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Hello everybody and welcome to Chapter Select, a seasonal podcast where we bounce back and

forth between a series exploring its evolution, design, and legacy.

For season 4 we are covering the Fast and the Furious series.

My name is Max Roberts and I am joined as always by Logan Moore.

Hi Logan.

Max, are we sure this is a Fast and Furious movie?

It says so in the title. It says Fast and Furious presents Hobbs and Shaw.

I think it's more Fast and Furious presents The Rock because I don't think he's Hobbs in this film. This is just The Rock.

Oh, weird. It's like my first, very first note in my document says Hobbs is so different than his Fast Five, Hobbs.

Yes, that is something we will have to dive very, maybe not very deep into, but that is absolutely the one thing that stood out about this movie to me is that it is just Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson in this film.

I see no character that he is playing.

Should we just insult each other for the next hour?

Just different insults?

You know, I can't talk to you anymore, it's your face.

The insults are very good in this film.

That was fun, but it was also maybe a little overkill at times because that's probably 20 minutes of the movie almost it seems like.

Collectively, probably.

They really thought that the prison scene in Fast 8 was so good that they just decided to make an entire movie where they insult each other in the same way.

I kinda like it.

I'm here for it.

This is a weird movie.

Very weird movie.

I have a lot to say we'll get into it

Let's uh, let's do the rundown first and then we'll talk more about our general thoughts

Fast and Furious presents Hobbs and Shaw

Which is what is this the ninth?

Chronological movie in the series it is it released on August 2nd 2019. It was directed by David Leitch

Produced by Dwayne Johnson Jason Statham Hiram Garcia and Chris Morgan

The writer was Chris Morgan and drew Pierce the primary actors in the film were Dwayne Johnson Jason Statham Idris Elba

Vanessa Kirby Cliff Curtis and Helen Mirren

The composer this time was Tyler Bates the stunt coordinator the supervising stunt coordinator was Chris O'Hara

Simon Crane and David Kubua for the other stunt coordinators and then this film's budget was a cool

\$200,000,000 and it made

160 million at the box office the Rotten Tomatoes

aggregate this time around for critics was a 68% and

audiences was

88% which I believe is one of the highest I think it's in the history of the series and

It makes me feel like a truly crazy person

Because I talked to you about this

I mean we can just get right into it what our experiences with the movie

I I get do you have anything to say about this one with your own experience again? I we're so close to reality now

It's just like I went and saw it in the theaters. This one is

We touched on an in Fate of the Furious

Where they had greenlit spin-offs and sequel like other movies besides the core fast and furious

So that was always interesting and it being Hobbs and Shaw

Was just like okay that makes sense

I guess the other touch point or historic, you know, my experience with it is the trailers for this movie

show off the whole movie.

If you watch all of the trailers,

you get the whole movie.

That taught me to not watch them for F9,

which also-- - Do they do the same thing

with F9?

- Shows the whole movie, so don't watch any trailers.

- I mean, we're so close to where this is,

I mean, this movie is three years old,

so I remembered most of the movie from the trailers

that I was just seeing in theaters constantly.

So yeah, I mean, all the,

There's the Russian nuclear power plant scene where they're running around there.

You got the end scene where they're in Samoa, the island of Samoa, I think.

Uh, yeah.

Yeah.

They show the whole thing.

London.

Yes.

Everything.

Yes.

I don't understand how this got an 88%.

I found this in the same vein as fate of the furious.

I found this movie greatly.

A boring for the most part.

And I think it's boring because it does feel so disconnected from the mainline series.

All these other movies, even the ones I've been down on, have felt part of the larger franchise in some way.

And I think they've been able to hold my attention and it feels like they're building off something.

This is obviously a spinoff, but it feels so different from the other Fast movies.

We talked at the end of the last episode about how, you kind of warned me, like, "Oh, CGI stuff's about to become way more prominent in the next couple movies."

It is over the top here.

Like this does not feel like Fast and Furious because there's not many cars.

There's a couple like chase...

There are cars, but the chase sequences and things like that are different.

And then the prominence of CGI really just makes it feel completely different in so many ways.

Fast and Furious in name. Really it's an action buddy cop movie starring Dwayne Johnson and Jason Statham. We have cameos from other famous actors, Ryan Reynolds, Kevin Hart. Notice you didn't text me during Kevin Hart's reveal, only Ryan Reynolds. But I think that's why this got an 88 is because it is filled with very popular people that folks enjoy and it's just a funny, big action go boom movie.

Well, and then, I mean there's a lot of things to get into with the story and I don't know how we want to start or approach some of this stuff, but there's also just things coming

off of the last Fast movies that I didn't understand or I felt like I missed something.

Like why is, is, uh, is Deckard's mom, is it Queenie? Is that her name?

I think that's what they call her.

I think that's her name. Wait, when did she get in prison? Did I miss something? Why is she in jail?

She's just in prison now.

It's just like he's the movie starts and she's in prison and meanwhile Deckard Shaw who's like a

Super terrorist in two movies prior and killed Han is just like oh, I live in a penthouse now

I know he's a super terrorist or was he framed? Oh, yeah

He's still offed Han even though the next movie is gonna undo that

It just I feel like I am

Like look I can get past the goofy action sequences and everybody being superheroes and Idris Elba catching bullets fine

whatever that's fun, but like the story is like I

Feel like I'm missing things as I watch this I

Am out of the loop and I don't understand how we're at this point with some of these characters like

The fast and furious we've talked about this, you know, it started from stealing DVD players to stopping nuclear submarines

and like nuclear subs felt one step too far. Now we are at cyborgs where companies are trying to

put machines in man and like wipe out the weak and mass genocide all this like we've gone from nukes

to cyborg genocide. It's just so disconnected. I mean fast 10 or 11 is literally it has to be time travel or something. I mean right? Like that's been the joke for a while now. It's

an ad or dinosaurs, yeah. Something like Jurassic Park crossover. I don't know. I don't understand

how they keep upping the ante with this series. I mean Fast Eleven won't be the end of it either. They're gonna keep doing these dumb spinoffs here like this. Hobbs and Shaw 2

will eventually come out. You mean 2 Hobbs 2 Shaw? Oh my god please call it that. Please
Please call it that. Please.

Fast and Furious presents two Hobbs, two Shaw.

Or they could put the two at the end of Hobbs, the S at the end of Hobbs is a two.

