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

back and forth between a series exploring their evolution, design, and legacy.

For season four we are covering the fast and the furious.

I am one of your hosts Max Roberts and I am joined as always by Logan Moore.

Hi Logan.

We hungry.

I was hoping you'd say it.

We are hungry.

We hungry.

We hungry.

Hungry.

Hungry.

However he says it.

One of the best lines and deliveries of my life.

And a central life.

That quote has been with me for a very long time Logan.

I will say that's probably one of the most well known quotes from the franchise.

I mean that's one I've known about for a pretty long time and I've never seen any of these movies.

I can't think of any other standout quotes other than "I got family" or whatever.

Yeah and honestly your perception of that is really warped by just a video of like 30

men in black tank tops.

Just in shades all chanting family.

Yeah, exactly.

Yeah, "We hungry" and "Ejecto Cito 'Cuz" are the two things I definitely knew about before we watched this movie.

Both quotes from Roman.

Says a lot about his character.

It does.

Ugh, I'm so excited.

This is one of my favorites in the series.

Well, I think you might be alone on that island based on some of the other responses here, which we'll get to.

Let's run down the basic information about Too Fast Too Furious before we get into talking about the movie at large.

This film released two years after the original on June 6, 2003.

Was directed by John Singleton.

Produced again by Neil H. Moritz.

The writers were Gary Scott Thompson, Michael Brandt, and Derek Haas.

Michael Brandt and Derek Haas specifically wrote the script.

The primary actors this time around were Paul Walker, Tyrese Gibson, alongside Chris "Ludacris"

Bridges, Eva Mendes, and Cole Hauser.

The composer was different this time around as David Arnold joined the team.

The stunt coordinator was Artie Melech.

And the sequel had a much higher budget this time around, about double of the previous movie's budget, it was \$76 million, and it made \$236 million worldwide.

It wasn't as well received though!

Rotten Tomatoes, the critics gave this one a 36% overall score, and the fans didn't do much better, they gave it a 50% user score.

Which again, Rotten Tomatoes is somewhat newer-ish within the past decade or so, so these scores

are kind of retroactive. But still, this has got to be one of the lowest rated in the series, I would imagine. I wanted to read this quote from Roger Ebert of the Chicago Sun-Times.

Let's see, he gave the film a 3 out of 4 and said, "It doesn't have a brain in its head, but it's made with skill and style, and boy, it is fast and furious." Thanks, Roger.

The movie critic of all movie critics said he liked it, so...

Yeah.

What does that say about this movie?

In Roger We Trust.

Was it double the budget?

Holy smokes, it was.

Yeah, it was double the budget.

Because the last one was like, what, 38 million I think?

Yeah, I just looked it up.

So that was exactly double the budget.

Let's talk about our own histories with this.

Max, you have much more of a history with this than I do, at least.

Actually I do have somewhat of a history, which we talked about a little bit.

I'm excited to hear about the story of your grandfather going to see "Too Fast, Too Furious."

No, I don't think he saw "Too Fast, Too Furious."

But, this was the first one you saw in the series, right?

It was. This is the very first Fast and Furious movie I saw, and from this moment on I was hooked, sold, I've seen everything since multiple times.

I was at my... Hold on, can I ask when you went back and watched the first one after you saw this?

Sometime, it would have been sometime probably in middle school. It wasn't an immediate go-back because I didn't get in trouble but my aunt and uncle got in trouble for letting me and my brother watch this movie. So we were at our aunt uncle's house with our cousins and and then they're I guess my parents were out on a date or doing work or something I don't know I really have no idea what they were doing that night. But they had rented Too Fast Too Furious from Blockbuster and we all sat down and watched it. This movie is PG-13. In 2003 I would have been nine.

My brother was...

You would have just turned nine. Would you have turned nine yet?

I would have. Well, that's the theater. So running from Blockbuster was later in the year.

True.

and seven at the time and fairly sheltered and so when my parents came and picked us up and had

heard that we had watched this movie probably out of our own mouths because it was so cool and just

this awesome movie I do vividly remember my parents being upset at them and kind of an argument between adults about this over the amount of language in the film and the probably just makes

you think it was even cooler? I did it probably definitely cemented it even more in my mind.

