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Well, now I'm excited because Oh, now he wants to hurt me. I'm not I'm not spoiling anything for you at all. When they sent us the code, there was a preview embargo and there was a review embargo. Sure. My preview embargo is up. People publish things and I'll probably write something about this next week. But the preview embargo ends where that where the cutoff point is, I just reached. So now I'm past that point, and after that, I understand why that's the cutoff point. And exciting things are happening. And I'm like, oh baby, things are going down.

I'm excited. Look, I even, it's very hot, but you know, celebrating today.

I'm taking a page out of Thor's book.

Oh my gosh. Thor?

He's a big drunkard in Norse mythology.

No, you're taking a page out of Kurt Russell's book.

I guess.

Belgian ale.

But yeah, I'm excited for you to play this video game, sir.

Yeah.

Obviously.

It's interesting because this is the first game that we've done in a while where one of us has a review code and that we know we're going to talk about it on a show.

So it's weird.

We're playing in different spaces.

Obviously you have a review and you'll have written your thoughts and you'll have had time to digest a lot of this and basically once I beat the game is when we'll probably record Ragnarok so I'll be coming in it really hot and fresh and you'll be, I imagine you'll beat the game this week unless you're swamped.

Um, probably, yeah I mean I've got nothing else really going on.

So then you'll have two weeks of cool down and thought and time to write and poke around with post game, whatever that may be, you know, fight the Valkyries.

I'm curious what the post-game will look like because, I mean obviously I don't know anything, but if this is Ragnarok and the whole Norse pantheon is supposed to end...

Yeah, do they do the cheap thing where it's like, "Just reload before the final save!"

Yeah, I don't know. I was wondering that too, like how are they gonna work around that because

clearly they'll want you to go clean things up, I would imagine. I don't know.

Yeah, that's an interesting game design predicament. I'm excited for you!

Guess what I did yesterday?

What was that?

I decided to do a cold call email.

To who? Sony?

Well, I did apply to their press page, like the official channel.

But I decided, because I have absolutely nothing to lose.

To reach out to Corey?

No, not Corey. Gosh, that'd be great.

I have, from my God of War 2018 coverage, I have Sony's PR blasts from that, which includes the email addresses of two managers of PR.

So I sent them an email yesterday as well.

Well, I wish you luck, sir.

I expect zero response, I'm probably blocked, filtered out of the system, doesn't matter.

But I thought if there was any chance, might as well take it.

Could be fun.

like you said. Exactly. I have zero skin in the game. No one else. There's no consequences for anyone else. So yeah, we'll see. Yeah. Um, like I texted you last night, like the thing that I am most excited about as I play through it is they literally like, I know you were like, Oh, I don't want to watch the trailers. And conversely, I was like, I'm going to over analyze all the trailers. I over analyzed all the trailers and I watched them each countless times. I've seen essentially everything that has been in all the trailers already. Isn't that awesome? And it's like, I'm like five to six hours in like the only things not to I mean, I don't think this is spoiler like one of the only things I haven't seen that is a big key moment from one of the trailers would be the wolves. Like I haven't seen that yet. I feel like shooting the arrow into the side feel like that's a very game like game. That's like mid to late game thing. Yeah, but like everything else like has happened And I'm like, dang, I don't know what's going to go down in this game now.

Do you know what that tells me?

That that Thor clash is early and that Freya is early and I'm like, mmm, yes, I like this one.

Well, I mean, again, this is not a spoiler, but God of War, the last God of War game told you what would happen there with the final, no home and sleep.

And then you see Thor.

Yeah, oh no, if you go and do that, yes, absolutely.

Which is one of the hypest secret endings out there.

And you know that that moment is in the game, and seeing that moment play out is...

Spicy?

It's very unexpected what happens in that sequence.

They just start making out.

I had a big ol' smile on my face the whole time.

This is the thing that has stood out to me the most as like a big old nerd and this is

probably what I'll stick out to you the most is that the writing is so good. Because there are just one off lines in these games that reference back to the older God of War games. And you would never think to anything about it whatsoever. Unless you have played the other ones like Kratos will just drop a couple nuggets here and there and you're like, and and I'm like, wait a minute, did he just,

yeah, there's one moment I'm like,

did he just reference God of War Ascension?

Like, there's like things like that that happen.

- I'm telling you, now that I have an Android phone,

I should figure out how to put betrayal on it.

That's what I should do.

I'll play God of War betrayal.

- One other thing, and this is very small,

and this is not, again, I'm not telling you anything

spoiler-y. - I trust you, I trust you.

- The codec, one small thing that I love about this game

is that there's a codex obviously that shows you all of the different major players, like all the different beasts and foes.

Interesting. That's a Kingdom Hearts thing.

Well, is that, I thought that was in the last one, but maybe it wasn't.

I don't recall a codex that like was like, this is Kratos, this is Atreus, this is Freya.

So it's like you have like a journal basically. And it's like a codex and it describes all the major characters that you come across. There's Mimir and Thor and Atreus and Freya

Yeah, and I and then there's different ones for all the beasts. But rather than just broadly describing the characters, the details of the characters are written by Kratos himself

and are in his own voice. If that means hear him narrate. No, he doesn't narrate, but his

personal character descriptions of each character are from the perspective of Kratos. Yes. So

what's written out would be like, yes, it's like, it's like he actually it's like he actually journaled and is describing trans or something. Again, Sony Santa Monica out here stealing Nathan Drake's journal in Ellie's diary. Wow. Come up with something original.

But it's written in his voice, which is really cool and I like that quite a bit.

Does that imply that Kratos knows how to write now? In, well, I guess he can write in Greek. with General, obviously. He can't... It's established that he learned the language between the games. Whenever you come across runes, Kratos now reads them.

Oh, okay, okay. So he can read now. Ah, good job.

Yes. Yes, cool. Just like Ellie learned how to swim, Kratos

learned how to read. Again, another... A couple of the other people that we... So we have a couple of review copies, and I've been talking about with some of the other people we've been playing. I would assume, yeah, you guys probably have a few been playing with. And they're like, I'm kind of lost like this. Some of the things are happening. I feel like I'm like lost. I'm like, I'm not. I've known how like, like when I said that my main reaction has been like this the whole time. And I'm like, like, like I said, we've talked about this game so much and like over analyzed it that my reaction to the cutscenes like the big cutscenes, it's less of like me being like, responding to what's happening and it's more like, "Hmm, I'm very interested to see what they do here because I've thought of this in my own head countless times over."

So one thing I would like you to do, and maybe you thought of doing this on your own anyway, but go back and listen to our predictions and speculation after you beat it to see where we land.

Because I think having someone, having you have known that, because again, I'll be coming and hot, I think that would be helpful. Because I think we're fairly-ish spot on. At least have a general pretty good sense. Like you and I understand this game I think more than the average general.

Well we, I mean a lot of our broad, again, this is all like very broad things that we

knew and obviously I've told you the trailers are all early game. So the game kind of starts and it's like, "Hey, we gotta find Tear." And that's like the first major sort of stuff that happens. But you and I expected that long ago. Like we're like, okay, so they're gonna go after tier though. It's gonna be the first thing that probably happens in the game. And we expected that for a long time. And but yeah, like seeing that stuff like, yeah, it's basically been like everything up until this point has been pretty expected for me. There have been some major I mean, there are some huge curveballs though, I'm like, what the heck is going on? So there are some huge surprises, but a lot of it has played out so far, I think in a way that you and I expected. I mean we had like our chapter markers the questions will Kratos die? What does the Miro mean? Atreus's fate? Will he turn into animals? Will he give birth to a giant serpent? Will Thor fight a giant serpent? Will there be time travel? Will Kratos wield Mjolnir? What are the rules of Mjolnir? Would you like to hear one thing that's kind of funny? What about Greg? And this is similar. And I this is something I don't like it isn't about the game in general. This is one thing I noticed. And they're doing a similar thing. This will make you feel good, I guess. But the trailers they released, they're doing, they're doing part two thing where there are clear lies and altered. There aren't clear lies. I guess the most blatant thing is, I when the door opens, and there's the man standing there. And we're like, Oh, I think that's Odin, but we couldn't really tell because he was all shadowy. Not I've seen I've seen that scene. There's no shadows on that person. So they shadowed that person out. I'm totally cool with it.

