

ENTERTAINMENT

Movie Reviews

Kiss The Girls

Kiss The Girls is a great non-stop action thriller based on the best-selling novel by James Patterson. It is directed by newcomer Gary Felner (**Things to Do in Denver When You're Dead**). The movie, based in Durham, has Morgan Freeman, of **Driving Miss Daisy** and **Lean on Me** fame, in the title role. Ashley Judd and Bill Nunn also star in the movie.

Freeman portrays Dr. Alex Cross, a prominent Washington, D.C., police psychologist and author. He is called upon, by one of his relatives, to find his niece who has been missing for a few weeks and the worst is suspected. The niece attends Duke University in Durham. When he arrives in Durham, Cross discovers that the Durham Police Department has been investigating several cases that involve 12 other girls who have been abducted in recent months. They have no clues to go on. Cross, and his cousin portrayed by Bill Nunn, who is also a police officer, set out and try to find the killer.

Cross soon discovers he is up against a sick but agile mind killer—maybe more than one. He must trust and use his own deductive reasoning skills against the perverse gamesmanship of his prey. His skills have never been tested in a case that is personal and his emotions become his greatest obstacle.

Dr. Kate McTiernan (Ashley Judd) is a physician who works at the local hospital. She becomes a near victim of the killer and barely escapes with her life. She is the only person that has any idea of what the killer looks like. The drama unfolds as she, Cross and the police department try to set traps for the killer which leads them on chases from Durham to Los Angeles.

The case is not solved until the end as the movie takes several unique spins and turns. The identity of the killer will surprise most viewers.

- Andrew Means & David Fulton

Mr. Bean

Mr. Bean may turn into a holiday comedy sensation. Bean was a smash in his silent television show in England. Now, Rowan Atkinson (**Mr. Bean**) has arrived in the United States to make the audience laugh like crazy. He is a accident-prone, misfit in this funny movie. The movie's plot centers around Mr. Bean being sent to the U.S. with a painting from a London art gallery (**Whistler's Mother**) where he is to look after it. In the movie, Atkinson plays Bean a do-nothing employee of a British art museum, who is sent to a Los Angeles gallery to lecture. He is pretending to be an art expert. Bean sneezes on the "Whistler's Mother" painting. Then, he ruins the painting with a chemical substance. Bean continues to act like a little child in an adult body.

Mr. Bean is the funniest disaster movie to hit the U.S. with his crazy pranks and jokes to make everyone flip with humor. The movie has grossed over \$100 million in the US; even before crossing the Atlantic. The film is directed by Mel Smith, written by Rowan Atkinson, Richard Curtis and Robin Driscoll.

- David Fulton

Alien 4: The Resurrection

By now you probably know the **Alien** storyline. A group of aliens from another planet find helpless humans, attach themselves to that humans' face, impregnates them, and explodes out of their chest.

In **Alien 3**, we all witnessed the heroine of the series, Ripley (Sijourney Weaver), meets her demise by dropping into molten lava while being impregnated with an alien queen. But as we've all learned by now, its hard to keep a good woman down. Especially when she has the potential of doing well in the box office during the holiday season.

In the fourth installment of the

series, Ripley comes back in the form of a clone. Due to miraculous reasons that are never quite explained during the film, she has all of her past memories. She also has heightened human reflexes, agility and strength. This comes in handy because a group of government scientists, not learning from their previous mistakes in the other **Alien** films, have decided to manifest the aliens for future films.

To add to the chaotic confusion a group of renegade mercenaries from the pirate ship

The Betty, are also added into the picture. After delivering human merchandise for the purpose of breeding many aliens, the crew is confronted not only with vicious aliens, but even more vicious and unscrupulous doctors. The only sane member of the crew was a female member named Call Winona Ryder) who happens to be an android. As we all know from the previous films, androids combined with alien and Ripley usually means disaster for all parties involved.

Before we give our opinion of the film, let us share our general rule for sequels. More than two in a series usually means disaster. However, the first three **Alien** pictures were for the diehard fans. The fourth one needs to be put on the shelf. After the film introduces the aliens for the first time, the film loses a lot of its allure. Nothing really ground breaking takes place throughout the film, leaving nothing to the viewer's imagination. The films, plot is well overdone and its time to add fresh new faces to an old idea. Until the films' makers realize this, any future **Alien** sequels will be just as bad as this one.

-Andrew Means and Rasheed Oluwa

Flubber

The movie **Flubber**, which coincidentally rhymes with yawner, is Disney's take on the absent minded professor.

The movie is centered around the exploits of Professor Brainard (Robin Williams). Professor Brainard despite his brilliance, has problems with organization and memory. This problem starts to become a real disruption for Brainard when he starts to forget important events like marriage dates. Brainard has already forgotten to attend two of his marriages to his girlfriend Sarah. After a third date is set, Sarah tells Brainard that if he misses another wedding, their relationship is over.

Normally there would be no problem except for the fact that Brainard's attention is also focused on another problem. In an attempt to save his financially strapped Medfield University from going bankrupt, Brainard spends the bulk of his time trying to discover a new energy source.

Brainard succeeds with the invention of **Flubber**, a green jello-like substance with the ability to give off kinetic energy. The bad news is that Brainard forgets to attend his third attempt at marrying his girlfriend, Sarah. To make matters worse, Sarah seems to have fallen for Brainard's nemesis and rival, Wilson Croft (Christopher McDonald).

Brainard then tries to win Sarah back with the help of his invention and in the process involves himself in many other problems and misadventures.

To be fair, lets start out by saying that this is a children's film. Let me also point out that the majority of children who were viewing the film with me were not laughing. Even though Williams expended a lot of energy in his role; even he could not keep the film from wearing thin. A lot of the movie's comedy was centered around dopey physical scenes involving **Flubber**. After the first 30 minutes, these antics lost a lot of their cuteness. In my opinion, the only scene that was even worth repeating involves **Flubber** and disruption of some guys digestive tract. The movie **Flubber** is definitely made for 10-year-old and younger age groups.

-Rashed Oluwa