And then the Shaw, the S in the Shaw is a two.

That would be terrible.

Two and two.

Speaking of names, I've been holding onto this bit of information the whole season.

I've been waiting for Hobbs and Shaw to share this with you. I don't think you knew this,
looked it up.

Do you know what the Fast and Furious movies are called in Japan?

Uhhhhh, I do not.

They're called Wild Speed.

Wild Speed!

So the first one is Wild Speed, and then it's Wild Speed X2.

Wild Speed X3 Tokyo Drift.

Then we get to the good stuff.

For the fourth film it's Wild Speed Max.

Fast Five is Wild Speed Mega Max.

Six is Wild Speed Euro Mission.

Okay.

Seven is Sky Mission.

And eight is Ice Break.

Ice Break.

Hobbs and Shaw is called Wild Speed colon Super Combo.

I love it.

I love it so much.

Those are actually way better titles.

Right?

Ice Breaker's a really good one.

I dig Ice Breaker.

look I didn't even look up F9's title in Japan. Wild Speed Jet Break is F9 in Jet Break.

You'll know why. Now I'm scared to watch that movie. Oh my gosh. So I've been holding on to that nugget for a long time because I think Wild Speed Super Combo is pretty awesome.

I mean going back to the story stuff, again, are there things I just straight up missed that went over my head, like, are there reasons established, like, why is Sean not back in prison? Like, at the end of-- and I guess this is something we could have talked about at the end of Fate of the Furious as well, where he just shows up and he's like, "Hey, I'm part of the family now, I'm here for-- I'm gonna meet this child named Brian."

I assume Mr. Nobody just let him go, there was-- he was a good-- he's been brought into the family, so there's no reason to arrest him. Basically, if you're friends with Dominic Toretto, you don't go to jail. I guess. But even Dom was, like, a convict for, like, three or four movies there and had to keep running around the world to avoid cops and then that eventually came to a head with you know Hobbs there because he was a convict for I mean from

F1 onward he had to kind of dodge the cops and lay low. We can't arrest him anymore because he's

a good guy now and everyone likes him so but that's which is also why they retcon him in this movie.

But then why is his mom in jail like did I miss something there is that established either like

No, she's just in jail now. She's just chillin'.

What happens, I have to ask, and you can just tell me right now,

is she in jail in Fast 9? 'Cause I know she's in Fast 9.

She's not in jail.

Like, what are we, oh well, I guess they break out.

This movie they established that they're gonna break her out, yeah.

But, I don't know. Like, why is she in jail but Deckard's not?

Where's Owen?

Yeah, and that's the other thing too. Every one of these new movies, a new Shaw family member appears. Like first it was Owen, then seven was Deckard, then eight was the mom, now this one's the sister. Like what is-

Where's dad?

Yeah there's gonna be an uncle that shows up at some point here soon. Like oh it's uncle Shaw.

I mean look Hobbs and Hattie you know they may have a kid and then you're gonna have Hobbs Shaw fusion.

Who are famous British actors that they can just keep bringing in to have them be part of the Shaw family?

You could probably tap the Game of Thrones cast.

You could probably just start tapping.

Yeah, we'll have Kit Harington come in and be the Shaw nephew or something.

Hey guys.

Yeah, I don't know.

That was the first thing with this movie that I just felt like I was...

Things felt very off.

I do like...

Like there are some scenes in this movie that I like cinematically.

I like the side by side opening like montage scene.

That's good. When the rock takes a spoonful of coffee, I thought yes

Yes, I wrote that down. I

Literally just wrote Hobbes eats a scoop of coffee. Would that work?

Like you're trying to wake up and get the benefits of coffee if you just ate a scoop with that work. I

Don't know

Is that is coffee on its own caffeinated like that or does it need to be I think the deed
I mean I assume I assume so yeah cuz you can eat coffee beans and they are
caffeinated like that cuz I've done that before like there's like candied coffee
beans or whatever you can eat and they do give you kind of a jolt of caffeine I
guess I'm just gets a scoop of Folgers so bad best part of waking up is scoop
and folders directly into your mouth. Yeah. Raw eggs. I don't know about that one, brother.
Like that's a fun thing. But there are scenes like that that I like, but they stand, they're
so, they're just one off like cinematic things that they do in this movie that don't ever
come back again. Like when she's like, oh, we got to pull off the Mick Jagger and then
splash it on the screen says Mick Jagger and then it shows like a flashback sequence and
Explains this whole thing. I thought that there that was gonna like they did be a refrain and
show up a cup

What was the other one when they blew up the safe? Oh

Yeah ears and stuff

Okay, they did it twice

Yeah, it's just it's it's a lot of styles coming together, right?

You've got this buddy cop side by side split. You've got the comedy element

you've got all these action pieces, you've got comedic flashbacks, it's just whatever

fits the moment and it kind of feels hodgepodge at times. And then you've got the super
serious

evil corporation that with a disembodied evil voice talking over everything.

Yeah that was really bad like I-

You'll remember me Hobbs.

I was gonna say, is that supposed to be somebody we know? Like that was so poorly done.

For some reason I remember it being Ryan Reynolds, but that's not the case, obviously.

Okay. Yeah, I don't know. You bring up Ryan Reynolds there. Let's actually touch on some

of the cameos real quick. Like, why? I guess is just my question. That's the thing. And

that's actually this kind of leads into what I really want to talk about, what I mentioned

up front is this movie has The Rock's fingerprints all over it.

Not only is he a production company.

Yeah I know Seven Bucks production was the production company behind this and he produced

it and things like that.

I get that but it really just does feel like he was roping in all his friends.

He was playing himself.

He was even we've mentioned in the past like I talked about in Fast I want to say Seven when he's in the hospital.

I told you there's a cameo where he's watching the TV and the TV is showing highlights of his college football career.

So that's kind of a nod to The Rock outside of that character.

This movie though is way too direct about some of that stuff.

Kevin Hart showing up just feels like, "Oh hey, because The Rock and Kevin Hart, they're in so many movies together, we're going to do it again and they're buddies and hey!"

showing up was just clearly Dwayne Johnson being like, "Hey, I want Kevin Hart in the movie. Let's

throw him in here somehow. We're buddies." Same with Ryan Reynolds. And then when he's like

FaceTiming with his daughter and he does the eyebrows, it's like, "Okay, we're going a little too far here with just these constant nods to this being The Rock. We know he is The Rock.