To keep people guessing and wondering that.

I feel like is almost essential these days, especially with big narrative, you know, big games.

Like, keep the mystery alive.

And the fact, again, the fact that they have shown so little in four years, almost five, props to them, man.

This is great.

This is the dream right here.

The best thing I can say so far is that this game has, in the first couple hours of this game there is a boss fight, there are multiple boss fights I've already done, but one of them in particular is probably one of the best boss fights I've ever seen in a video game.

It's incredible.

I think you said the same thing about Baldur at the start of God of War.

And Baldur is.

It's a similar thing.

That opening fight with Baldur is awesome and it's probably one of the best fights in the history of games.

And then they come out in a similar way with this game, with a fight that happens.

And it's like, holy crap.

I'm so stoked.

Part of me wants to take the Thursday off and have Wednesday evening through Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

But I'm working on-

You're gonna try to beat it in one weekend if that's feasible?

I'll let you know how long it is.

I will say I'm like six to seven hours in and like I feel like things are just still kind of like nothing huge has happened yet.

I want to spend as much time as possible with it in those three or four days and that's just because who knows what my schedule is going to be with work and coming in and all that.

It's just who knows what's going on around that time.

have a big release coming up soon. So it's just, if I can milk days off, I will. Like,

I won't go to Frisbee that day on Saturday and I'm just gonna hunker down and do the best I can. Cause also, there's a baby in the house. So then-

I'll also, by that time, I'll let you know how the post-game stuff plays out too. So you know, like, if you wanna push off side quests and not do them, I can let you know what it's like if you mainline the game instead. Is that something you wanna do?

I want to naturally play it.

Because I didn't naturally play God of War 2018, it was all work, so it was a more systematic approach than normal.

Yeah, I did some side quests last night, and I went off the beaten path and did like two or three side quests, and then this morning I started doing the mainline stuff again.

The one thing that I find myself thinking about a lot as I play this game, and nothing that has happened in the story has caused me to think of this necessarily, but it's just a thought that is popped in my back my head, the more I've played is I'm very scared about a traitor in the sense that I hope he doesn't and again, this is based on literally nothing that has happened in the game so far. I hope he does not like betray Kratos or something

like that. And he's like, because the more I play this game, and the more he's like,

I'm Loki who I'm Loki who's Loki blah blah blah. I'm like, hmm, Loki trickster.

Always pulling people's eyes. Is he gonna is he gonna string Kratos along at some point in this game? Is he gonna like these are things I'm finding myself thinking about now that Loki is very much like a player in these games.

I feel like he kinda did that in 2018 though, where he kinda did his little teen angst of "Raaah, Ra-bell!"

Not necessarily tricking anyone, he was just against Kratos for a bit.

Shot an arrow at him and everything.

Yeah, maybe.

I don't know.

That's my fear.

I don't want to get to the end of the game and then he's like "Aha!

I'm secretly been stringing you along, Dad!"

And it's like "Oh no!"

Yeah, and again, nothing that has happened so far has indicated such a thing. But I'm just trying to think because I'm trying to think of what sort of elements of Loki they will have to incorporate into Atreus's character. His key defining character trait is that he's a liar and he's a trickster. And so I just keep thinking about that as I play and I'm like, Hmm,

can I trust my son?

Can I trust a Treys in this game?

I don't know.

I am stoked.

I'm super stoked.

It's really only two and a half weeks away, which is...

Yeah, it was crazy when I booted it up yesterday.

I was like, wow, this is weird.

I noticed you were all private, obviously.

I was like, dang, man, I can't even see if he's...

I can't even see it.

Yeah, I had to hide everything.

I remember that.

That was all I would always was.

to hide it all. So very strange first weekend living in this new place for me to just be like, Okay, I guess we'll stay in my house and play video game. I do have some other stuff to do today after we do this. So I gotta build my nook. I gotta my parents were like 20 minutes away from you today. They had breakfast somewhere down

in Nashville, brunch or whatever. He sent me a picture of the line for the place they stopped at like out and wrapped around the building.

What the heck?

I'll send it to you later to get the name.

They said it was really good food.

They ordered like online to go or something but the line to get in and wait or whatever was wrapped around the building down the street.

That's about right.

I need to start figuring out places to explore and I've been trying to do all my basic stuff I need to get done this week.

Well yeah you just got there this week.

I'm trying to ease into it rather than being like I gotta explore the whole city. I'm like, yeah, okay, I'll do this over time. I live here now. No rush. Yeah, it's good.

I didn't record any of this, by the way. I was recording. It's illegal to do so.

I was recording. Actually, that's not necessarily true. Like I said, I can talk about most of the things I talk about. And by the time people listen to this, it'll be next year. No one's gonna care. You didn't break any rules. No one cares. True. And I'm not, you know me, I would never break an embargo. Well I do genuinely not want to keep messaging you all kinds of things because it'll just make it harder. But I almost certainly will message you a couple more like "Oh my gosh!" Because that's just the kind of game that this is. I'm excited. I didn't realize, and this is also not a spoiler, but I didn't realize until I was playing this game that Fe is Le Fe.

Yes.

I don't know how I never thought about that. I was like, oh, duh. Like that totally was a very blatant tease in the last game that anybody could have seen coming with Atreus being Loki at the end of the game. You have to just know that Laffey is Loki's mother in Norse mythology. That's bad. I mean, that's it. I never connected those dots for some

reason.

Yeah, I'm, ooh, mama. I'm excited. I'm so, so excited.

I just don't know how this game is going to end.

Well, I assume it ends with the end of the world.

Well, the end of the Norse world.

Yes.

So, not a lot.

Then do they run off to Egypt or...

Mmm, do they pull an Assassin's Creed?

Do they run off to Greece?

Does Zeus show back up?

I wonder if there will be Greek stuff in this game.

Well...

Some wonder like Athena showing up in the last game and Zeus kinda showing up.

I mean, back in hell, there's that big bird and Zeus was way off in the distance, like all rumbly out there. Now was that all hallucination and just hell projecting that into Kratos?

But Atreus could see it, so what's that? I'm also wondering how big each of the realms is going to be. I'm, in that regard, I'm curious how they

expand and change the two that we know, Muspelheim and Niflheim.

Because those- I don't know if they will.

If it's the same thing, Muffelheim is the more big of a bummer, because I do not like Muffelheim.

Yeah, Musfulheim is fine because it's just combat arenas.

Yeah, Musfulheim I already found.

Is it Musfulheim?

Musfulheim, Musfulheim, I don't know, something like that.

I know the one is Sfarmfheim.

The dwarf one?

Yeah, and they keep saying it.

Sfartalfheim.

Sfartalfheim.

Yeah, Musfulheim.

Muspelheim. There's a moment in the game where you... Because don't you have to find the...

And the last God of War game, don't you have to find the Bifrost things that allow you to go there? Like the keys or whatever?

Runes. You have to find the language runes.

Yeah. I found one...

And it unlocks them.

Yeah. I found one of the first runes needed to go to Muspelheim.

Again?

Yeah, I picked it. Yeah. And when Atreus is like, Oh, hey, we found a room to go to Muswell home. We should go back there if we can. There's arenas and we can train and grow stronger.

I was like, Oh, no, are you just gonna keep the exact same thing? No. So I hope that's not the case. But doesn't what's his face have to come out of there, though, in Ragnarok?

The big lava giant, man?

Yes, I believe so. His name is Sertur. If he was in the map, in that map that they put out and people were analyzing, he's in the background of Muswellheim. So, things can happen, who knows. Yes, Sertur is the fire giant god and he hangs out in Muswellheim and he has a big role in Ragnarok. So, I'm wondering if he'll show up. I feel like he He has to. Like there are just things that knowing Ragnarok and how it plays out, it's like, okay, we need some wolves, we need Fenrir, we need the world serpent, we need Surtur to play a large role, Odin, like there are just things that like, I don't know.

