MOVIE REVIEW: 2012 (2009)



2012

- **GENRE:** Action, Science Fiction Disaster
- **ACTORS:** John Cusack, Chiwetel Ejiofor, Amanda Peet, Oliver Platt, Thandie Newton, Danny Glover, Woody Harrelson, Chin Han, Patrick Bauchau, Thomas McCarthy
- **RATING:** PG-13
- **PARENTAL NOTE:** *I believe the movie makers think this movie is suitable for older children. I do not.* Limited bad language. Extreme violence, though individuals are not shown being killed, except at a distance. Movie portrays mass killing.
- **INTENDED AUDIENCE:** Intended for older teens and adults. Many people will be put off by depiction of mass killings.
- **GENERAL PLOT:** (No spoilers) This film shows the full power of the Sun[1. More precisely, a rare alignment of the Sun and the rest of the solar system] unleashed against the planet Earth. Guess which one wins. Oh, and the human race is inconveniently caught in the middle of this cosmic battle of Biblical proportions. All of this was *supposedly* predicted a few centuries back in the Mayan calendar.

- **REVIEW:** This movie depicts the annihilation of the better part of the human race. A typical horror movie kills off a few dozen to a few hundred people. OK, the zombie genre often implies mass zombification, but it’s

usually left to the imagination, and who's counting? 2012 manages to kill off billions—and seeks to show as many of the deaths as possible, either individually or en masse. The one redeeming point of this film is the spectacular special effects. Again, it gives a spectacular presentation of a disaster of Biblical proportions. The special effects bump up my rating by two stars, but there isn't much else to recommend the film. The "science" part of the science fiction is pretty thin. The plot would be silly if not so tragic. The moral of the story is apparently, that there is nothing like the end of the world to kill off inconvenient third parties and re-unite a family.

- **RECOMMENDATION:** Many people will be highly offended by extreme violence. In fact, it's not really my cup of tea. Unless you are drawn by the special effects (which are, in fact breathtaking), save yourself the 2 hours and 38 minute viewing time.
- **RATING (out of 5 stars):** ★★★★★