

Movie Review: ‘Warm Bodies’ lacks depth, inspires fuzzy feelings

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Did you shop at Hot Topic in high school? Did you wear bondage pants and listen to The Cure? It's okay if you did, you can tell me. If your answer is yes, “Warm Bodies” is everything 15-year-old you wanted to see in a movie. Very loosely based on “Romeo & Juliet”, with a heavy pinch of fairytale, it aims to be a love story for the Hot Topic crowd. It’s

“Twilight” but the version you’re allowed to like publicly.

The story revolves around “R”, a zombie with higher brain functions who uses his power of thought to be existential and snobby about vinyl records.

One day “R” ambushes a group of foragers from the last human settlement on Earth and meets Julie after killing her boyfriend. What follows is a touching story about the power of love, complete with odd special

effects, including yellowish hearts beating in the chests of all the zombies. The ability of 19 year olds in love to cure a planet of death is never properly explained but the beauty of one sided conversations and hand holding would certainly revive me.

In case the names were too subtle, a nod to “Romeo & Juliet” there is an honest to goodness balcony scene complete with interruptions from off screen.

This movie delivers all the goods: a father

who refuses to see reason because of a dead wife, a sassy friend, an ability to forgive murdering her ex, and a sense of humor that appeals to the dark 14 year old in us all.

Is it the best movie you’ll see this year? I sincerely hope not. Is it enjoyable schmaltz that occasionally baffles and every so often entertains? Yes. Check it out, I mean, you used to spend \$40 a pop concert tees; you can afford ten bucks for this movie.

Movie Review: ‘Bullet to the Head’ waste of film, time

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Writers and producers of movies, I imagine, must spend countless hours working on a script. I don’t mean the dialogue to ensure words are pronounceable for slurred speech-patterns of former celebrities, and I don’t mean they spend that time skimming the plot for inconsistencies or illogical holes. No, surely no time is spent on that; that would be wasted time.

Better that they spend countless bloodshot hours—days and nights—digging through dictionaries and thesauruses; mulling over word juxtapositions and evocative imagery in the noble pursuit of an appropriate title with which to capture the essence and intrigue of their over-funded picture.

No film ever—and here I challenge the reader to provide one—has so concisely distilled its meaning and message in its title as that of the above-mentioned movie. It is as if these title words—two nouns, a preposition, and a mere article—were the first words conceived by the author, and from here the

story blossomed into an elaborate creation, based upon the dark, nihilistic image cast by the very words themselves. And so I believe it is the title of this movie that deserves the merit, regardless of however one finds its plot. Success, I say, you are a success! You had me at “Bullet.”

However, the glory of this title does not belong to Hollywood: the title is taken from the graphic novel on which this movie is based. Though the graphic novel’s artist involved himself in the scripting, I feel—deep down in the curves of my intestines—as though I’ve been misled somehow. The words...they

deceive.

When I discovered this disheartening bit of information, a shroud was lifted, a shroud which represented everything artistic and beautiful and poetic about this film. The Hollywood suits didn’t create this magnificent title—it was an artist! I realized at that moment that the movie had no value.

So I stopped writing the review. I didn’t even see the movie.

Watched a movie and want us to review it? Send an email to ae@technewsiit.com and we will review it!

Nexus 4: Better than iPhone 5 and Galaxy SIII

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The Nexus 4, a phone that has been discussed more than the iPhone 5 and Galaxy S III, is a collaboration of Google and LG with the latest Android hardware and software. Some of the pros are: 1.5GHz quad-core processor Krait {chipset: Qualcomm APQ80654 Snapdragon} and a 2 GB RAM, making it the fast mobile yet. It has a 4.7 inch True HD IPS with 768 x 1280 pixels and 318 ppi pixel density, which makes the screen bright, and everything looks great.

It runs Android version Jelly Bean 4.2.1, bringing some new features and shortcuts like photo sphere which allows you to capture 360-degree images, different types of widgets can be added to the home screen with its size adjustment, touch and adjust setting, swipe keypad, wireless display support, and a 2,100mAh battery, much better than other smartphones.