I'm excited, man. I'm excited. It's gonna be a good time.

Alright, let's do this one. I'm gonna start recording now.

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 four we are covering the Fast and Furious series. My name is Max Robertson I am joined as always by Logan Moore. Hi Logan. Max we haven't recorded in almost a month but it seems pretty appropriate this is that this is our first recording we're doing again considering that Fast 8 is all about daddies and you're now a daddy. I am this is the first podcast I recorded since becoming a dad and this movie is all about becoming a father unbeknownst to oneself but yes also be out coming a father so I would like to report that the first time I held my child was not you know behind bulletproof glass there was no airplane tracking or anything like that did your baby mama get offed on this no it was all normal I know no family quite like Dominic Toretto's so well let me ask you this would you turn against me if your child's fate was hanging into balance? Yes. Unwavering loyalty to my child. And I've known the child longer than Dom knew the child. I was gonna say, you've only known her for like three weeks, we've known each other since we were little kids. I was showing you pictures the other day of us at like my seventh birthday party. But I would never actually betray you, I would just secretly betray you. And you would like know that I wasn't really betraying you, that was a reason for my betrayal and then we'd like to meet in an alley and have a nuclear football and it'd be a great moment of trust yes Max this movie is pretty dumb now that we're talking about all these things is really pretty dumb and this movie is yeah it's pretty dumb it's pretty dumb well we'll get into it I'm gonna we'll share our impressions here but let's first break down all the key things that we typically do here on chapter select, Fate of the Furious, which is poorly spelled. They had a golden opportunity man and they didn't take it. No, I think that's well documented. I think we've brought that up multiple times throughout this season actually that it should have been F8 of the

Furious, but you know I lay that one at the feet of F Gary Gray who directed the
The Fate of the Furious came out on April 14, 2017.

It was produced once again by Neil H. Moritz, Vin Diesel, Michael Fottrell, and Chris Morgan.

The writer this time around was Chris Morgan.

The primary actors in the film included Vin Diesel, Michelle Rodriguez, Tyrese Gibson,
Chris "Ludacris" Bridges, Natalie Emanuel, Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson, Kurt Russell,
Jason Statham, and Charlize Theron.

This cast is getting a little bloated and we don't even have Paul Walker in it this
time.

I didn't even write down that uh...

I'm blanking on his name now.

Eastwood's kid's in it.

Scott Eastwood's in it too.

Yeah.

Yeah.

The composer once again was Brian Tyler, the stunt coordinator was JJ Perry, Spyro Rastatose
and Troy Robinson, and the budget for this film was around 250 to 270 million dollars,
Which Maxi wrote is tied for the 17th most expensive movie ever made.

Along with Furious 7 and a bunch of other movies.

They invested a lot in this movie but they made back about a billion dollars in profit
because this movie grossed 1.236 billion dollars worldwide.

Not as much as Furious 7 but still over a billion dollars.

Which is pretty impressive because Furious 7 obviously had the added, you know, everything
Surrounding Paul Walker there, which is why I think that movie made so much money, but the
drop-off here between films was

Not that vast. Mm-hmm

So the Rotten Tomatoes score on this one critics rated this one at a 67% overall aggregate
score

Audiences gave it a 72%

And yeah, I don't know if you have any history with this one. I obviously do not

Now we're nearing the part where these films are a little bit more fresh in my brain

This movie is only a little over five years old. So I kind of remember the trailers that I've seen for these movies now

Okay, yeah, sure

So like I knew that the plot of this one was Vin Diesel turning against the family and teaming up with Charlize

But that's about it. Did you know why?

No, so I did not know the dad. So we'll all right, so we'll talk about obviously talk about okay

I wrote down all caps in my notes "Dom is a secret father" three question mark question mark question mark

I did not know that that was one thing that I straight up did not know. I'm glad that was a surprise

so yeah, that was a surprise but

What did you what's your own history anything special here? Just another fast movie you saw in theaters I assume? Yeah exactly this is

I'm well in the train now. You know I'm since too fast, so it's just I'm here day one

Let's go. It was...

The pitch of

Dominic Toretto is a bad dude now was always interesting... ish? You know, it's like a little spicy. Like, alright, cool.

I mean, if you're, I mean, you're eight films in, you gotta find ways to mix it up.

Obviously while keeping the same, I mean, previously the ways they mixed it up was like, "Tokyo Drift,

let's introduce new characters and do something new." They're not gonna deviate from the core

Family group now, so you got to find other ways to mix it up so in this movie

They make him a secret father in the next movie. They give him a secret brother all your favorite type of plot

Yeah, all my favorite classic Uncharted 4 style plot points. I

Mean yeah, let's just get right into our own impressions. I think this movie is

Not good. I think this is bottom tier fast stuff

I would put this below seven below six of the new era

Like mmm Fast and Furious fast for onward this is bottom two. It's fast for and fast a dirt those two worst

I prefer five six and seven. I think this movie is booty cheeks and a lot of

I don't disagree at all. It is

Low on the totem pole of out of the recent out of all of them really

but it's

It's that good trash like it's just it's good trash. It's bad

But it's good trash.

Entertaining trash maybe is a better way to put it.

This was my biggest problem coming into this and this is something that

I've gotten used to from Fast Six onward. Like Fast Six, I think the plot was very cliched.

And it was not that great, but it was filled with so many good action sequences.

I think the action sequences in this movie are pretty underwhelming and not particularly enjoyable, which was the thing that surprised me the most while watching it.

I wrote down, one of my notes was just, "Wow, this movie is surprisingly boring."

Like which I think was the thing that caught me the most off guard because I'm obviously,

at this point I know what the series is, I know they're just kind of fun popcorn films,

I know what I'm signing up for, it's just going to be mindless action fun where we're watching superheroes in cars basically.

Like and I'm not expecting anything more than that but as far as the action sequences go,

I really do feel like this is some of the worst of the modern series here.

So it is, especially coming off of Furious 7, because Furious 7 built really well.

This sequence leads into this one, this movie kind of has two, three major set pieces.

They're very far apart. And then a couple of fights in between. And one fight in particular is excellent, but it's not as... it's disjointed compared to previous films. It's almost like

Furious 6 in that way, where it was like, "Here's the tank, here's the plane," but these set pieces don't feel as good. They're not as... they just feel too disjointed, not as entertaining. They're very singular in how they are carried out, too. At least in Fast So the one thing I really liked about that is that there is a lot of moving parts.

Like I think about the plane sequence in the end.

You've got some people on the plane that are fighting, and you've got fistfights going on with Dom and some others, and then outside the plane you've got them trying to shoot the wings and keep it from flying off.

Like you've got different things going on in different spots, they're all part of the same set piece, but there are different pieces of action going on that are keeping things somewhat interesting.

You've got, what's her name, Giselle flying off into the void.

And this, like the final set piece is very much just, "Oh no, there's cars chasing after us on ice, we gotta run."

And now there's a submarine, like everything that is happening is happening at the same time to everyone, if that makes any sense.

And there's really nothing else, no other variables within these action sequences that really change things up in interesting ways.

The only time that two things overlap really is toward the end with the airplane and the submarine.

But they don't directly impact each other.

And so it doesn't feel as good.

I was just thinking, kind of really, if we take these set pieces and associate it with the plot, it's actually a lot like Fast and Furious 6.

In Fast and Furious 6, Owen is collecting pieces to build some sort of device.

In Fate of the Furious, Cypher is collecting pieces to build some sort of device.

But in Furious 6, those events flow naturally together.

They culminate in the bad guy being captured but then running away and it's all weaves together.

But this movie just feels... you don't really know what Cypher's up to until the end and her whole thing is "they will notice me" but you've been a secret hacker your whole life and so her motivations never land or connect.