So we did have to close our eyes for the torture scene which I was telling you that that is just cemented in my brain and actually still has like some level of tension even though there is clear corniness and just an elevation of evil very quickly there. There's still some seeded...

what is the word I'm looking for? Disturbance, like tension with the scene.

Gives you a certain emotional.

Response and probably because we were told to close our eyes but we could still hear it, which I think adds to the stress and horror of it all. But that was the first one and I've been watching these movies ever since. I love, love this movie and definitely mostly probably for a blind nostalgia, just a warm feeling associated with it because it is one of the weaker entries

for sure. And it's something you watch when you were a kid so that's gonna automatically give you those rose-tinted glasses when looking back at it. For me, yeah, I don't have a very extensive history with this movie. I talked last time about my grandfather and his whole experience with the first movie and I do remember that. For the sequel though, the only thing I really remember is just that this franchise was like gaining popularity. I remember kids at school talking about this. I remember being on

Cordova Drive going to West Newton Elementary School in
Decatur, Indiana

Decatur Central and

I remember some kids in school at one kid

I think on my bus was wearing like a too fast too furious shirt at one point. He's like yeah

This is the best movie ever I saw it the other day blah blah blah blah

Just going I mean that I remember kids talking about this movie

because it was like catching on finally with

People our age like yourself for example like you saw this and you thought it was awesome

And it was really cool like we were I was at that age of adolescence where if you saw

Quote-unquote like adult movies or whatever you thought they were like automatically the coolest thing you'd ever seen like

Spider-man when I saw the Sam Raimi spider-man movies like those were not

That was completely different. You know from going to see Trek heard these movies that I knew were being made for me or made for

children

And again, I did not see too fast too furious, but I think that was just a common

Feeling amongst anybody in my age group is that if you got to see real adult movies like the fast and the furious

You thought it was so cool

Mm-hmm, and I just yeah, I remember it gaining steam with some people I went to school with

I don't have like specific memories of certain like friends I had back then watching they're talking about it

I just remember like broadly like

people wearing shirts with Fast and Furious logo and cars on it and

People talking about how they had seen it and rented it from Blockbuster

Things of that nature. Yeah, so this is when it really started to become

Apparent in culture, I guess for me at least at your age

That it was yeah, at least at least at my age. It's when I started to again

I knew about the other movie like I said because of the whole

exposure via my grandfather in the strangest way, but

This is when I started realizing that people are like people actually like these movies and things like that

at least

People in my age because again, this has like a 50% on Rotten Tomatoes and well, you know, maybe part of that

is my cousins are older than me by a couple of years and then the sister is also older even

still. And so I wonder if- Oh, you didn't pass them in age?

No, I've never passed them. I meant it's Jake and then Allison. And so they were old enough to see

this movie and so probably there's a level of maybe older siblings that were seeing this movie

that then took their younger ones to see it and it's just trickled down in the

age range and kids in school when the younger siblings or the younger people

catch on to what the older kids are doing that even amplifies the coolness

even more so I probably was like this is the greatest movie ever because cars are

flying and jumping and all sorts of stuff yeah and it probably was they were

all like this is probably fine it's funny you mentioned that I mean this is

kind of a total aside, but that's kind of how I got into Zelda, of all things. I was

at some babysitter's house, and she had a kid that was in high school, I believe, at

the time, and I went over there one morning and was being watched by this lady, and her

son came down, like, before school, he's like, "Oh, I'm gonna play some video games before

I go to school today." And he came downstairs and he played Zelda, and I thought Zelda looked

cool in general, but its coolness factor was, like, amplified that much more because this

older kid was playing this Nintendo game. I'm like, "This game is cool. This game is for grown-ups. This game is..."

Yeah, I want to play this now myself." And then the next time I went to the store and my parents were like,

"Oh, we'll let you get a game." I was like, "Cool. I want that one."

Because I knew what it was. And like, and so was...

Yeah, I don't know, just strange exposure to buying these things comes from...

Or your enjoyment of things when you're a kid, I guess, comes from who exposes you to it.

especially if it's older kids that you kind of look up to.