These features are available for \$299 for 8GB or \$349 for 16GB unlocked. In spite of these great features, it has some downfalls: its only available with T-Mobile, its lack of support for the fastest 4G LTE networks, and its unavailability in the markets. Though the glass back is aesthetically pleasing, it is very fragile, and when placed on a smooth surface, it slips. That makes it very inconvenient while using the touch screen. The Google Nexus 4 comes with an 8 MP camera,

but the images captured are not as good when compared to the iPhone 5.

All in all, the Nexus 4 mobile is affordable, sleek, and fun to use. I give it a 4.5 out of 5.0 and a thumb up.

Got a smartphone app and you think other students should try? Send an email to ae@technewsiit.com and we will review it!



Image by Rohankumar Patel

App Review: AroundMe: inept GPS

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This week's app review is about an app recommended to me by my dad. Don't get me wrong. I love my dad. Because he has worked in the tech industry for over twenty years, I decided to give his recommendation a try.

According to him, the AroundMe app has been a lifesaver on business trips when he is in an unfamiliar place and needs to find a restaurant or coffee shop quickly. I think this app is a poorly organized headache. One of my major issues is similar to my major gripe regarding car GPS systems.

If I am really hungry and looking for a restaurant, I often just want to find; a chain restaurant that I know will have something I can inhale quickly, or Italian (hard to mess up). While the AroundMe app has both a search tool and a restaurant category, the search tool never seems to have high enough accuracy.

Also, like many GPS systems that I have used, the search tool is frustratingly kept separate from the different categories. You can search or you can select a category, but you cannot search within a category.

There are no subcategories, so you cannot look for a particular cuisine type within the “Restaurant” category. My experience with this app also taught me that the walking routes given by the map always seem to take you on a route that adds an additional quarter mile.

After trying this app in my own neighborhood, I now suspect that my difficulty in finding places in San Francisco was largely



Image courtesy of AroundMe

due to the strange routes that this app seems to find sensible. Call me crazy, but that seems less than ideal. There is also the strange inclusion of the “Local Guides” and “Apple Retail Stores” categories. The selection of “Local Guides” will give you the option of various Lonely Planet guides, that if I was going to purchase, I wouldn't want on my phone.

The “Apple Retail Stores” option is frankly both self-explanatory and strange. If you are really in a bind and Google Maps, Yelp, and asking an attractive stranger are all somehow non-options, I guess you could download this app and give it a try. I give it 2 out 5 stars.

Got an app on your phone that you think other students should try? Send an email to ae@technewsiit.com and we will review it!

Anomalistic behavior of water in temperature changes

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Why does the lake freezes out from the shore then in to the center?

Lake Michigan freezes out from the shore then at the center, but as the whole lake freezes, the center is stronger and thicker because the water level drops from the center. The ice along the shore breaks from the weight

disbursement and then has to refreeze again and is thinner. Water is one of Earth's strangest substances; as water freezes, ice forms on its surface rather than on the bottom. The lake is refractory to sudden temperature changes, since it has high heat capacity. A very important property of water, in both freshwater and in the sea, is its heat capacity. Most substances, such as air, rock, iron, or glass, require less heat per gram to warm one degree Celsius than water.

The reason why ice forms on the top of lakes and ponds is that once water cools below 40 degrees Celsius it becomes lighter and less dense the more it cools. This means that water expands as it freezes into ice. As a result, ice takes up more room than the water it was made from. This makes ice lighter and less dense than the water below it, allowing ice to float on top of the water, rather than sink to the bottom. If seawater had different properties, such as

a different heat capacity, the ocean currents would transport different amounts of heat around the globe, and the climate of the earth would be different. If water compressed when it froze (as does almost everything else), ice would sink to the bottom of the seabed and, in the absence of energy from the sun, it would never melt, ice would accumulate, and the world oceans would be in a solid phase rather than liquid water.