She's a really poor villain and I'm actually pretty not thrilled that she is gonna be reappearing

Fast 9 and then I know she's still alive at the end of that movie and Fast X she's gonna be back again. I'm not

Enthusiastic about this it feels like they got Charlize

Similar to how they got Jason Statham to play Deckard Shaw they're like oh well

We got a huge big-name actor we can't kill him off. We can't get rid of him

Not that they've been necessarily killing off villains left and right in this series like Owen is still around

He shows back up in this movie, so it's not like they really write out the villains entirely

But it feels like they scored Charlize in this movie, and they're like oh, it's Charlize. She's a huge big-name actress

we have to make sure she sticks around and remains a major player moving forward and

Yeah, her character is not great. That's one of my big problems with a huge problem in this movie

She's so this is one thing. I'll say as far as the villains the past couple villains

We've had in all these movies have been directly involved with the plots

And that that would include

Kind of fast for onward fast five maybe not as much

Because it's just kind of another I forget his name, but he's just kind of crime boss

They're enacting a plane against him, but that movies even got you know

Hobbs in it so that that's even a little bit more of a direct conflict where they're facing off against a direct opponent

Which would be Hobbs and then you have Owen in six and they have Deckard Shaw and seven

her the whole time she just hides away in her plane and she is so

She just kind of is up in her ivory tower is distanced away from everything else and they're like we got to take her down

and she's like not really directly involved at any single point with

it the

Conflict with the family and I guess Dom kind of is the surrogate for that

And so Dom is the pseudo villain in the movie of sorts

But that doesn't really work because you know, he's not really bad and you know, he's you know

know at the end of the movie he's gonna be the good guy again and he's gonna save him

and you just you're more interested in figuring out how he gets out of this hold that she

has on him. So the stakes feel very low and to introduce her as this big bad that's gonna

carry forth into other movies they don't do a good job of it I think if they would have

maybe saved this plot line for let's say Fast 9 where she then turns then against them then

that would have been more effective but to introduce a new villain that you want to be

the big villain of the franchise moving forward and then she doesn't do much and the actual

villain is kind of dumb instead. It just doesn't work. Yeah, I don't like her in this movie.

Cypher strikes me as Fast and Furious' attempt to have an overarching puppet master villain.

Kind of like in James Bond with Blofeld and Spectre or in Mission Impossible with Solomon

Lane like controlling a bunch of stuff and being in multiple movies is kind of the one

pulling all of the strings. But she just never connects and her plots never really jive or

make sense. Her whole thing here is just to get a nuke and like intimidate world superpowers.

There's just nothing... We're getting to super spy evil villains that don't necessarily connect

with the plot of our characters here. It just feels disjointed.

How do you feel about the... I mean, this is a movie franchise that has obviously been

going bigger and more ridiculous and get... but I feel like this was really the movie

where I felt like it is now officially getting too big and too outlandish for its own good

in some ways. And I know that it's only going to continue upping the ante moving forward

with some of the other movies, and that's kind of the MO of the franchise at this point.

I realized that nukes were now in play and was like the key plot device in this movie like I essentially just rolled my eyes like it's getting so outlandish that

Like there has to be a fine line there has to be a fine line between

Between you taking this seriously and it being so far gone and stupid town that it can't even Engage you in a serious manner

And I'm somebody who likes really dumb stuff

So I don't mind like a good a good a good

Comparison we talked about this a lot like what amongst our friend group

Not you as much, but like Yakuza is a great example of this totally goofy games

Have a very aloof tone throughout much of the game, but they also tell these really serious compelling plots with

Interesting characters that have a lot of depth and I feel like the plots of these movies are getting so

Land-ish that the characters are now kind of getting lost in the shuffle. It just doesn't feel like it fits with the fast family

We've gone from stealing things kind of in the first five movies four really was busting a drug lord

But and two was as well

But like stealing things and having some sort of villain or bully in that way to six being spy thing in Furious 7 also kind of

Really bringing us into this spy world with mr. Nobody and stuff

But nukes feels like one

Strangely feels like one step too far beyond something like God's eye where we can track anyone anywhere. Yes

nukes just feel like

one thing too much

God's eye was used in the as a plot device in the last movie to you know

Find Deckard and then take it take him down and so it was still a personal conflict at the end of the day

Nukes, it's like okay this lady wants nuclear weapons

Why are we in an acting a team of street racers to take her down and like why?

Why is she hiring a street racer to steal the nukes? Yeah, it's just getting so

It just feels not connected

It's the ending it's getting too absurd for its own good which again is something

That I have liked about the series a lot so far, but there has to be a line there has to be a dividing line between

Going and and they're just they're just too far past it

Well this point and I imagine that's not going to get any better in the future movies

so your imagination would be correct just

Especially since I already know fast 9 is the secret brother movie the uncharted 4 plot device

Let's I think what's so funny about this too is that even though they are trying

they are getting so crazy with what the

the narratives of these movies are now and like what the actual goals are.

This movie starts off once again with street racing.

It tries to keep things rooted with street racing, at least in some sense with all these movies.

And I think the street race is actually really fun in this one because he's racing a piece of junk and he's driving backwards and a car blows up and like all kinds of dumb stuff happens in this race and that's fun.

So they keep, the street races to me are emblematic of them being like we have to acknowledge

our roots, we have to continue to acknowledge what this series is and where it came from and racing has to be at the center.

But it's proving to be such a bizarre dichotomy now where this movie starts off with "oh, Dom, he's still a street racer at heart" and then as soon as that scene is over it jumps to you know, Charlize getting involved and he's now a double agent and everything from there on feels so silly.

Exactly.

I, in the behind the scenes for all the stunts and stuff, F. Gary Gray talked about how fans wanted more street races and being tied to the roots.

So it feels like they just made this cold open.

That's really disjointed from the rest of the film except for the one character cameo later who you realize, "Oh, he helped in New York City.

He was there."

So this guy came from...

earned his respect so this man now across countries and parked a car at one single spot.

Exactly. So besides that, the race means nothing, there's no real callbacks, it's just kind of a,

I guess a character thing for Dom. Because right after that scene, there's

one quick scene with him and Letty talking about becoming a dad or whatever, and then we run into

decipher and bam we're off to the races like it's just there's I wrote down we

waste no time after the cold open to the villain and reason for Dom's turn and

it's not until 48 minutes into the movie that you learn that the the blackmail or

the leverage is his son so it's if you cut the cold open the movie like the

movie is fine it doesn't need it at all and it it's a great race it's fun

there's even a good Brian reference in it, you know, the Busters Poor Man Turbo. Like,

there's a nickname for Brian, like, calls it out. It's nice, but it feels out of place.

The series feels like it's at odds with itself now. They don't know what to do. They don't know

if they want to keep it rooted to what it's always been or in some senses they're like,

Well, as soon as we started going to crazy town with fast five that's when we started to make a lot of money

so we got a quick continue upping the ante and making things more and more crazy, but

Also, we've had these fans from the first three or four films that have stuck with us. Yeah, I don't know. It's just totally

It's totally going against this stuff

Very talked about Charlize a little bit and her character cipher and why she doesn't work

I don't know if there's a lot more else we need to say about her right now

I do want to point out that her treads or whatever the freak she has in this movie are horrible

Mm-hmm. Don't wear your hey, I please don't wear your hair like that again. Charlie's very terrible

At first I thought she was just like wearing her hair like that because she was like trying to blend in when they were in

Cuba or something like that. I was like, what is she trying to look like a local?

White lady who got her hair dreaded up or something and nope. She just wears it like that the whole movie. I'm like

Okay, sure you let me know which hairstyle you prefer

After f9 okay, you let me know oh no

Yeah, so we've talked about her a little bit. I think that one of the things

That I would like to hone in on a little bit more is

The character we typically with our discussions of these movies

I feel like we've gone character by character and talked about their own personal arts that they have in these movies

This movie might be the worst in the entire franchise

when it comes to

Various character arcs I feel like there is no

Good characterization in this movie whatsoever for any of the main cast members

other than

Hobbs and Shaw

-

They're the only two they are the only ones and I will say mr. Nobody so I was pretty flat on mr.

