

# Conference

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different genres but will only be selected for one. All submissions are completely anonymous.

This is the fifth Annual Looking Glass Rock Writer's Conference. Alyse Bensel is working with Rishara Finsel, the new Director of the Transylvania County Library, to organize the event for the second year now. Bensel also has two student assistants, Alexis Henley and Abi Feusler, that help her with the publicity and social media.

"Running the conference this second year so far has been invigorating and exciting. While we're keeping a similar format to last year's conference, we'll be adding more social events and trips as well as a guaranteed one-on-one time with conference faculty," said Bensel.

"This is an invaluable opportunity for students interested in creative writing to work with nationally renowned authors as well as writers from around the country in an intimate, focused workshop setting. Plus you make connections with writers that will last far beyond the conference."

For more information, you can visit the website at [www.lgrwc.org](http://www.lgrwc.org), the twitter @lgrwconference or the facebook page Looking Glass Rock Writers' Conference.

## Netflix Review

# 'Await Further Instructions'

By Mary Lewe  
Editor in Chief

For those of us who grew up watching "Smart House" on Disney Channel, reading "Fahrenheit 451" in high school English class and playing gory video games, "Await Further Instructions" displays the perfect balance of family drama, paranoid technological disruption and disgusting gratuitous violence.

The film begins with Nick (Sam Gitten) and his girlfriend Annji (Neerja Naik) arriving at Nick's parents' house to celebrate. Although it is Christmas Eve, Nick's parents are shocked to see their son, who has been estranged from them for three years.

Viewers soon discover the reason for Nick's estrangement, when the grandad (David Bradley) of the family begins to both subtly and overtly demean Annji for her Indian heritage. Unwilling to tolerate Nick's dad and grandad's racist behavior, the couple decides to leave early in the morning on Christmas Day.

But when Nick and Annji quietly attempt to sneak out of the house on Christmas morning,

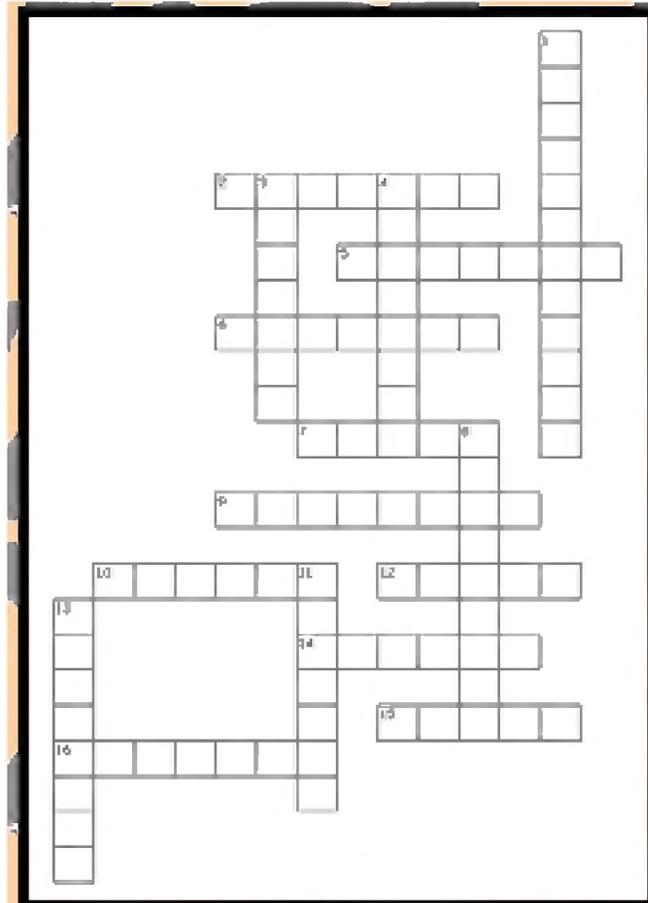
they discover that every door and window of the house has been enveloped in strange-looking black walls. There is no way out, and they are trapped with Nick's entire family.

As if being trapped with racist in-laws isn't enough of a horrific nightmare, the family discovers a message on their television screen: "Stay Indoors and Await Further Instructions."

As fear and paranoia sets in, the family begins to unravel, with attempts to escape punished by other members of the family who trust in the television's messages, believing the messages are coming from the government for their own safety.

The interplay between political commentary, family drama and futuristic horror makes for an hour and a half of entertainment, culminating in a surprising ending which may remind viewers of campy horror movies of decades past.

Despite initial frustrations with the characters, the movie is ultimately a disturbing, yet fun look at a horrific alternative future, one that is believable enough to keep you up at night but not so creepy as to be unbelievable.



# Halloween crossword

### Across

2. Spooky month
5. A real blood sucker
6. Something you carve
7. She rides on a broom
9. Lycanthrope to a layperson
10. You do this when you are scared
12. A common costume
14. It spins a web
15. What you ask for on Halloween
16. Villagers with torches might chase this

### Down

1. On Halloween you go around to \_\_\_\_
3. On Halloween you wear a \_\_\_\_
4. Dark feline
8. October 31st
11. You need clues to solve this
13. When the wolves howl