So in 2022 though, we're both 28 year old men.

What did you think in a general sense about this before we start

breaking it down too much further?

I mean, I can't, I fully admit I'm biased here.

I love it.

I think this movie is just fun.

It's interesting, especially in the context of the greater series, which

you'll obviously kind of peel back.

lot of characters are introduced here and it's just fun to see the origins of

people like Tej and Roman and see know where they go and how it all started

here. There's just there's almost a grassroots kind of energy to it and

obviously it wasn't it's a sequel to the movie at the time the vision of where

this was all going wasn't wasn't there in 2002 and stuff when this movie was

being made but there is this kind of up-and-coming energy to it and I noticed

this time around the coming off of watching fast one and now too fast

street racing played a bit more of a narrative role it wasn't just race wars

and wasn't drag racing in particular it was actually like racing around town

Yeah, circuits and tracks and things like that. So I appreciated that effort

Especially since we will quickly depart at the importance of racing here in the overall

Franchise like racing cars are Tokyo drift. Yeah, especially

Yeah, so racing is gonna lose its importance here, especially since our order is

chronological narratively, you know the next movie you and I are gonna be watching here is it's

fast and furious which

You'll notice the racing decline. So it was cool to see that year. I in general

My bias send it through the roof, but I enjoy this movie. It's definitely an

Okay, if not solid sequel

Yeah, I think again this being my first exposure to all of these

I think this is definitely the weaker of the two I've seen so far

But I did not hate it, but I I think

Even though I didn't watch this as a kid. I'm still very much nostalgic for this time period for

movies from this time period so there's

like a certain sort of

Comfort in watching something like this that emulates or has the same sort of style of movies

that I grew up with

There's just something within me that likes

watching this

That being said I don't think the story is very good or compelling this time around

I think the movie lives and dies by its characters

Paul Walker and Tyrese continue to be very good, but everybody else in the cast I think

Kind of stinks Tej is okay, but I don't really think he even has a whole lot to work with because

he's just not in it

a ton

It's actually more. He's in more than Ja Rule

He is in it more than Ja Rule

but I feel like even

Suki got more screen time than him in a lot of ways because she's primarily involved in one of the

In the big opening scene with the race

So she gets a little bit more thing yeah, so she gets a little bit more

Care maybe not characterization, but she gets more lines, and she's more involved in some fun fun stuff like that and

Ludacris's characters kind of on the side like yeah, I organize all this

So like I I don't feel like even he really stood out too much

And we could talk about this more as we go through the story the problems that I had with it

But I mean broadly the villains bad

Even Mendez character is pointless like very very pointless like it's clearly it's

It's clear that they're just like let's throw in a potential love interest for Paul Walker, but then that doesn't even really

materialize in any sort of way and

But yeah Tyree steals the show in this movie Tyree said Paul Walker their bro

They're budding bromance is like the core of the movie and that's why you want to watch it and that's why it's good

and I think they really save it just their

Their back and forth constantly throughout the movie. There's a lot of good one-liners in this that are not

That are good because they're bad

Like the script in this movie like there's so many awkward lines

But it's the way that they deliver them with like conviction more often than not like yeah, somebody really would say this. That's really

Funny like it makes her an odd dynamic

It is definitely carried by performance, specifically like you said, Paul Walker and Tyrese. They carry this whole movie on their backs together and their dynamic is so strong. It's part

of why Tyrese comes back in later films and is in the series going forward from that point.

two of them were together while Paul was still alive, their chemistry has always been solid

and it started here. I think their playing off of each other is the best part of this

movie hands down.

Yeah, I think the one thing I want to mention too before we dive too deep into the story is it's also weird that Dom and them are not in this. At least not even... Like they're mentioned obviously, but I don't even think they say Dominic Toretto.

They don't mention him by name.

Maybe they do.

Maybe they do once.

Maybe they're at the opening, but I can't remember.

But yeah, they don't mention Dom and Em, which is funny within the larger scope of the series.

It's funny given that we talked about at the end of the last episode that Fast One had a post-credits scene and it shows Dom driving around there in the desert, and then they cut to this movie and he's just nowhere to be seen whatsoever.