We can talk about this more a little bit later. I was pretty flat on him after fast seven

I do think he gets better in this. Yes. I can like I do I do like him more after was married

But Hobbs and Shaw are really the only two

That I felt anything for this movie like Tash and Roman really get nothing their whole I mean Roman gets a

lot of comedy

Roman saves the final action scene in a lot of ways

But up until up until that point I feel like he's even pretty flat throughout most of the movie

He's just kind of there and cracking off one-liners typically and him and Tej's whole thing

The entire movie is trying to flirt with Ramsay

Like they really they've just kind of become very one-note and I feel like they don't do much else in this

Ramsay's just kind of there. She's like, I'll try to out hack the hacker and cypher is always like no

I'm the better hacker

So she's really doing nothing. Letty's whole role in this movie is just saying I still believe in Dom. She's

extremely one-note like just

Hobbs and Shaw are the only two like it was after I watched this movie

I was like, oh I know how they got a spin-off now

It makes sense to me and that's because they take time to flesh out Hobbs way more not only with his whole soccer mom

Opening sequence, which is great and the Taylor Swift references going to Tay Tay concerts a lot of Tay Tay concerts

Him and then obviously all the banter between him and Shaw when he goes to prison is

Excellent the prison scene is maybe my favorite scene in the whole movie. It's the best scene in the movie and it centers entirely around them

Yeah, those they are the only two in the movie that I felt like got any like

worthwhile

Characterization or great character moments that I was like wow this will stand out within the larger

Series compared to what I've seen of them in the past

Everybody else is so flat and they don't do anything with them

And that's like I don't even know what we would talk like

I just outlined everybody else and like I

Don't even know what we would go one by one and talk about everybody else within this room

I just feel like there's nothing to even break down or dissect

Yeah, it I wonder if this is some growing pains which is weird to say for a billion dollar franchise but some growing pains after Furious 7 and losing a key member, reshuffling the dynamic a little bit, where are we putting the spotlight, where are we not, how does this balance, and then having your other main character be the villain, not his normal role, also feels a little weird.

So it's all the relationships are a bit off that.

A villain that offed a primary character a couple movies before, or technically like three or four movies before but he killed off uh...

han

which i now understand the whole justice for han thing because they really are just like

oh like by the end of movie dom is just very accepting of

of shawl like oh thanks bro for saving my kid it's like he killed your best friend

what did he what what

we'll save that part of the discussion

i want to save that a little bit but

the one of the things i wrote down i mean

to really

I guess get into it a little bit here in the flow, because after the phone call and the blackmail and stuff, they pull off a heist in Berlin or wherever. And it's kind of like the races in the past, like when Dom shows up in Tokyo or the end of Fast Five or Brian and Dom are racing, but we don't actually see the full race or know how it plays out. We kind of just know inside. We know how the heist is going to go at this point. Like, get away with the thing. Really it's a setup for, I wrote it down, Dominic Toretto just went rogue. Having him take out Hobbes, pretty cool, and it sets up the prison thing. But I wrote down, really the prison, this is the birth of Hobbes and Shaw. It's like a dry

run for that movie, especially this beginning portion. Their conflict is so funny. The Rock has phenomenal lines and acting in this scene where he's you know doing bicep curls with the bench

yeah they just cut to they just one of the scenes just literally starts with him just punching a cement wall yes then he just does that for a good 20 to 30 seconds and shaw's like oh this is how

you work out huh i'm like like he's like belittling him for punching a cement wall like as if that's nothing like what are you talking about what it is the banter between them is phenomenal and the

Prison Break itself, all triggered by Mr. Nobody.

Well, yeah, it is triggered by Mr. Nobody because he's the one that opens the door, but then Hobb stays in the cell.

Anyway, you know, The Rock just taking rubber bullets like they're nothing on his body.

Shaw doing all of the the parkour, slipping around, beating each other up.

The two of them just--

The Rock does some parkour too.

The coolest part is when he slides off of that banister into the steel cage and like bounces off of it down to the lower floor. That's awesome. He also has the best line in the entire movie, maybe one of the best lines in the entire series where the guy says, "I've been waiting a long time for this." And he says, "Keep waiting, b*****!" And then he stabs him. That's one of the... It's great. I love the Cherokee drum line. Like there's just

excellent delivery here. If this was Hobbes' last Fast and Furious movie, Numbered movie,

What a great one to go out on. He is fully realized in this film and having Shaw to play off of that throughout the whole movie is...

Yeah, I completely agree. I guess my big question and maybe you could answer this or you would know,

but coming off of Fast 7 and seeing how much that movie made,

is that where it was then

the brainchild of them creating spin-offs and then doing Hobbs and Shaw? Was that an idea they had before Fast 8 was made, I would imagine?

Because the way that this movie is set up is that everyone does take such a backseat to Hobbs and Shaw

that it almost makes me wonder if it was an intentional choice to make viewers latch onto those characters more

so that then when they inevitably created the spin-off Hobbs and Shaw movie,

that would be something that people would naturally want to go see.

Like, I feel like every other character in this movie may have been so poorly written and just bland

as intent from the script writers perspective because they knew that this was going to become a larger franchise with other movies outside of the mainline series.

I don't know if you can have any insight on that or not.

Don't you worry. I just pulled it up. So back in November of 2015, two years before this came out, basically right after

Furious 7, Vin Diesel announced to Variety that they had written out storylines for various characters

And announced they were developing spin-offs and prequels and things like that you know the Marvel or the Star Wars route, so

Dwayne Johnson is hinted in the past that he'd like his character Hobbs to branch out and do his own independent adventures, so

These were ideas they were toying around with and it seems like fate of the furious was a a testing ground

for

Hobbs and Shaw to be put together

And it comes out clearly because they're the two that get the most shine really

Yeah, and I think this goes back to I want to say that I mentioned this specifically with

The last movie with fast 7 I believe

Where it felt too much like a Hollywood blockbuster all of the other films in the series have felt

I mean obviously this is a bajillion dollar franchise and all these movies have been

made with the intent of making money, but Seven was really the first one that I felt like was

like being created as a mass-market product

and was something that was being done solely to make money rather than

their decisions basically in Fast Seven and even more so in Fast Eight that I felt like were being made

because of Hollywood executives were taking a big-picture view of what the movie was going to then do in the future

rather than just saying what's the best possible movie we could make and I get those vibes a

Ton with fast eight fate of the furious here. Oh, yeah

Absolutely outside of everything with Hobbs and Shaw though the big thing that we talked about a little bit earlier

but let's maybe dive a bit deeper is

Dom and his conflict with this movie and him having a

Child of his own now with his former lover which what was her name again?

Elena yeah with Elena

I

Don't think I think the idea of Dom being a daddy at this point is fine. It is a natural

Progression of the franchise and it's something that makes sense and I think even the whole blackmail idea with him also makes sense

But I don't I don't know. I I don't know if I love

It's just yeah, I don't know on paper

I think it's fine how it's implemented in this movie in some senses, but it just feels

Awkward at the same time with how it's all it just comes out of nowhere. Yeah, I guess there's nothing

that's ever been hinted at it in the past and it's clear that they just

Not necessarily retconned anything, but they just kind of pulled this out of nowhere because they're like, what should the next plot motivation be?

Sure, we'll just do this and

They so at the start of furious 7 if you remember the fight between Shaw Hobbs and Elena

Elena's like three months pregnant or something at that point

Clearly not the case when you look back at that movie

Yeah, I was just saying then she gets blasted out a 10-story window. Yeah, so

They play very loose with the nine months of pregnancy

it's

It makes sense

Ish to have a kid it was like how do we get a kid?

We can't really have a lady go through nine months of pregnancy like how do we get a kid now?

And what makes the most sense so we use Elena?

Cool fine everyone's obviously cool with each other in this dynamic this relationship everyone was

It's cool with each other. It just makes sense to have this kid here

And I like it as the motivation because what else would get Brian to turn on everyone

the only thing would be a

Son the only thing I do like the idea that the only thing he would turn his back on family for his family

Which is funny cuz coming into this movie

I knew he would be bad and I knew the whole you're really gonna turn your back on family

I remember that line from the trailers. I'm like, how could Dom betray family?