Can you play Hobbes? Can you play a character rather than doing your rock stuff?"

- But this movie got an 88 with audiences.

That's what people want to see.

- That's what, I don't.

- I'm with you, I'm with you.

I wanted Hobbes.

- Hobbes, I mean, we may as well get into a larger discussion about this now, but Hobbes has completely eroded

as a character, and to the point that I don't even like him

that much anymore. - Where is the,

where's the guy that got off the plane in Brazil

and was, you know, asking for his veggies

and never ever let him get in their cars?

Where's the guy who's Old Testament, you know, blood, bullets, and, uh, I forget the other thing.

You know, where's that one? Now it's, "I'm gonna bust in and tattoo 'I love cops' on your forehead and pick you up and throw you around."

Well, even the stuff, even the stuff at the end of the movie, too, with him going to his whole Samoan family, like, that's...

That's just, like, rock stuff at the end of the day. Like, his character's backstory kind of lines up with his own.

own real life backstory. He even puts his own cousin in the movie with Roman Reigns.

That's fine and I didn't have an issue with that, but again, the ideas that he had in

the movie, it was more just like, "Oh, well, what's in my real life? Who are my friends?

Oh, Kevin Hart's my friend. I'll put him in this movie. What am I? I'm a Samoan guy and

my cousin is Roman Reigns and we'll put them in the movie and they're going to be my family

and they'll fight with..." It doesn't feel like he's playing a character anymore at all.

This has been something that has slowly eroded since Fast Five.

Fast Five I felt like I would not have seen him as Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson, which

I was impressed by and surprised by because most of the Rock movies are literally just

him playing The Rock.

How he is represented in Hobbs & Shaw isn't necessarily a surprise to me.

I'm used to The Rock playing himself in a lot of his parts.

But Hobbs was the one instance where I felt like that wasn't necessarily the case and

that has kind of undone itself slowly over time and I don't like that. It stinks, honestly.

And I miss the goatee.

It's a big bummer, but I don't want it to sound, at least for me personally, like I

like The Rock, I like Dwayne.

Yeah, I do too.

I'm still enjoying his performance.

I follow The Rock on Instagram.

I see him talking all the time.

I say, "I'm up at the morning,

"clanging and banging in the Iron Paradise.

"Enjoy your gaming, Zoa energy."

Like I get enough of The Rock, unfiltered as it is,

that when I see him on the big screen,

I would like him to be something else other than The Rock

that I see on Instagram and Twitter all the time.

Like, can you play a character other than yourself?

'Cause I see you as it is a lot.

And like even his wrestling persona is different.

he's playing an amplified version of himself but when he is The Rock in WWE he's different.

He has a different cadence and a different style.

- Sure. Hobbs has turned into The Rock.

- Yeah, yes.

- Which is, 'cause Hobbs was a really cool character. So it's a big bummer there that he kinda has turned into just The Rock and if he ever does return in a Fast and Furious mainline film or Hobbs and Shaw 2 I'm curious which I assume we're just gonna stay in Rockland with his performance and kind of keep that in clearly his production company's got a hold on this now to some degree right so and you know whose money is where does that go and you know this movie was written by the same guy who's written all the Fast and Furious movies since Tokyo Drift so he he has transformed Hobbs as well. I'm sure working together with Duane, you know, they collaborate

and this is kind of where we want to take this character and all that stuff. But it's, it is a bummer to see the character of Luke Hobbs turn into Duane Hobbs Johnson. So I will say Shaw is the same. But Jason Statham I feel like plays, he doesn't have the broadest He's an action star. He's kind of playing the same character in every movie I've ever seen him in, but it's fine

I guess. Like, Jason Statham isn't

The Rock is so different, I guess, to criticize in this way because The Rock is like ever-present in front of our faces whether it be social media or videos or

advertisements or you can't go to, again, you can't go to the grocery store without "Hey, buy my Terramana tequila and Zoa energy!" Like, he's everywhere.

He's ubiquitous. You cannot not see The Rock. Jason Statham, even though he is playing the same

character in essentially every movie, it's like, "Okay, well, he's just kind of an action star guy and when you're not seeing him on the big screen, you're not really seeing him anywhere." So it's

more acceptable in that sense, I guess. And he does fine in the movie. All his quips are good.

Him and The Rock do have really good chemistry, I think.

That's where I wanted to take it. The chemistry between the two of them

is the glue of this movie. It's why this movie was the first spinoff made. These two together have wonderful energy and great writing and delivery. They just play off each other so well.

Yeah, I agree. It's the it's the it's the best thing about the movie now.

Let's talk about some of the other new characters that enter the fray.

You talk about let's let's actually say Idris because I think I have more to say about him

than I do Hattie here who just again feels like I'm another Shaw family member getting thrown into

this and she's fine but she's cool she's she's the McGuffin of the movie too like the everybody is just after her because she's decided to put a super virus in her own bloodstream the plot is so

we haven't talked about the plot at all the plot is so bonkers like not only is there cyborg people

like Idris Elba's cyborg man wanting every- But she has a deathly disease counting down in her body until it activates.

A reprogrammable virus.

Yes, that will melt the inside of your body's organs or something weird. I don't know.

And it's not even really established that clearly why Idris and them want it other than just control, I guess?

- The same sort of thing with--

- ETR wanted to use it to wipe out the week, so they'll program it for people with diabetes or Alzheimer's and it will only kill those people.

- Okay, so it's a Thanos sort of thing.

- So it will kill the week.

Which, this is a company?

Theoretically, this is a company

that you can buy their products at the store

and they're out here like, "Ha ha, we will kill the week."

And put machines in people.

It's so... just so bonkers.

Yeah, it's... I don't know.

I think if there would have been a greater reveal at the end of this movie about who was maybe in charge and pulling the strings

other than just disembodied voice speaking on a screen while a bunch of people click-clack away on computers in a room would have been...

You'll remember me, Hobbs.

Yeah, I think it would have been better.

Speaking more to the actual villain though, which is Idris, I think he's the best character in the movie.

I like Idris Elba. I like Idris Elba a lot though. So, I do not think he is, um...

I guess I would say he is the over the top things that I do like about these movies where he's just...

He's just a superhuman dude and they just gotta fight him.

