

“Spider-man: Homecoming” Film Review

We have seen the friendly neighborhood Spider-man on the big screen with three different actors now. Why see another one? Because Tom Holland in Jon Watts’s “Spider-Man: Homecoming” truly brings this character to life.

Peter Parker is a fifteen year old student at the Midtown School of Science & Technology. This plays a big part in the film, and events from the school are some key factors. In the original films starring Tobey Maguire, and then Andrew Garfield, we see *spoiler alert* Peter get bitten, watch his DNA change, and witness Uncle Ben die. This is brought up, but all of that has already happened. Here Peter is relatable, and we believe he is a young student who gets bullied, rather than in “The Amazing Spider-Man” where we see a hipster skateboarder Peter, who somehow gets made fun of. Now we see a great balance between comedy and seriousness. Robert Downey Jr, who plays Tony Stark/Iron Man, provides us with light humor, while also being a mentor. He does not appear throughout the whole picture, but has his moments. Peter is trying to become an Avenger, ask out a senior at his school named Liz, and not let his classmates down for school events. Sometimes he has to bail from his friend Ned to become Spider-Man. The main villain, Vulture, is very realistic. Unlike many other Marvel films, Vulture is faced with a real problem (and no, it is not from a science experiment gone wrong). At the start of the movie, his job is taken from him, and in order to provide for his family, he does high-tech illegal activity. Peter believes he can stop the Vulture himself, and Iron Man ends up having to save him mid-way through, which makes him find himself and become stronger.

So positives? Realistic (as far as superhero films go), relatable, ethnic minority characters represented as well. There are many CGI special effects, and although this can go cliché very fast, they usually had creative visuals, such as a cruise ship splitting apart. In a final scene, Spider-Man and our main antagonist fight on top of an Avengers plane carrying millions of dollars’ worth of high-tech equipment; including an Iron Man suit, prototype Captain America shield, etc. It then starts descending from thousands of feet in the air, and crashes as the conflict continues surrounded by fire. Comic fans can spot minor known characters as Easter Eggs, such as on the debate team for example. Cons? Although this did not affect me to the point where I can’t overlook it, the original Sam Raimi films had an older Aunt May, classic red head Mary Jane, as well as his friend Harry Osbourne, (true to the comics).

Should you see “Spider-Man: Homecoming”? Yes! The very first Spider-Man film will always be my favorite, but this is a close second. And Tom Holland took Tobey Maguire’s spot as the best Peter Parker in my book. You don’t need to be a superhero fan to enjoy this, for it has an easy to follow story-line, although there are some subplots and jokes you won’t understand, you won’t feel as if you’re on a different planet.