What is the thing that would cause him to betray family and it's family?

Funny I just continues his characters little through line

His morals and the things he fights for to a T. Which is very hilarious in some senses

What do you think about the I'm gonna put quotes around it cuz?

Who knows but the killing of Elena?

You're gonna put quotes around it dear Lord um I mean

I'll tell you this no one's not in f9

But at this point anyone could come back so yeah, I was gonna say Han got

Blowed up, and I know he's in the next one

Letty supposedly got blowed up, too

Yeah, I don't know it feels I feel like they did a dirty they definitely did her dirty and

Because it feels like the moment that we have talked about in a lot of these previous movies where it's like, "We have to establish that this villain is actually very evil."

And they're like, "Huh. What's a way we can make it known that Cipher is a very bad lady?"

"We'll just have her kill Elena and they just have her... do that."

And that's a- I mean...

It's a decent motivation, I guess, for Dom,

and it does raise the stakes of the movie somewhat considerably.

But yeah, they do do Elena very dirty. She just...

She's gone from being- she- Elena's a really good character in this series, and I think she's played a great role, and in this movie she largely just becomes...

the mommy in distress and she can't do anything. Obviously she's captured and then she's in a jail and a plane.

So there's not a lot she can do, but she really is-

-A plane that never has to land or fuel.

-Yes, that too. I was gonna say that, but I'm glad you did.

She's- she's just helpless this whole movie, and she's just kind of there...

to die. She plays no other- there's no other purpose in this movie other than for her to explain how the child exists and then die. And that's about it.

-They really- they fritter pretty hard. It's bad. It sucks 'cause she's so cool in 5. She

doesn't really have a part in 6. And then in 7 she has a little bit of a role at the beginning

of the movie. Like, there's- felt like there was so much potential for Elena to be expanded upon,

Especially with Hobbes not in a romantic relationship, but in a working relationship

so

It yeah, I'm I I was mad then and I'm upset now still just how dirty they do her in this movie. It sucks

Other baby things we can talk about I know we're gonna talk about some more action scenes in a second

But we may as well talk about the action scene that the baby

Himself is involved in which is the second greatest scene in the movie. Yes, the kung fu baby

Scene with guns and Alvin and the Chipmunks and Alvin and the Chipmunks

Yeah, the hula hoop song for some reason which I don't I don't know why they chose that song

But I'm also not complaining about it. Yeah the slightest

But that scene is excellent and really established

That's the best scene with Shaw in the whole movie for sure even outside of his whole banter with Hobbes

Just in there with that prison. It's up there with the prison scene again, but I

Was gonna say it is his sole moment in this in the

Movie to shine by himself and to have some personality and you get to see what type of person

Yeah, it is. It is very jarring though that he's gone from being this serious. Hello, Dominic Toretto

I'm gonna kill you now oi to now being like

Smiley killer baby baby and turns is that year was that you or him? Oh, it was him. Oh, ho ho ho poop joke

Okay, like he's made quite the pivot in one movie, right? Yes, it is. It is a very

It's quite the difference

But that scene is so fun

Yeah

It's a blast the baby the car seat just sliding around and the baby smiling the whole time and he and before he even goes out

He's like we're gonna have some fun, and then he starts killing everybody. It's it's great. It's a lot of fun

It's silly like that's the kind of silly. I'm fine with in these movies like mm-hmm, but what about Owen?

reappearing

He's I mean I don't even feel like there's that much to talk about he just is kind of there if you even

Expected that obviously he was a lie, but just like seeing him back cuz that was the thing I talked about in seven

I was like wow Deckard Shaw is pretty pissed off at the

Dom and the family even though his brother is very much alive and fine like

So I figured I would come back in at some point when I saw him shop. I was like okay

I didn't really know what was going on when they first appeared

There's just they cut all sudden and there's two jetpack dudes flying towards this plane

I'm like did I miss something and then when they got there and put the pieces together explain Dom's meeting with Mrs. Shaw

Yeah, I explained who that was it's like okay, but it it didn't even really do a good job

They just kind of show these things and left these things kind of hanging and you don't really know what's happening for a good like

30 minutes like cuz he meets up with Helen Mirren's character

And you don't know who she is or why he's meeting up with her what the heck is going on

Until a good 35 to 40 minutes later

It was like okay

But like that makes that meeting at that part in the movie 30 minutes prior a little bit odd because you don't really know what's going

On in the moment. It's like why is who is this lady?

Why am I supposed to care about this interaction between these two characters? They don't really

Introduce anything to my knowledge. You don't know that that's correct

Deckard or Owens mom it just know Dom is doing something. He's just doing something, but you don't know what

And the payoff I guess is good, but it's it's a weird introduction to her character that you don't

Understand who she actually is until so so much long later

The one thing I do want to talk about and this is the very obviously jumping the very end of the movie

And then again involves the child hmm I

Don't like this kid being named Brian neither do I I don't like it. I don't like it at all. It's too

Meta, it's it's a wink and nod at the audience more than anything because in universe

Dead yeah, it's so in if they wanted to do that it should have been Paul

I agree Paul is was the way to go if they wanted to make it a nod to Paul Walker

Brian far too on the nose Brian is still alive Mia is still alive their kids are still alive they exist within this world

They're just out of the picture because they got their family and I know me as in fast 9 right she does return

She this is the one she didn't she wasn't a part of and I could probably look up an interview or something

But I think it was they didn't know what to do with them and having her be there without Brian. I don't know

Yeah, so Brian's still alive

So it's weird to just be like oh, hey my best friend who you would assume Dom

You know talks to and he said also way would have assumed would have been at the party right to reveal the reveal of his son

it's just

It's it should have been Paul

it's a it's a wink and nod at the audience and

and really nothing more and I don't love it. I'm fine with him having a son, don't like the name choice, bad. Like when that happened I was like, like as that having that be the final moment of the movie was really like, oh no, like I like legitimately said out loud, oh no, what are you doing? I was like, oh that's not good, this is bad, this is very bad. So I don't know, I mean, I do I do like that. They are trying I do like that. They're trying to continue to acknowledge

Paul Walker's importance to this franchise in that sense and trying to continue to acknowledge that you know

Yes, he's Paul is not gonna be in any of these movies anymore, but he is a pillar of

Why this franchise is what it is. Yeah, but that's not the way to

Acknowledge that I like the scene in the movie where the team is down and out

they don't know how to deal with fighting Dom and Romans like Brian would know what to do and

They and then let he's like no no more like

that felt

Appropriate enough it acknowledges him. It acknowledges the depth of their of Dom and Brian's relationship

but without

Having to draw him back into the life for obvious reasons

And I think that was also I mean not to get too much in because this is gonna be a through line moving forward

It's just the absence of Paul Walker, you know, like literally second note

I wrote about this movie was no Paul Walker in opening credits sad face

I already miss him

Like I think this plot of Dom turning against the family would have worked out drastically better

If Paul was still in the picture

I think that would have been great because him and him and Paul are the two that have always been the sort of equals and

Dom really didn't have anybody to directly I guess Hobbes sort of was the direct person within the family that he was kind of

Squaring off with in some regards because he's the one that he runs off the road and stuff like that, but it would have been

there would have been a different feeling about it if it would have been him and Brian or the ones that are kind of

at odds with each other in this movie and

Yeah, I mean, I don't want to keep bringing this up. I mean, I'm sure I naturally will in perpetuity moving forward

It's not something we all do linger. I'm it's not something I want to linger on like oh darn

It'd be better if Paul Walker was in this movie because like that's just a given but it does suck

I mean it just continually it's a fact will suck until all these movies are

Gone or over whatever the heck that

Happens at the end of the what 11th movie, I guess so

We'll see how it shakes out. Let's talk about some of the other action scenes though. So we've talked broadly about I mean

we've talked about more of the

Like hand-to-hand combat scenes with like with the prison and then the baby scene on the plane with the baby carrier

We don't really talked about the car scenes though specifically the one in New York. This is the one I did not like it all

Zombie time. Yeah, this is the one that to me where I was like, this is one of our big set pieces in this movie

It's

Fine, I guess but it's not I think my big problem with this and you can tell me if you're wrong if I'm wrong because you

Usually know these things. I

guess this is my problem both with this and the Indian I seen is that the practical effects look much more limited in this and

I'm gonna guess they did not have

500 cars all driving down the street at the same time. Maybe I'm wrong, but they

So

You're not entirely wrong. They do have cars. There's actually more practical effects than I thought

So the parts that were filmed in New York City

They were maxed out at 35 miles an hour

Which is okay are we limiting them? You know, they shut down major traffic and all that stuff

So it's that was interesting to deal with the actual like explosion stuff the pile up at the parking garage

that was in Cleveland and that's a real parking garage and they

really launched cars out of a parking garage

and piled them up below.

