

John Carter



"I could relate to Edgar's character, and we use a bit of that to show his life on Earth, as at one point in my life, went to the darkest depths of hell and came back, alienated, you know... Its only something you can only experience" The words bristled from the only and only 'John Carter of Earth,' Taylor Kitsch after a preview screening of John Carter.

Disney massive big-budget adaptation of Edgar Rice Burroughs's Barsoom saga which spans an impressive 11 novels, if you haven't read the novels then they do make a great saga to read, which was one i grew up with as a youngling as well as Fantastic Mr Fox and a variety of other novels. But alas, here comes John Carter which is based upon "Princess Of Mars" the first novel to feature Rice's hero and protagonist, John Carter.

The story sets off with literally everyone hating John Carter, and magically transported to Mars where he is set inbound between a war on Barsoom in which he must be the saviour of their people otherwise Earth is next, figure that his saving not only Barsoom but as well the planet that hates him. But he is embroiled in a war between the three races of Barsoom being the Tharks, Zodanga's and the Hellumites as well as to make matters worse are the manipulation and the participation of the shape-shifting Therns. But can John Carter save Barsoom?

While the film is completely different from the book and takes a different take that sears and shears to be more of a visual extravagance than a love story from another world. It essentially relies on its spectacular visuals which in context are mighty impressive as, the boosting voice cast attribute to creating this realism that you essentially forget that your listening to the voices of the Green Goblin & The Sandman of the Spideyverse.

The visuals are spectacular and the exotic locales bring reminiscent of Cameron's Pandora and Lucas's Star Wars. But the issue that stands different from its other two visionary rivals is that they maintain natural equilibrium between the visuals and the plot. In which one uses the basis of

Vogler's technique of storytelling, while the other uses the basic story rehashed and dazzling in a new world glazed with hype. While Edgar Rice Burroughs saga uses the basis of storytelling that its film adaptation lacks in replaced for dazzling visuals to sell the film.

Andrew Stanton is visionally known for his Pixar spectacles which he has been involved in some way of every Pixar product, weather its story, screenplay, voice acting.but within the Pixar universe primarily known for Finding Nemo & Wall-E. But much like Brad Bird, Andrew Stanton takes his first delve into the live-action feature, in which as a fan of the books, i believe that maybe this should have been a Pixar production rather than a live-action Disney visual spectacle, maybe it would have been much superior considering Stanton's track record within the CGI world. While Bird flies and soars and makes the transition successfully, well Stanton gets shot down with unmemorable and fast-paced action sequences that are a mere blur, when they should be memorable for such an unique saga that has stood the test of time for nearly a century but despite with 3 decades of production hell at Disney the expectations are not met.

"When i received the script, i felt i could relate to Carter and i fell for the character and it was an honour to breath life into this guy, and such a challenge. I fell for him because i could relate to him, because at one point in my life i felt alienated, i was homeless and saw the bottom of a bottle as a way out to drown my sorrows. And in some way form of sense, John Carter is a symbolism to that, he becomes alienated while on Mars, but he also becomes a saviour in that sense. As well as i went through that transition as well, working with Stanton, who has discovered the books when he was ten, he sought that i would be an ideal candidate to play Carter when he saw me in Friday Night Lights, and when i saw interest in the project as well as learning of my past, he signed me up and it was unbelievable that i was John Carter. This movie in some way has helped all of us... Andrew had waited a lifetime to make it, it helped me through my demons as well and knock on wood, if the movie is successful, well all the cast have signed up for another two out of this world, so hopefully we get to return back to Barsoom some time soon and do two more!"

But overall after 30 years in development at Disney, John Carter is a spectacular 3D IMAX adventure to the land of Barsoom with an expectation of being as brilliant as Star Wars on Mars but Edgar Rice's adaptation lacks the luster of development to bring the world of Barsoom to life.

The Bawnian Connection

While in Bawnian-Dexeus review stated Taylor Kitsch to be the next to be in the spotlight of the Sam Worthington fame... Ironically both stars were both homeless before they shot to fame, Sam lived in a car before Avatar and Taylor lived in a subway, before John Carter... Oddly enough they both found fame on 2 different planets.

Written by Jay.A.Ottley... Who would sincerely like to thank Taylor Kitsch, the BFI IMAX and of course you guys and gals for reading