedy running at 104 minutes and stars Ben Stiller (Josh Kovacs) and Eddie Murphy (Slide). It was released on November 4th 2011.

Josh works in one of the most luxurious residential towers of New York, where the employees take care of any and all problems of the wealthy residents. As a long term employee he has a friendly relationship with those people and over the years they have learnt to trust each other. This is why, when it turns out that the wealthiest resident of the tower, Arthur Shaw (played by Alan Alda), has defrauded the employee pension from all of its money, Josh is shocked at the betrayal. He decides to build a team that includes outside help in the form of Slide, to find Shaw's hidden money, steal it from him and distribute it to the employees of the tower.

I had the pleasure of watching this modern era Robin Hood story at a pre-screening a few weeks back, so I had no idea what I was actually going into. The storyline of course is very reflective of our recent times and we will probably be seeing many more Hollywood movies of Wall St. screwing the little guys in the near future. What I liked about the set up though, is that we did not see Arthur Shaw as an evil character from the very beginning, but instead we actually saw a well-built personality. I also like that Eddy Murphy, with his live action movies in the past decade being mostly flunks, finally had an interesting and funny character that you actually wanted to watch. The movie, being a comedy, definitely delivered on some good laughs. As the characters are amateur thieves trying to penetrate a highly sophisticated security system we get to see many ridiculous moments, some of these though I felt went a little too far from reality and left me starrng incredulously at the screen. I could not help but get a vibe that the director wanted to recreate the success of *Horrible Bosses*, but if those were the intentions then unfortunately the movie horribly failed. I had a pleasant time watching the movie though and I liked the plot twist at the end, which actually caught me by surprise. If I had to rate it on a 7 point scale I would give it a 5, nice to watch, but nothing really that exceptional. It is a good movie if you are bored on a Saturday afternoon and have nothing better to do.

Robert Cizek

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