They did not have hundreds of cars driving in crash.

There were some car scenes where it was just one car or two

that had no driver.

I found this kind of funny.

There were stuntmen dressed up as car seats

driving those cars, like in car seat suits.

And then obviously edited to look way better.

But that's really it as far as practicality goes.

and at least from the behind the scenes,

like the stretching Dom's car out,

which I think is the better part of the New York chase,
like that doesn't seem to have any practicality to it
of stretching and reversing those cars.

Maybe it is and it's just not in the behind the scenes,
but the chase feels weird and why do we have zombie cars?

Why does she, you know, it's a lot of just,

I do like Dom taking on an armored limousine and just standing there with a shield and
taking bullets. That's kind of silly. Yeah, he goes full like army of two in that
moment is what he is cutting open the gas tank and getting ready to blow it up. Those
guys are terrible. Nuclear football transporters are supposed to die for the football. Um,
and then just kind of hand it out. The better part of this scene is the team against Dom,
the stretch, him take the lines, "He's got like 3,000 horsepower under that thing. Try
five, try nine." Like that's just-

Yeah.

That's super dumb. And the way he takes out all the cars is fun.

That's Dragon Ball Z levels of goofiness for sure.

his power level it's so good. You know the chase and the split up and all that stuff

him taking Roman out, nah my Bugatti or Bentley, this is Bentley. So that's-

Him fake taking out Shaw as well was very- Stone cold.

Yeah as soon as you saw Shaw die I guess that would be the one problem is you see Shaw die
like that and it's like okay well we saw him get shot off screen kind because by
the time it cuts and you see the shot he's already like falling on the ground
it's like it's like okay well he's clearly not dead and obviously Hobbs and
Shaw is a thing so that the stakes were really taken out of it but even the way
they showcase it in the movie it's like okay well clearly he's not dead so how
is he coming back here and yeah I'm curious to see we've talked about this

the whole season here on chapter. So like I obviously have context for things that happen in the future. We talked a lot in like

Fast Four. You're running out, buddy.

Yeah, we're talking a lot in Fast Four about how like I know Letty comes back so her death in that movie doesn't work for me.

We're running, yeah, we're running out here. Like we got Hobbs and Shaw which is just its own self-contained thing, I guess. And then

Fast Nine and there I have no context for future things after that obviously. So

This is the last one where it's really like oh they killed Deckard Shaw and I I clearly know that's not a thing that will happen

So will the stakes be?

Higher when I watch the future films, you know, probably not

They're pretty choreographed with their plots and how they work and things of that nature, but I don't know. I guess we'll see

Yeah, New York Chase scene. It's not

Great, it's all flat. It's very flat compared to all of the compared to everything we have seen

The submarine sequence, on the other hand, is fun.

It has its moments.

There are different parts coming together.

Part of the team's off looking for a chip, another part's hacking a submarine.

That stuff's not even that...

I don't know.

It's not great, but there's some separation.

just ends up devolving into them all running away on the ice and

trying to get away and

You as the viewer knowing that oh well Dom's gonna become the good guy here again

But how because the movie is almost over so what is going to happen and then that leads into the whole

Baby sequence which we talked about before as for the actual chase itself. I wrote down

Roman saving saving the movie per usual because everything that happened in the chase scene up until

Roman

Falling in the water and then Tej pulling him out and then him getting up and smacking somebody with a door then shooting out like that

Whole part is great. You know I was like okay, Roman is still the one in this movie. That is

Hilarious and then he gets in the car with Hobbs and then he's got a ton of great one-liners with that where Hobbs is like

Oh, just everybody get in front of me, and we'll block it and he's like what?

Like that's all great wheel when when the rock takes a missile and he takes a toy

He takes a torpedo and just pushes it

That's hilarious. There are moments in this scene which are

Good. I also wrote down Dom punches a man's neck in half because he throws the Game of Thrones man

The redheaded Game of Thrones man down on the hood of the car just punches his head straight down. It snaps backwards

That's pretty vicious

But yeah, otherwise I think...

Again, the stakes of this scene feel...

lowered because of a lot of what we talked about before.

It's just Cypher up in the skies being like, "I'm gonna remote-hack a submarine! Woohoo!"

And then the submarine is chasing them. It's like, "Okay, I guess this is kind of a big crazy set piece here,

but I don't feel like there's... I know no one here is going to die,

and the villain's up in the sky, and she's just kind of disconnected from everything, and...

Okay, how are they gonna get out of this I even the action scenes themselves outside of Romans one-liners. I don't think there's anything

like visually that interesting that happens in these scenes either like I guess the sub blasting out of the ice and then them just

Getting away from it and there I guess uh

When she shoots the missile and then Dom the missile I mean that would be the only part of the scene that is really

Come on visually uses a car take out

Yeah, that's fun. And then they form a car shield to defend him from fire

Yeah, that part is funny, and I enjoyed that part there at the end, but other than that it's really just

Continue kind of in the same way that fast six was them on an endless runway

it feels like they're on an endless ice lake in this and it's just that's more believable like a run a 27 mile runway is just not feasible, but a frozen lake is however big well

They said she said oh our place

We need to get to is only 10 miles away, and then they're on that ice for like 30 minutes

It's like hey, you're 10 miles. You're all driving very fast here. I feel like you'd be there by now

So they really did film on a frozen lake

they spent six weeks in Iceland and

They really filmed a Lambo on a lake. They really crashed the Lambo into the ice like they dug an ice trench

So that was all real Roman was not in the car there

They did that in a pool having it flood in and stuff and watching him and all that jazz

So I was surprised at how much of it was really done on a real frozen lake

They had so many safety teams and like ice

Testers to know how thick the ice was and you know all the safety precautions you would expect for a multi-million dollar film

They really blew up trucks when the sub crashes through and those trucks fly up

The trucks are really exploding and flying up. The submarine is not there, but they they blew those up on a nice

Area with chunks of ice flying and all that stuff. So that was all real

I appreciate the dedication to practicality for the finale. I wish New York got a bit more of that as well

That was limited because they were in New York. I think if they could have done film somewhere else they traded the

the glory of recording in New York City

For the practicality that they've been known for for the past seven films

But I appreciate that at least the end here we get most of that

And again because some of the trailers for these other movies are fresh in my head. I

Know that practicality is something that is only going to continue to fall by the wayside because in the other movie

We've got a double or triple decker

triple

What are the things called the 18-wheeler yeah, whatever I see that thing flipping up on its on its face

I know Dom then rolls a car into a jet or something like it's just gonna

Fly out the window even more than normal so practicality all but leaves the the station here in f9

and Hobbs and Shaw so

We had a good run everybody. Thank you for it. Thank you to drag the real fall through the streets remember when it was cool

Uh I am curious to watch fast 9 obviously, but I'm not

Tremendously enthused after watching fate of the furious here

Is there anything else you wanted to talk about here when it comes to we've I think we've talked about a lot of the stunts

And you know editing and I don't know if there's anything music wise

I do feel like music took a huge backseat this time around especially coming off a fast 7 which had I mean obviously the

song at the end of the film with

Was a long day. I care see you again

I was like, I don't know why I can't remember the song obviously that was a huge hit

The fast 7 soundtrack was a huge hit on its own because this movie I do not feel like had

Any notable music outside of the score of the movie itself like licensed music felt like it was pretty non-existent

Which I which was a little bizarre

is a big bummer

so

You're now on the soundtrack is I?