But they at least try to explain more why he is a superhuman. It's like, "Oh, his body's been altered and he's got

cybernetics running through his body and he's been built as a superhuman." Other than when Dom just does

Superman feats of strength and there's no explanation for it. At least they try to establish

why Idris Elba is as strong as he is. Like, there's no explanation for why Hobbs is able to hold a helicopter

with a chain in his room.

No, that's absolutely factually established because this man

Slides torpedoes on ice takes drones out with ambulances. Of course. He can hold a helicopter

Like at least with Idris he's like one of the most over-the-top characters they've had in probably this entire film series, but there are

they try to give some reasons behind it rather than just having him come in and

catch bullets in his hand and be like, oh I can just do that because for no reason like

I don't know. I think he's fine and I like Idris Elba. He's also not... I don't feel

like he plays baddy characters like this too often. Like I know he's in The Wire

and I think he's a villain in The Wire if I'm correct. I've never seen that show

so don't yell at me. I've seen like half of season one. He is on The Wire though. Idris is good.

He's definitely cartoony evil. Like over the top, amped, I need to kill them, I need to keep getting

my cyborg enhancements until I am the perfect machine. It's just having Shaw be the one that

shot him in the head back in the day like gives this weird vengeance spin plot that really I guess

only happenstance is even happens because Hattie is involved he just he's

just cartoony evil but he they do not do the thing where they go and prove how

evil he is by doing something you know I shall now murder this one person to

establish my true villainy he it's established pretty early on he's just a

bad guy with superpowers. My... the things I guess I associate with Brixton, that's his

character's name, the motorcycle I do not like. The transforming spinny motorcycle,

like that pulls me out of it. Like if we're gonna use vehicles we'll just use vehicles.

Well that's like the most CGI part of the movie.

Yes, every time he's on that motorcycle I'm just not a fan of it. I don't like when they switch to his first person view and they show his computer AI that feels like a cheap Iron Man knockoff to me. It's more like a Terminator thing. And they make a call to that. I think Hobbes even says that in the movie. Like, "Oh, so we're being chased by the Terminator." It's like, "Yeah, that's basically what he is." But he clearly has fun with the role, I think. "I'm black Superman." That's a really great line. It's fun. And then when Hobbes says here comes your kryptonite later on. That's a good call back.

Oh my gosh, is that good? I think that's when he has him picked up and is getting ready to drop him on his back or something. Yeah, he drops him right on his back and breaks his back practically. Yeah, I think you could tell, that's what I like about Idris in the movie is that he is cartoonishly evil. I think that's, I think that works in this series now. Like that's kind of what, if we're going to get so nonsensical at this point with what the set pieces are and what the plots are then I think the villains need to be a little outlandish as well and with Fast Eight I don't feel like Cypher was a great villain because she was too serious.

Brixton's involved.

He's actually boots on the ground.

Well he's involved yes but he also feels his motivations are more I don't know Cypher's motivations are also equal parts crazy but his are more yeah like we said cartoonishly evil where it's just like goofy like I want the whole world to be cyborgs the evolution of man it's like okay well this is just dumb and cypher is like I want nukes to check all the world powers it's like huh what why are you here one of them is so just silly and the other both silly but one of them is more like vaudevillian almost um so yeah I liked it's just largely in the movie but I'm predisposed to like Idris because I just think he's a good actor and most of what he's in and I want to see the movie where he fights a lion really badly but

that's another that's another point entirely. We talked a little bit before about the CGI usage in this movie and you talked about the motorcycle a moment ago and yeah that's probably the most disappointing thing about this movie to me is that it is so devoid of practical effects and it's more apparent than ever and there are some practical scenes I can think of towards the end but other than that everything else felt so fake in the movie and I guess that's what bored me about it is that usually these movies no matter what the plots are no matter what the character motivations are you can always stay kind of gripped to the screen because the action scenes themselves always look really good and in this they look so bad. It's rough. It's a rough ride man and like the London chase I'm just not engaged there at all. It's cool to see a McLaren drifting around and stuff but the motors I will say I like the rock sticking his arm out grabbing a guy and then slamming him against a brick wall but not breaking the rocks arm that's pretty good but like drifting under the semi trucks totally just like oh there's a lot of slow-mo in this movie the final fight scene there's a ton of it too but that looks cool I think I'm gonna I want to talk we'll talk about the final fight and that slow-mo in a moment but the whole that ties back into the the motorcycle like the CG bike riding on the wall and then jumping through you know under the semis and rolling over it just feels... Same thing when they blow up the base and run out of there. And Shaw's driving that four-wheeler thing and it's just like weeeee all this stuff. It's just way too much reliance on visual CG effects that just feels meh. Which is weird because 200 million dollars was dropped into this movie and there was there are previous movies in this series that did not cost this much to make and I get like inflation and prices go up over time whatever but like there are other movies they made in this series that were closer to only like I want to say like 150 million to make and they the effects in those are just drastically more impressive. I think what that is

your trade-off between practicality and CGI when it's all in the camera and on frame and on set it looks better it's more believable and grounded and no matter how much money you pour into the CG side of things it's just never going to be as gripping as putting it out on the street and even the equivalent you know 200 million dollar Fast and Furious movies they really leaned into the practicality of things for their big action set pieces and that pays off.

Yeah and I think the thing too that it's really clear to me about this is that it's not just us complaining about practical effects not being used I think it really is when you look at all the most popular action movie franchises I think part of the reason that many of them are so popular is because of the practical effects that are used like I think of John Wick. John Wick has a ton of practical effects in it and I think that's one major reason why so many people like those movies a lot. I think it's why a lot of people latched on to these fast movies up until the past couple here. I really feel like it wasn't until 8 that the CGI has gone into full overdrive. Full time. Yes. So like up until Fate of the Furious and then now we've got Hobbs and Shaw. It feels like they've really started to lean into CGI more. But then you look even back with like the older Star Wars prequels, older Star Wars prequels, that's a weird thing to say now because for some reason I still think those are only like five to ten years old. We're old. Like those movies a lot of people have complained forever about lack of practical effects in that and then when they made the Disney trilogy they're like oh we're gonna make sure to put more practical effects in the new movies which they kind of did for a bit. Yeah I just I guess what I'm trying to say is you can't undervalue practical effects and I think a lot of these big movie studios nowadays think that they can just outsource everything to

visual arts companies and that'll

That'll be fine and in a lot of instances it is like

obviously Marvel's very reliant on that stuff and that's been hugely successful for them in a lot of ways, but

there is something to be said about the

Viewer experience. I mean dude look at Top Gun this year. That's a perfect example

I think of why that movie has been so popular with fans and why people keep going to see it at the theaters

Or at least they were I don't know if it's still in theaters. I think it's still in theaters

I think it is too. Yeah, I did that movie has been hugely popular this year. And I think it's because it feels like a

movie for like it feels like a major feature film and this does not it's just so

vapid and

Yeah, I don't know.