Obviously the reason he's not in it is behind the scenes stuff like I don't know if we mentioned this at at the top

We were talking about it before the show was when we started recording at least then just didn't come back because he didn't like the script

He was also committed to filming chronicles of Riddick at the time

This was probably this was probably Vin Diesel's biggest stretch of hit films. He had fast one triple X

Chronicles of Riddick and then the pacifier like all in successive years like back to back back to back to back

That's probably the biggest stretch of his entire career because nowadays he's just doing

He comes out of his hole to do the latest fast movie and say I am Groot and I feel like that's about it

Then the early 2000s he was in quite a few different things

So it seems like scheduling and a mix of him just not thinking that they had a good idea for the sequel

led to him

Being written out in that manner which is kind of funny and retrospect. Yes, because again they at this point

they didn't know that this was going to be this huge sprawling

10/11 film franchise or whatever. So it also stands

because of these circumstances how they bring it all back together is I'm excited for you to see

that because there has to be a remembrance like not remembrance they have to they have to combine

you merge it all back together and Tokyo Drift is also involved. I was gonna say obviously I know

broad things that happen in the future they got to bring them all together then they got to bring in

i know like Han for instance is in Tokyo Drift and then he ends up joining the main crew at some point and then Hashtag Justice for Han or something that's a thing i know about uh-huh you're it's so

fun to see you experience this in a weird way they're like broad things i know they're a broad beats of the series that I know about. But yeah, it's funny just the way we're...

even watching them like I think we talked about, I mean typically on our show we do the whole bounce back and forth thing and go from one end of the chronological spectrum to the other, and with this we're kind of watching them sequentially, but I think it's almost

more fascinating in some ways to watch them sequentially because you see how they developed

into this mega, we're not even watching it sequentially, we're watching it chronological order from the time period in the films, but it's still fascinating to see them develop in that sort of way. Yeah, you buckle up buddy, you're in for a ride here for sure. Let's run through the story of "Too Fast, Too Furious" a bit more and break down some of the key things from it and what we thought. The movie obviously opens showing Brian's back, introduces Tej, Tej Parker, Who's his friend who organizes a bunch of street races. There's a street race to open the movie Which is a fun sequence to kind of get things off on the right foot

I don't know if you have anything to say about that just the way that the scene was shot

There's a lot more CG in this movie compared to the first one and I think that's very clear from the jump here

and it's almost to a

Obviously, it's not aged super well because this movie is now 20 years old or so

or just about so that's a little bit distracting but they do a good mix of I think the camera work throughout I mean not only just this opening sequence but all the different racing sequences in the movie I think it's a good mix of practical stuff CG and then the camera work like going in and out of the cars and stuff like that and bouncing between the different cars I think the way that it's shot and these scenes are cut together is still really well done for the most part. I agree it's an interesting balance they definitely use CG more, bigger budget so it allowed for them to do more ambitious things and they definitely do both practically and on the computer so it's cool to see that evolve because you're also about to we're about to have a leap in significantly in the budget and so you're going to see that exponentially increase and this is a bit more gradual. This is kind of a logical next step for how they do that. There was one shot in this movie that actually really caught me as really cool this time around that I hadn't noticed before. It's early on when they get the yellow and the purple car. I don't remember specifically what they are but even then Desmonica rides with Brian and Roman they're off to go to Verones house and it it go it's on Roman side of the car and it goes up in between the two cars and then around to Monica side of the car and like this kind of s-shaped camera movement it's very fluid and fast and obviously they use CG to do the transition but it's so convincing and a fluid one shot to get there. It's a cool effect and they do that throughout. There's different shots from up above, up close, inside the car, outside the car. I think they use a lot of it fairly well and it's still shot on film so there's a texture to it that gives it a tangible feel as well this time around. Yeah and like I said the way the scenes are all cut together too is sometimes jarring but for the most part I think they do a pretty decent job with it and they use the cuts that they're making to build up that tension during these sequences like I think more