Couldn't tell you anything on it, which is a bummer because most of the other movies

I can so yeah most of their movies

There is at least one or two licensed tracks or songs that were made for the movie that you can

Point two I cannot think of any instances of that here with

With this before we do go to best car. Was there anything else you wanted to talk about in regard to the one

Lingering thing I'm thinking of it would just be with mr. Nobody and his whole crew and then little nobody. Is that his name?

That's what they call it

Is there anything you want to say about either of

Them I again I like Kurt Russell more in this movie

I think his I think I've just grown accustomed to what he is within this universe

he's

He I like Kurt Russell a lot in general so I think I think is going to naturally soften on him over time

I don't know if I love little nobody I feel

Here's my problem with little nobody it feels like they're like Paul Walker's out of scene

we need somebody else young and

The that can drive a car around with them now that we can put in his role and I don't feel like he's trying to

Replace Paul Walker necessarily, but that's kind of how it comes off to some degree his naivete

I think helps a lot. He adds comedic value because he just doesn't know how to do anything

He's learning the rules the conversations between

Mr. Nobody and Hobbes about little nobody. Yes funny. I like that

It's interesting to just see this kind of character come up and try to be a part of the group

But he doesn't quite fit in because he's too much of a stickler

We'll see how he grows over time

but

Mr.. Nobody's still great. He's just funny like even at the end of the prison scene

He's like well that took longer than I thought he
He's the only puppet master. I'm cool with in the
Fast-And-Furious universe cipher no nobody yes
I think part of why he worked more for me this time is because he did have more scenes
Quite a few more scenes with Hobbes this time
And I think him and I think hurt Russell and the rock play off each other quite well
And they had really fun interactions in this movie
So maybe that's why I like him more. I feel like him playing off of Vin Diesel. It's just kind of
I don't know like like
Hobbes is more witty. He's got comebacks. He's snarky Dom not so much so
Them kind of playing off of mr. Nobody and Don playing off each other's kind of bland and
boring in my opinion
But him and Hobbes are good to work off one another same way. It is with both Hobbes and
Shaw all right
Best car hmm
This was a hard one cuz I didn't feel like there was any single
I feel like there's naturally in each of these movies ones one that you would maybe
Gravitate towards if there was any single one like this in that movie
I feel like it might be Roman's Lamborghini at the very end just because they call so much
attention to that.
It's one of my choices. I like the orange.
I like the orange on the Lamborghini too, but it is not my favorite.
I can give mine this time. My favorite, and again, this is not a...
This is not a unique car necessarily because we've seen plenty of these in the series so far
and it's a car that one of the main characters drives quite frequently.
but I love the look of Letty's 1966 Chevy Corvette Stingray that she has in
this movie the bright red in New York it's awesome that is again maybe I'm
just a sucker for red cars because I bring this up a lot of times like oh if
cars read then I'm gonna be predisposed to it but that's my favorite in the movie

I think that car looks awesome I think that's by far the best car that Letty's ever had in any of these movies. Weird, it's like we picked the same car. I mean, I feel like there's really no other great choices though, to be honest. I'm super partial to Stingrays. I love them. When you put them in red, it's just, it's great. It looks good. There are a lot of Dodge Chargers in this movie, including the one at the very end with the EMP and the turbo jet thruster thing that lights on fire. The Bentley, not my taste, but it's a Bentley, so I guess it gets invention.

But the Stingray is definitely my preferred car.

It's a lower, it's a cooler cast of cars.

The Impala, like Dom's Impala down in Puerto Rico is pretty cool, but that doesn't get a lot of screen time.

- Well shout out to the crappy, like the bug looking thing that he rides.

- The Fleetline?

Yes, that is not what I would call a best car, but just everything with that car is so fun in that sequence and then him driving it over the finish line and blasting it off the edge into the sea

Is all great. I think more than anything that's probably like there is no central focus on any single cars in this movie that I

Can recall too much

The one that gets the most focus and attention on it is probably that opening car he uses in the drag race either that or his

Snowmobile outfitted charger that Dom drives there at the end. It's that and the lambert neutral. Those are the ones that get the video screen time. Yeah, so everything else is pretty passive and um of everything that people were driving. Yeah, Letty's Stingray really stood out to me quite a bit. So yeah, real-time follow-up. It wasn't Puerto Rico's Cuba. My bad. Got it mixed

Um so yeah stingrays best car for fate of the furious

Max this is a weird one

And I don't know if we will even have much to say I don't know if we'll have much to say in this regard on

Our next couple episodes to be completely honest because they're so fresh

And that's the legacy. What is the legacy of fate of the furious and I personally

Don't have a great answer. I mean it's the first movie without Paul Walker

I don't know if people really think about it in that way. That's one of the things I had written down

It's definitely a key component, but of the movie itself. I

Don't know I think

Within the larger series obviously this is the one where?

Cipher Charlize enters the picture which I know ends up being a huge thing moving forward

Honestly this movie's legacy is probably just that it set up Hobbs and Shaw to be a thing in a lot of ways

Yeah, because that's the next movie chronologically that we're going to watch here

For chapter select. It's the next one that came out in the series as well

I

Don't know there's real no real

lasting legacy or singular thing that people

Glean on to with this movie. I would say in in universe some big ones would be

Brian as in the Sun

So he introduced that you know adding to the family in that way

outside of the universe first one without Paul, it's the last

Dwayne Johnson mainline fast and furious movie and likely will be he's not in fast X and

The odds of him returning for the 11th film are super super small that that was one thing

I did want to mention real quick started, but in but it is very funny that the last mainline movie featuring both

Dwayne Johnson and Vin Diesel is one where their characters are at odds with

each other for the entirety of the movie it's like art reflects life there because we obviously know that they do not like one another and I wonder if that was somewhat of a key an idea from the script writers perspective like oh we know that Vin and Dwayne don't like one another what if we just made the movie one where they're at odds with each other once again if they have to They don't really fight at any single point in this movie or have any They're actually not in a lot of the same scenes in this movie the more I think about it, so I wonder if that I

Don't know curious. I'm very fascinated by that whole beef between the two of them But it is funny that they're on opposite sides of the spectrum throughout most of this movie You know when they don't like one another in real life

Yeah

the the other legacy is what you said birth of Hobbes and Shaw and

It's like what we said at the top

The other legacy is they screwed up the name of the movie. They did an eight in the title beyond that it's

Mmm

But it also made 1.2 billion dollars

So it's it's coming off of that and you'll notice with the grossing amounts of our next two movies

How this all plays out?

well

How much did I mean we'll get there obviously

But I assume Fast 9 made less money because of pandemic things, but maybe I'm wrong Because that movie came out in

2021 if I am correct, right because they had to hold on to it for after pandemic things

Yes, f9 came out June 25th of 2021

So they postponed it from 2020 to 21

And it was still kind of in that early time where movie theaters were open

But not everyone was going back to the theater necessarily. So I'll discuss that

Here at the end of season four I do just to go back really quickly to the title and to hone in on this very

Goofy thing with the title not being f8 of the furious for fate of the furious

I'm wondering why they decided against that because you have to guess

That somebody like working on the title of this movie

Suggested that be a thing and I'm going to assume that an executive was like no we can't do that

Because fans won't understand it blah blah blah blah, and if that was the reasoning

What's funny is that the next movie in the series is literally called f9 so mm-hmm?

They clearly have no problem

Just making the title structure be f whatever like fans will get it

So why not f8 of the furious like it would have been been so much better

They did it immediately with the next one. They just shortened to f9 the fast saga which is

Maybe the worst title of the whole bunch if we're being honest

So it's painful that they wouldn't do f8 of the furious

When they just totally in the next movie

Ended up going for it. So

Bad on you universal bad on whoever made that call

Alright, I think that does it for fate of the furious

Thank you so much for listening

If you'd like to follow the show on Twitter you can at chapter select you can follow Logan on Twitter at more man 12 in

his writing over at comic book

You can follow myself 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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