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'Dawn of the Planet of the Apes'

By Derek Zemrak



How many times have you heard people say "sequels are never better than the original movie"? The unexpected quality of "Dawn of the Planet of the Apes" surpasses the 2011 "Rise of the Planet of the Apes."

"Dawn of the Planet of the Apes" goes to a whole new level of filmmaking. In this installment, Caesar, portrayed by Golden Globe nominee Andy Serkis ("Longford," "Lord of the Rings"), leads the genetically evolved nation of apes against the human survivors of a devastating 10-year-old virus. Peace between the two groups is temporarily achieved but a war breaks out that will determine which species will dominate the world. Oscar nominee Gary Oldman ("Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy"), Golden Globe recipient Keri Russell ("Felicity") and Jason Clarke ("Zero Dark Thirty," "The Great Gatsby") each deliver solid performances but it is

Image provided

Serkis' portrayal of Caesar that is amazing.

"Dawn of the Planet the Apes" is superbly directed by Matt Reeves ("Cloverfield"), creator of the television series "Felicity." Reeves takes the audience on an emotional roller-coaster ride. Be prepared to scream and remember to breathe.

"Dawn of the Planet of the Apes" is not only a great summer blockbuster but also a superior science-fiction movie. I would say it is one of the best films so far and it will receive several award nominations in the upcoming award season.

The movie is rated PG13, due to violent war scenes and some strong language. It has a TRT (Total Running Time) of 2 hours and 10 minutes.

Don't miss it on the big screen!

Listen to Derek every Saturday morning at 8 a.m. on Real to Reel, 1450AM KEST.

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back

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