about the one later in the movie where they're being chased by the cops and stuff like that there's there's there's some good editing in that sequence I think for the most part the crux of this movie's plot though is that it introduces the villain Carter Verone who is somebody that Brian's former boss's agent Bilkins who was in the first movie is uh his back and he's trying to get Paul Walker and I guess Brian O'Connor to come back and help out the Help out the police once again to track down this Carter fellow they they sells drugs. He's a drug he sells he sells drugs, but the way that they The way they kind of intro that he's also like involved with street racing and things like that is kind of like Wonky like they're like, oh we need to take down this drug lord blah blah blah blah also He's got street racers and stuff like that. He wants to use you guys for work. It's just very the way in which they are Saying that he can infiltrate this guy's like inner circle is very odd And it doesn't make much sense, but you just kind of nod your head. You know, like okay sure. Well, we'll go with this They've also got what's her name Eva Mendez's character is it Monica Fuentes? Yeah she's already dispatched in is kind of an inside person working undercover for Carter and that really goes Nowhere But yeah, Brian ends up going and getting Roman his old friend back from California he enlists his help then they go back to Miami and they're kind of on the Uneasy terms with one another and they think about that deal. They start in Miami Then they have to go all the way back to California just to get Roman and then they go all the way back to Miami So there are two six-hour plane trips Yeah, yeah, that's uh, I would not want to do that personally because I do not like flying in the slightest but uh It doesn't really establish either that they go to

California it kind of like well, all they do is a douse though

Yeah, it does but not it doesn't make it like super clear that that's where they're at

Because he just says oh, I know somebody and then the next scene it cuts in there in the demolition Derby

But Roman and him like we said before is them to be from the jump those two being together is really the core of the

movie

him and Roman

Have the best lines the best scenes with one another and really it's everybody else around it is kind of

Yeah, not so much um let's talk about

Carter and

Monica his characters

Because they're the really the two

Weak points I think of this for me

Carter's just

rich dude drug lord

Typical cookie cutter movie villain in a lot of ways and I think I think that's his biggest

Undoing we also talked before about the scene with the rat and that whole

Sequence of five minutes there is really just meant to amplify his evilness and remind you. Oh, yeah, he's evil and

It's done so in such an awkward way

Maybe not awkward, but they really they just really throttle it up very quickly like oh you don't think this guy is that evil

I was gonna say they just punched the pedal they just put it to the pedal of metal there

We're gonna have a rat chew through this man, and also he's gonna threaten to kill his girlfriend that he doesn't know as a cop yet

So they just really make him like a cartoonishly evil

Very very quickly and suddenly within a span of like 10 minutes

Which is fine, I guess but it's just done so abruptly and you can tell from a

script writer perspective like what they're doing like

Oh, we need to establish that this guy is not to be trifled with and that he very much is evil and it just seems very

out of nowhere in some respects I

think a difficult part of it is

His acts of villainy is you know drug dealing and things like that is all separate from him

He you never see him commit the crime. Yes talk about the crime

Except for the rat torture scene in particular and I get that that is also the issue that the cops are having

That they can't put him and the crime together

Which is why they need to find this money and put him in the money together so that they can arrest him properly and stuff

But he just he's just talked about as a bad dude and he gives off a corny

You described it as like a mustache twirl kind of villainy like yes, and I

Think that's part of the weaknesses. We never see him

The movie he is just not doing anything bad

He's just described as the villain and then suddenly it ramps do I will torture

Cops and kill my girlfriend

So this gets caught and you still never see the drugs you do see six duffel bags of money, but that's it and so

there's just a disassociation between the crime and

The person that I don't think ever

Really ends up connecting. We're just supposed to accept him as the bad guy and that's it

I think the thing that if they wanted to make him come across as more like legitimately evil or

They wanted to say they wanted to maybe ratchet up the viewers tension towards him as the antagonist. They could have levied

Eva Mendez's character Monica a little bit more tactfully in this way

I think her being an undercover cop makes no sense

I think they you could remove that element of the plot and it would be totally fine because

because if they could have just established it to where Roman and Brian go to this dude's compound,

they meet her, and maybe her and Brian kind of have a connection right away,

and they get to know each other a little bit,

and then you find out the reason she's all flirty with him is because she's in an abusive relationship with him,

and he's horrible to her, and she feels like she can't leave him because he's obviously threatened her in this movie.