It's still in movie theaters.

Yeah, I'm not surprised.

I can get tickets right now.

I'm not surprised at all.

Yeah, Top Gun Maverick is a great example of that too.

I think if more movie companies are just willing to put in the time and effort and coordination that is needed for practical effects, then there's a big boon to it, like at the box office.

I think it really does strike a chord with viewers.

As we have watched all these, that is the one thing that has stood out to me more than probably anything else,

that I respect what they have done with a lot of the action scenes in these movies up until the past couple.

I will say in the realm of practicality, while the big action set pieces, as far as the chases and vehicles and things like that, are pretty CG heavy, one area they lean heavily into this movie that is practical are the fights.

The fist fights.

Those are coordinated.

And the director of this movie, was it Derek?

David Leitch?

Leitch?

Leitch?

Leitch?

Leitch?

He apparently was a stunt guy and coordinator, combat specialist type stuff in previous films, and so he's bringing that here.

And a lot of the fistfights in this movie are practical and have the same actors, not necessarily stunt doubles and stuff.

I mean when you have people like Jason Statham and Dwayne Johnson that's probably a bit easier

to choreograph and all that stuff.

But there's a lot of physicality there that I think does pay off and those are pretty good and that leads into that final fight.

Which Logan, all practical.

They built that set, that like rain pit, filmed for a week with a rain, real rain, and they used super slow mo cameras to get those slow mo shots.

So those aren't even CG, those are real, actually hitting each other type moments caught in super slow-mo at high quality with real rain.

So I'm really glad that they at least leaned into the practicality and the fighting aspect of this movie.

Yeah, the final fight scene, the final fisticuff brawl that they have there is the most engaging and enjoyable action scene in the movie.

and it's very basic but the slow motion hits are awesome, the rain pouring down is great.

I also do love just the idea behind that scene too. Like oh well he's going to be able to hit one of us but he can't block both of us so we'll go back and forth Hobbs and Shaw go back and forth between being the person to take a punch themselves and then deal a shot to Brixton and that's fun I don't know like it's this movie so I guess

telegraphed with what's gonna happen or like early on they're like oh I don't want to work with this guy I hate working with this guy and then you know by the end of the movie they're gonna have to come together and work as a team and that's exactly what happens but at least the way they go about doing that makes for an enjoyable fight scene which I got a kick out of yeah the final the final fight scene itself is good let's talk about the other action scenes oh so we've talked about the London Chase I don't think there's a lot to mention is there anything that really stands out that you'd like to mention in the Moscow sequence because it's just another kind of the hallway the hallway is not bad yeah always a moment a whole lot of bad guys behind that door you do those types of things those are good that's and that's a great interaction and it shows off their physicality. Hobbs gets his kind of Harrison Ford Indiana Jones moment to you where the guy seems really intimidating and he just punches him square in the face. Finding the guy bigger like taller than the rock that's probably an interesting casting call. That guy had to be probably close to seven feet so. Yeah it was pretty wild. So that's a good moment. I like the battery torture scene gives Brixton chance to you know ramble on be that kind of supervillain with a monologue monologue in here. Yeah, and you've got You got Hobbs saying that they can take five shocks or whatever. So that you know It's that's a funny light-hearted moment that almost reminded me like of a bit from like SpongeBob or something

Oh my god, it's like it

Like it was it talked about cartoonish like I felt like yeah, I think that that's fun

But when things blow up and we're escaping that's when it all

Just get sucked out and just not whatever. Yeah, the character moments aren't bad. I do like the interactions there

between Brixton and Hobbs and Shaw the final scene I

Guess the final big ol

Samoan versus et on soldiers battle mama. Where are all our guns go? I got rid of them. I

I

Don't know I have really

In some senses I think it's fun and I think it's completely different from anything else we've seen in the Fast and Furious movies

So I'm kind of fine with it. It feels so out of place at the same time though

Like again, like when I talk like I said before

It just felt like the entire idea was the rock like hey, I really want to inject some Samoan culture into this movie

How can we do that and like that?

Rather than this being just an idea in the script that then they're like, okay cool. It felt like it felt

Unnatural how this was put into the movie in some senses. So

I'm gonna push back a little bit. I'm gonna push back just a smidge in fate of the furious we get that

Samoan war cry soccer chant so at least that's a little bit established again

That is just the rock pouring his himself into the character of hops

Yeah, and then like you said earlier this movie telegraphed

We know where this movie is going from the moment it starts

That also includes when he's having breakfast with his daughter and she's like look at our family tree and it's like yes

We have no one in our tree dad

Which is like the most cliched

Yeah, I feel like that has been that's such an overused trope like oh our family is so small and then

Yeah, and that sets up others

Hobbs going back home makes sense in that

cliche way so where are we gonna go we're gonna go to Samoa because that's

the rock putting himself into the character we get some good character

moments there we get an interesting context for Hobbs kind of this actually

feels more Hobbs than the rest of the movie the the reason he doesn't associate with his family is because his dad was like a criminal and he turned his dad in and his brothers felt like that he abandoned them and kind of went and turned his back on his family.

But it feels so out of place compared to everything else.

It's like 90 minutes into the movie he then transitions to become more Hobbes-like for about a 10 minute sequence and then he becomes The Rock again.

It's interesting there and it means this is the one part that makes this a Fast and Furious movie.

Family.

Family.

Family.

Family.

