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Doctor Strange

Lisa Packard

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Movie Review

Title: Doctor Strange
Main Performers: Benedict Cumberbatch, Tilda Swinton, Chiwetel Ejiofor
Director: Scott Derrickson
Reviewer: Lisa Packard
Studio: Marvel Studios
Year Released: 2016
Run Time: 155 minutes
MPAA Rating: PG-13
Interest Level: Intermediate, Young Adult
Rating: Excellent



Review

Dr. Stephen Strange is a very successful neurosurgeon with a very large ego.]. As he is recklessly driving to a meeting, he gets in a terrible accident that destroys his hands. He has no strength in his hands and they shake uncontrollably. He hears about a paralyzed man that can suddenly walk and finds out that the man traveled Kamar-Taj and decides to travel there himself. He meets the Ancient One, a powerful being that can wield magic. The Ancient One tells him he has to put aside everything he knows and his ego to be successful in learning magic. Kaecilius is an evil sorcerer is trying to take over the world and Stephen is the only one that can defeat him. Through much trial and magic, and with the help of an artifact called the Cloak of Levitation, Dr. Strange defeats Kaecilius, but not without the Ancient One being killed as well. Dr. Strange accepts the fact that he can't be a neurosurgeon any more, but he can keep the world from evil.

This is a wonderful story of accepting the way you are, no matter what your faults or drawbacks are. Benedict Cumberbatch does a wonderful job portraying an arrogant, self-absorbed man that then becomes a little more humble and accepts his surroundings. You can't help feeling sorry for Stephen and his loss of his great work. You also come to see how rude he can be. It almost reminds you of the character Benedict played as Sherlock in the BBC series. As you get to know Stephen, you see him as a man that has his faults, but is only trying to make the world a better place. When you meet the Ancient One played by Tilda Swinton, you are intrigued by the mystery that surrounds her and want to know what her ultimate goal is. When you discover that she broke magical rules for the greater good, you realize that rules sometimes must be broken or bent to achieve the ultimate goal of keeping someone safe. Marvel throws in some entertaining humor in the Cloak of Levitation as well. It may just be fabric, but it has a mind of it's own as it tries to keep Stephen safe from harm, or even wipes the tears from his face when he's sad.

*Contains moderate language and violence.