like I don't what point of her be and then she could still later in the movie

go off and tip him off and be like hey this is happening I need to let you know

this like her being a cop really plays no role in this movies story it does

give her and Brian a point to relate on specifically they both were undercover

cops and Brian does understand what that can do to you and it does they say in

movie it makes Brian go native, you know, when he gives Dom the keys and stuff. So there is that

connection there and like will she quote unquote go native and will she turn on them. But I think

her being a cop like under like they there's this plot thread throughout the movie involving her

where they're like she's been compromised she's with him now and like it is implied like no they

are very much together and they are a couple but she's still undercover and it's like so they

introduce this element of it's of can we trust Monica is she a trustworthy person

has she really been compromised by this relationship that she has with Carter

which is clearly now romantically tied to him and they really never do anything

with that the only way they explain it away is just her going to Brian later

mean like oh you're in trouble so that's just kind of the way their way of

showing like oh she's not really compromised by her relationship with him

She's still gonna do her job and it's still gonna look out for Brian and Roman but at the same time

Why are you?

romantically involved with this like it's it's a very strange thing that they don't ever really I

Well explain any manner and the only person that doesn't trust her is Roman

Because he just doesn't trust cops. I'll never doubt her but it's such a strong

It's such a weird. It's such a weird thought process from the police the police's perspective to like

Hey go off and become sexually involved with this crime Lord so that we

Undercover ever starts out has become sexually involved

But like that's what it was in this movie like how I guess

How was she supposed to infiltrate his inner circle? Like that's that's the other thing

They don't really ever explain how she was embedded within this group

They're just like, oh, yeah, we have an inside person. It's her and then when you see what her role is, it's just I'm his girlfriend

So it's not like she has ever shown to really do anything for the organization

it's just she just sits around his mansion and is his

Girlfriend and she gives out a couple orders there and the one scene like everybody give us your licenses or whatever and that's about it

She does nothing else. Yeah her

like actual police work side of it is not really explored because

the movie is focusing on Brian and Roman.

It's...

I just don't think she needed... She just didn't need to be a cop.

I think if she's not a cop, it would have hit that much harder.

Maybe not that much harder, but I think it would have...

I think the script would have still worked.

That you could have had her and Brian...

The key important things of her character is that she has a connection with Brian.

She tells Brian and Roman and warns them when Carter's gonna try to kill them later.

And that's about the only important thing she does.

And I think you could still have her do that not as a cop.

Like I just, it just feels a little strange.

I do think it robs of the shared ground between, it truly then just does make her an object of attraction.

I'm not saying she's a great moving character, but.

I mean I feel like that's what she kinda is in the first place in this movie.

just like who's a hot chick we could put in this movie and because they've got plenty of scenes with her

wearing crop tops or sitting by the pool in a bikini. Sure.

So they've got plenty of shots of Eva Mendez just looking hot in this movie as

as she is. She's pretty good looking in this movie. Good job Ryan Gosling. But yeah,

away from her I guess and away from Carter, what else is there to break down with? I guess do you

Do you have anything to say about the cops in this movie?

I like Belkin's returning.

He's just, he's good comedic relief on the police side of the plot.

That's really it.

The other guy from, what is it, Customs, the Customs agent that is going at it with Roman the whole movie.

Markham, Agent Markham.

Yeah, him and Roman going at it is kind of not that interesting.

They try to make this tension between the two of them, but it's never really all that

I don't know Roman just straight-up tries to blast him

He says so anyway, I started firing

Because you maintain the cover though. It's it's fun. It's tense and reveals that their cars are being GPS tracked as well. So

But yeah the cops I feel like yeah Bilkins feels like he's really just

comedic relief like that the scene comes to my mind where he's eating popcorn as he watches them fight in front of the

trailer there

Really don't do too much throughout the movie other than that a lot of the other scenes in the movie

Don't really I will I will give this movie credit that it incorporates quite a few

different racing scenes in different

like there's a lot of scenes in this movie that do involve cars running around and racing far more than

The last movie which felt like it was just the big

Kind of there was a scene at the end where they jump in front of the train obviously and then there's the scene

with the semi in the previous film. Other than that, this movie has the opening race sequence.