So we get this whole brother thing.

got a lot of brothers. It's there, it's predictable, not super terrible, not too bad. The fight, the actual like let's set up the island and we're gonna fight them with with sticks, arrows, and bows and stuff. Kind of cool. I like it and it is practical, the fighting part of it. Now when we get in a car and we're fishing a helicopter we enter CG land again, but the actual like fist fight part of it uh-huh CG are practical so I enjoy that as well but again that's in the fist fighting realm not the stunt setpiece realm there are a couple things I just have to mention about your scene and it's continuity errors all over the place it is you mean how fast the Sun rises well that's one thing they start the timer on her thing and it's like 30 minutes and it starts sucking out her whatever the evil skin milk virus organ milting virus or whatever and starts sucking it out of her and then they go outside and it's pitch black and then they start fighting and then it becomes midday and then you see by the end of

that fight scene where they're all kind of gathered up there in front of the compound or whatever you can see the clock on her thing and it's it like 21 minutes it's like so wait in a span of nine minutes we've gone from this thing beginning to suck out the evil super virus to then them doing their whole war cry chant to then the sun coming up and it being midday to then it starts downpouring five minutes later and then it's pitch black again which I get the storm clouds it's just so like what like I don't and I think I think more time passes I mean I would have you'd have to figure this out exactly but when they hit the clock and it starts counting down from 30 minutes. I feel like 20 minutes pass before you see it again and it's like in movie only like nine minutes have passed on the clock. It's like what the heck they started this thing up 20 minutes ago in the movie. It's just there that sense of time is so bizarre and then there's one other major thing I have to bring up. Go for it. So when The Rock starts his whole Samoan war chant with his Usos and they're standing there he's wearing like a loincloth No shirt and then out of nowhere two minutes later when he jumps on the back of the truck He's wearing a shirt and pants and I'm like who ended Show him just show the shirt on okay shows some pants to you the pants I don't know where this came from it could have been under the loincloth thing But he definitely they definitely show him putting the shirt on okay, okay? So I must have missed that scene briefly must have looked away or something That's but that I can bet if you missed it, that's super jarring I don't think it is I don't think he is wearing pants in the other scene I think he is wearing like those shorts or whatever. So I I just I just love the idea that in the midst of this large battlefield this all-out brawl Hobbes found time to put on a shirt and pants that he Must have brought with him for this fight and then he goes and hops on the back of the car and starts Throwing a chain at a helicopter and stuff. So

Very goofy.

So, looking at some pictures, he has pants on under the red cloth thing.

There are shots of him.

Does he?

Okay.

I cannot see it.

So he has full blown pants on underneath.

So it's not as much of a continuity error as I thought.

The Time noticed it as soon as I saw it in theaters.

This is just wild.

They filmed the whole thing during the day and then they've used lighting and editing later to try and make it look like night.

Yes, which they've done in the past.

did that in Fast 1 as well with the truck scene there at the end. Because they leave at night and then it's like dusk when they start trying to hijack that truck and then it becomes midday out of nowhere. It's like what the heck? Yeah, I guess my question is why they're just not setting these scenes during the day. It's probably because they think certain things pop better at night. I don't know.

Yeah, and it's obviously easier to film during the day, so it's this conflict of stuff to do.

Especially large action scenes like that.

Yeah.

I guess the last thing to say, since we're talking about this whole final scene, is just the helicopter stuff in general.

I love it.

You love it?

Him, I think the rock holding the helicopter with one arm and the truck with the other and this whole like hook on the, it's dumb,

it's over the top, but that's like the Fast and Furious dumb stunt that I love and just the visual image of that is awesome.

So I write it all off.

- That was the one moment of the movie where I was like, this feels like Fast and Furious now because they're doing dumb stuff with cars.

So they get it in there at the final second and they don't do a lot with it, but it is very silly.

- Well, you know, the other Fast and Furious kind of moment was when they walked through the garage and they're like, "Oh, look at our custom cars.

"Oh, those are going over to Tokyo."

I was like, "Yes, we got a Tokyo mention."

- Yeah, they always gotta drop Tokyo in there to make you remember that the Tokyo racing scene is alive and well, even though we've not seen it with our own eyes for quite some time.

Yeah, the helicopter stuff was fun.

I guess my only problem with it in the moment was I was like, oh, man, this is a pretty anticlimactic way for Idris to be involved in this final scene.

But then obviously, they get the final fist fight there at the end.

I was like, OK, that rectifies that.

That's good.

Because I was afraid that Idris was going to meet his doom

in this helicopter.

And I'm like, oh, this is kind of not that thrilling.

But yeah, they don't do that.

There's some other-- so we've talked about most movie at this point. I think a couple of the other things I would like to touch on, this is something I actually texted you about before we began recording, is just the post-credits scenes in this movie are so weird. It's just, there's three of them?

We had more jokes but they didn't feel right in the movie so we're just gonna put them in the credits. We gotta put an anus joke here as a post-credits

scene. Okay, that's, I think that's good and in

character for them, but the one with Ryan Reynolds fighting people and then the one with him bleeding, those felt like eh. And then they bring up the Game of Thrones stuff again and I'm like, "Okay, why are we still invoking Game of Thrones here?" Clearly, like very of the time. That is a joke that won't age well. That was a very in the moment writing.

It's not going to age super well later. Yeah, I mean it's only been three years. It doesn't age well now. I was going to say Game of Thrones is still relevant nowadays and it still hasn't aged well. Yeah, I don't really... Ryan Reynolds' character, once again, is just Ryan Reynolds. He's just showing up in the riff with The Rock and that's it. There's no...

I'm okay with it.

No, you're gonna put Ryan Reynolds in this movie, can you make him a bet? He just literally shows up out of nowhere and he's just like, "Hey, Hobbs, let's riff!" And that's all he's there for. He does literally nothing except show up in this diner and he's there the whole movie until he's somewhere else at the end on a boat or something. I- I- Knowing that that's the role, I'm fine with it. I- Now if they go and take this character, who I don't even know the name of, and they like make him an integral part in Hobbs and Shock 2, probably. Like if they do that, then we've gone too far. Like, if he's just here to be Ryan Reynolds for five minutes, sure.

Yeah. But that's all he-

The post-credit scenes make it feel like too much. I think his two scenes in the core movie, fine.

But when we have two post-credit scenes with him, it's like-

Well that's- and the way it's set up too is there's the post-credit scene with him, and then there's the other one where the Rock's like, "Oh hey, haha, Hugh Janus, haha!"

And then the other post-credit scene goes back to the previous scene.

It's like, "What? What are we doing here?"

Like...

I think that's, uh, we had too many things and we wanted to fit it in, so we're just gonna throw it all in.

There was no editorial decision here.

Yeah, they just threw it in because, for the heck of it.

Speaking of the Hugh Janus stuff, though, I did like...

the, uh...

