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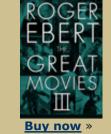
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FINAL DESTINATION 5 (R) You: Rate this movie right now



cast & credits

Sam Nicholas D'Agosto

Nathan Arlen Escarpeta

Dennis David Koechner

Bludworth Tony Todd

Rated R (for strong

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some language).

directed by Steven Quale.

Peter Friedkin Miles Fisher

Candice Hooper Ellen Wroe

Agent Block Courtney B. Vance

New Line Cinema presents a film

on characters created by Jeffrey

violent/gruesome accidents, and

Screenplay by Eric Heisserer, based

Reddick. Running time: 92 minutes.

Molly Emma Bell

Isaac P.J. Byrne

Final Destination 5 BY ROGER EBERT / August 10, 2011

"Final Destination 5" is one

of those rare movies where the title itself is a spoiler. Yes, everyone in the movie dies, except for Coroner Bludworth. But you knew that because of the previous four films. The increasingly challenging task for the filmmakers is to devise ever more horrible and gruesome methods for

them to be slaughtered. "FD5" shows a lot of ingenuity. The recurring theme this time will be skewering and lots of it. The characters have names but they might as well be called after items for a shish kebob: lamb, chicken,

mushrooms, onions, tomatoes, some nice peppers. (I like to use green, red and yellow.) We get a tip-off in the

opening credits, which use 3-D to thrust things at the audience. Before we have seen so much as a human face on the screen, we have been assaulted by skewers, knives, rods, stakes and shards of glass. This is the Ping-Pong Effect elevated to

aggressive excess, a reminder that if we haven't already put on our annoying dark glasses, this is the time to bid farewell to bright colors We have already bid farewell to the 3-D "premium" charge. The actors in a movie like this are essentially doing product placement. By getting their names and faces out there in a splatter movie, they can perhaps catch the eye of a casting agent and get a shot at a decent film. They have studied their craft. They have struggled and dreamed. They have attended countless auditions.

Now at last they have a role in a major Hollywood release, and can

call home: "Mom! I get impaled by the mast of a sailboat after I fall off

The fact is, the performances here are all effective. The actors bring more to the film than it brings to them. The caliber of performance in Gruesome Death Movies has considerably improved since Hershel Gordon Lewis made "The Gore-Gore Girls." The direction by Steven Quale is efficient, and the special effects do an excellent job of beheading, incinerating, vivisecting, squishing and so on.

I am amused by this credit: "Screenplay by Eric Heisserer, based on characters created by Jeffrey Reddick." Reddick of course was the writer of the original "Final Destination" (2000). Since all of the characters in that film were dead by movie's end, his credit might more reasonably have read, "based on characters killed by Jeffrey Reddick." I speak too soon. Bludworth (<u>Tony Todd</u>) always survives, his task to find ever more ominous ways of saying "I told you so." Reddick should also be given full credit for devising the ingenious logic of the

first film, which consisted of many proofs that we can't cheat death.

been much diluted; you don't appear in a "Final Destination" movie

This truth struck the original characters with a force that has now

and expect to get out alive. I expect this movie to make a lot of money at the box office, spent by fans eager to see still more cool ways for hot young characters to be slaughtered. My review will not be read by any of these people. They know what they enjoy. They don't want no damn movies with damn surprises. I am always pleased when moviegoers have a good time; perhaps they will return to a theater and someday see a good movie

by accident, and it will start them thinking. **Roxio CinePlayer** Play DVDs on your PC Today!

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