I did like the air-- the airplane scene,

and...

I like the Rock's get-up when he goes through the airport.

When he goes through security.

His name is my name is Michael. I go by Michael. What was his name? Mike Oxmaul or something like that? Yeah

Yeah, I go by Michael. I like that whole scene Kevin Hart showing up of all the cameos in the movie

I thought Kevin Hart did do the best job

Him and the rock have great chemistry

Yeah, I thought that that was a fun little way for him to show up and be this air marshal

it's I

Don't know it again

He did not feel like he was playing a character. It was just like oh, there's Kevin Hart

so no one in this movie feels like they are playing a character other than maybe

Idris Elba and

Vanessa Kirby yeah

Everybody else is just themselves like we always see them, and it's this that's very

Odd even Helen Mirren to a degree is kind of like that. I don't know so as we begin to sort of wrap up here

We've talked a lot about the stunts and stuff like that

I don't know if you had anything else you want to say about that or the editing of the movie or anything of those natures

This this movie on the editing front going back to kind of what we talked about before there is a lot more

There is a lot more visual flair to this movie and they are trying to I feel like that's being done to

Separate it from the core fast movies and make it more visually distinct in some ways with all the different

title cards they're throwing up and stuff or like the transitions whenever they're going to different parts of the world and things like that or even

you mentioned before the

Mick Jagger plowing them splashing that up on the screen

Like there are things like that that I feel like are done to try to make it feel more unique, but it doesn't feel

Doesn't feel needed I guess it's just kind of there like they're doing it for this heck of it and there's no one

Yeah, yeah, there's no real other purpose to it doesn't feel like it's a

Soul creative vision or whatever this is just some stuff. They didn't post for the heck of it

See I didn't know if you had anything to say about that and I do have some stuff to say about the music though

I do too more so than a lot of other previous

films

My god this movie, so I think our complaint with fate of the furious was like oh

there's like no great license tracks in this which is kind of weird because

Fast and Furious franchise has always been synonymous with having these licensed tracks that appear in the movie and

Songs that are tied to the movie itself like in too fast too furious and this movie has that in spades

but oh my goodness, it goes way overboard like this is like the Suicide Squad of

Fast movies where they are I think within the opening five to ten minutes of the movie

there are three licensed tracks played. It is not like I was keeping I was keeping track of it like

that as I was watching and because it starts off with time in a bottle and it's a very bad cover

and then it ends with that and then there is a the type like when the when the title of the

movie plays there's a song by logic that is shown and then there's a there's another song that plays

during the opening scene with Idris and Hattie. I'm like, there's license track after license

track after license track and it is too much. We can dial it back just a bit. I like the license

music in these movies, but there is a point where it becomes tacky if you do it too much.

I don't know if I recognized a single song, but I'm not surprised by this. The one thing,

know about the music that I did know and recognize.

Okay, you're probably going to bring up the same thing I was about to bring up.

There's a scene with Idris Elba on screen and the song is playing and Idris Elba is

singing in the song.

He raps I think on multiple songs on the official soundtrack.

He's in two songs according to the soundtrack.

He's rapping over scenes with himself in it and that feels like the meta level there is

too much for my brain to handle.

Yes, it's almost kind of like the Black Panther soundtrack where the Black Panther soundtrack,

but that's by Kendrick and he's rapping about... It feels like the cameo you mentioned in Furious

7 where The Rock is watching The Rock. This feels like Idris listening to... Not that the

characters hear the licensed track, but it's like Idris over Idris. We get it. Idris, I mean,

clearly can rap and he's got a background in hip hop music and stuff. And so he's very...

Pirate radio, the whole thing. Yeah. So it

makes sense for him to be involved with the soundtrack but I did did you pick up on it

in the moment because yes as I was listening to I was like that sounds exactly like interest
elbows let me check the soundtrack and then I go and I check and then lo and behold there he
is on

the on one of the songs and yeah it's the song that plays I think during the London chase if I'm
correct and then there's another song in the in credits as well that he is featured on and I think
he's the lead vocalist on both tracks or the lead rapper and there's some there's some other
features

on both of those songs but he is the main one rapping yeah it's it's very that was uh definitely
my favorite thing about the soundtrack other than that everything was a little too much
the logic song was fine to see i think that was from young sinatra 4 i can't remember the name
of the song. That's one you haven't listened to. You only know the incredible true story.

You can get there, maybe, if you keep listening.

But yeah, I like that Idris was featured. It was a little too meta, but somehow it
worked at the same time, so I'm not complaining. It's like having ludicrous rap on a track
in one of the previous movies. Yes, it felt very much in that same vein, and that's why I was
cool with it at the end of the day, because it seemed kind of... It seemed like what the
series has been known for, dating back to its inception, where you have people that are in the
movie also rapping on the soundtrack. Let's talk Best Car. We've been doing this all season,
And I don't know this. I was gonna say this is a very bizarre one to do because cars are kind of
out of the picture for the most part in this movie. Can I pick Hobbes's motorcycle at the
start of the movie? I was gonna say my favorite was Idris's motorcycle but I know you hated
that.

I just don't like the CG of it. Like the whole... I don't like the CG of it. I do like Idris's
character being on a motorcycle and I think he looks cool.

I just don't like a motorcycle that can do parkour.

Yeah, I kind of was okay with it.

Even though it was silly.

It's a whole lot of fine.

There's probably a cool car in that shot of the shop that I talked about earlier, but it's not really on this page of the fan wiki that we're looking at.

So there's probably a cool car there.

Apparently there's a Jeep Gladiator in the movie that they're leaning up against for a hot minute.

I like Jeep Gladiators, I wouldn't say that's my favorite car in the movie.

The default, I think, is the car that's on the poster.

It's shown off in the trailer.

It's the one in the London chase, it's the McLaren because Shaw always drives a McLaren.

It's the cover art for this episode.

It feels like it's the most iconic car of the bunch.

- The McLaren is obviously the easy one to choose here.

the standout one of the bunch. I don't know what the little buggy is that Shaw is driving at the end that has a flamethrower attached to the side of it. That was pretty cool. But that was just cool because it had a flamethrower attached to the side of it rather than the car itself being cool.

Yeah, the McLaren is the... If we're truly choosing a best actual car, then I think it has to be the McLaren for sure. That's what I would go with in this instance. But there's not many options.

There's not... the pickins are very slim, so...

Hmm. As I'm sitting here with our notes and links and stuff,

the end of the casting section of the Wikipedia, listen to this sentence.

"The Eteon director, a role Keanu Reeves was in Negotiations 4, does not physically appear in the

film, but is also voiced by Reynolds under the pseudonym Champ Nightingale."

So that's probably where I thought it's Ryan Reynolds.

There's actually one moment toward the end where you can clearly hear

Reynolds' inflection coming through so that's probably why I thought it.

Interesting Keanu Reeves was in negotiations to be the villain of this film.

I feel like I wouldn't want him in this series.

Please stay away from Keanu.

I especially would not want him in the spin-off franchise.

If they're gonna put Keanu in it, do a main line.

Yeah you can't put Keanu in.

Keanu would be a really fun villain.

I don't feel like he's played a villain.

He would be a fun bad guy.

Has he played a villain in anything prominent?

Mmm, I'm sure.

He's got a pretty fleshed out career.

I mean, I'm sure he has too, but I just can't think of anything off the top of my head,

I guess.

I'm only thinking of John Wick in The Matrix and Lakehouse at the moment, so.

And what's the one where he's a surfer?

Point Break?

Point Break, yeah.

Yeah.

And Speed?

He's always the action hero.

I can't think of many instances where he's been the villain.

Constantine?

There's gotta be something where he's played a bad guy of some sort.

His filmography is quite extensive.

Okay.

Legacy.

What is this film's legacy?

It's the first spinoff of the Fast and Furious franchise.

And that's about it?

Yeah.

Kinda.

Yeah.

I mean, there's really not a lot else to say.

I agree with you. This is the spin-off. I would say this film's legacy is also, this is the film where Hobbes died and was replaced by The Rock.

That really is the thing that stands out to me the most is that Hobbes is dead and we are left here with

Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson. Here lies Luke Hobbes.

Yes, I really

have not enjoyed, and maybe this is something that dawned on people more slowly over time, you know,

if you have been watching these movies as they've hit theaters. I mean, maybe you can speak to this.

You have been somebody who has obviously watched all these movies as they've appeared in theaters,

and I have not. So I have seen a very quick transition of Hobbs into just Dwayne Johnson over the past couple of weeks as we have been watching these. Has it become that apparent as you have watched all of these movies over the past decade?

Yeah, because Hobbes' role has been reduced since Five. Five is in Six for a bit. He's in Seven for

two scenes. He plays a bit more of a role in Eight. Like he was gradually coming down. And so the few

moments that he's in those following movies, he's amped up, right? And then by the time you get to

Fate of the Furious with, which we've dubbed Hobbes and Shaw point five, he's essentially transformed by then right by that prison scene and so he's completely different now watching

them so close together now with you because this is the second time I've seen Hobbs and Shaw Hobbs the job is a one and done kind of thing. This so apparent right it's yeah they're two entirely different characters it's not a same it's not the same person at all but it was apparent in the theaters you know as you go through it's just his the prominence of his role in the following films was what led to that yeah I guess my question was just if whether or not it was as jarring watching these all it's more jarring watching them back to back to back sequentially like this yeah yeah yeah yeah cuz that's been yeah that's been very telling to me throughout this throughout this sprawling rewatch I

I don't know. Maybe Luke Hobbs will return one day and

Two Hobbs to Shaw. Maybe the Rock will realize he needs to stop playing the Rock and he needs to start playing

characters again, I'll say this this movie has made me

Want to go see Black Adam very badly because I want to see how he is in Black Adam because I have not seen a rock film a recent rock film in quite some time.

Like I'm trying to think of the last major thing he was in that was not-

I saw Jungle Cruise.

I did not see that.

I like him in Jungle Cruise. He's not the rock in that.

Okay. See I think the rock is not-

Jumanji. Jumanji 2. He's the rock in that.

I never saw those.

I'm surprised Jack Black didn't show up in Hobbs and Shaw really, quite honestly.

Yeah, that's true. They're saving him for two Hobbs, two Shaw, apparently.

You better believe he'll be in it.

Yeah, I think...

I mean this has been the through-line talking point of this whole episode is just everything associated with The Rock and Hobbs.

I think I like The Rock. I like him as an actor.

And I think what makes me disappointed is I think he does have some decent range as an actor too.

Not a ton.

But there are other movies I've seen where I don't really think of him as The Rock.

And I just wish he would go back to that rather than essentially playing himself.

himself. Like honestly, with how he is in this movie, I am 1000% expecting Hobbs and Shaw 2 for him to unironically promote Zoa Energy in Terramana Tequila. Like that is the path that we are on. And he'll probably be like, "What's up Deckard? I'm in the Iron Paradise this morning, clangin' and bangin' brother. What's up?" And it's like, "Oh my gosh, this is like, there is no separation."

I like how your impersonation of him is Macho Man Randy Savage.

The way you say brother and stuff.

I mean that's exactly how he is on social media.

"I'm here in the Iron Paradise this morning, 5am, clangin' and bangin', I got my Zoa energy to keep me jacked up, our Terramana Tequila sales are through the roof thanks to all the fans for seeing Black Adam, it's got a 90% audience score."

But like, I do wonder though, like-

The power dynamic of the DC Universe has shifted.

hierarchy of the DC. I do wonder though broadly, and the Rotten Tomatoes impression reflects this, I do wonder though if people just in a general sense do like him playing himself.

And that's why they like to go see these movies. Because Black Adam has like a 90% audience

positivity rate as well. And again I have not seen that so I don't know if he's actually plain black ad of like a character in that movie if he really is just the rockin spandex.

But maybe people like that. Maybe people like that the guy they see on social media all the time is the same guy that is on the big screen. But I find it really strange.

- And I think that does it for Fast and Furious Presents, Hobbs and Shaw. Should get the full title in there. Thank you so much for listening. If you'd like to find out more about chapter selection, you can head over to chapterselect.com or follow the show @ChapterSelect. You can follow

Logan on Twitter @moremantwelv and his writing over at comicbook.com. You can follow me on

Twitter @MaxRoberts143 and my writing over at maxfrequency.net. And until next time, adios!

Chapter Select is a Max Frequency production. This episode was researched, produced, and edited by me, Max Roberts. Season 4 is hosted by Logan Moore and myself. Season 4 is all about the fast and the furious. For more on this season go to chapterselect.com/season4.

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