It's got the race sequence later when they race for slips. It's got the scene where they're running from the cops.

It's got the big scene later with all the hundreds of cars running around all over the place.

The job application race where they have to go to the backyard.

Yep. Yep.

And they're all different types of races as well. One is a straight-up circuit and the opening. One is, you know,

down and back tag team style. One is, you know, first to destination. One is escaping cops. So

they fit. One is a jecto-cito cuz, which leads to jumping onto a boat. Yeah, so they use racing and

different types of races, I think, effectively. And each one has impact on the narrative. It's

not like Race Wars where Letty racing someone, that doesn't have any impact on the plot. Yeah,

And again, even that is just them

Strag racing in a straight line and she hits the nos and you know, that's about it

so I think I think this movie actually has pretty decent pacing because despite all the problems I was mentioning with like

Carter not being a great villain and Monica being somewhat of a pointless character and like between

Roman and Brian's good back and forth and their banter throughout the whole movie that combined with the fact that you're getting like a new

racing action scene of some sort every probably like 15 to 20 minutes.

I feel like the movie goes really fast and it's got a good sort of pace to it.

It's brisk.

Yeah, so in that regard I didn't really feel like it was ever dragging or the things that I do have the biggest problem with with the movie weren't constantly put in front of my face.

There's also, we forgot to mention the most important race, jet skis.

There is a jet ski scene briefly for like two seconds in the background.

I almost did mention that actually.

Tej is a racer of all sorts apparently.

Or he's a circuit man.

He's a circuit man of all sorts even if those circuits are on the water.

Yeah, I guess the only other thing to really mention would be the sort of climax scenes in particular if you want to touch on those.

scene where they are running away and then the hundreds of cars spill out of the garage thanks to the help of Tej and all the local street racers.

The scramble.

Yes, the big scrambling sequence of all the cars.

And then we've got the scene where they do jump onto the boat, which I know is the biggest climax of the film.

We were talking when we were watching, like, the scene of them all spilling out of the garages it's not that crazy to watch it's more just crazy how they shot it like I wonder how much coordination that took to where you're not running into one another and they're driving pretty like moderately quickly like it didn't look like they were like inching along they're going five miles an hour like they're they're kind of zipping around just a tad bit but yeah that was impressive and I wonder what that was like to shoot it's one of the moments Well look, there's a "How we got the cars and how it was filmed."

Um, I might watch that later.

This is kind of the, I think the power of practicality.

It's convincing, it's energetic.

Later on in the movies, there are plenty of scenes with lots of cars that are all CG and it pulls you out, definitely.

And you'll know what I'm talking about, we'll talk about it when we get there.

But this is just, you do, it's a good bait and switch.

You don't necessarily know where Brian and Roman and the--

- You know they've set up a plan of some sort with Tej.

- Right.

- Like they established that beforehand, but you don't know what that entails.

- It's cool to see it play out because it is a part of this whole chase.

We've gone to the trailer park, we've taken the money out.

The cop has rescinded his word and now the cops are chasing them, the local PD with customs kind of following.

So there's that whole chase, which is fun, a good cop chase in movies is a good time.

Then the scrambles, now we've got this bait and switch going on.

And then later we learn that, ugh, it's not the airfield.

So Verona's lied to, or you know, leaked information to find kind of who the mole is.

So there's that tension of where are we going,

which then leads into this whole bow.

And it's, I think it's a good ramping

of the final set piece, as it were,

kind of the whole set piece is kind of chunks.

You can even think of it, I'm just gonna say it

'cause I've played these games a lot,

it's almost like a big, uncharted set piece

overall of a level, where it's, you know,

look at Libertad or in the Madagascar,

it's like, ah, we've gotta climb up, oh, the bell fell.

and now we've got a puzzle kind of pacing,

now there's the shootout,

and then there's the truck chasing us,

and then we swing on the rope,

and now we're being dragged by the truck,

and then the motorcycle part, like it ramps, right?

And I think this is similar in that way of it.

It ramps at an appropriate pace

and ends with a very cool scene of a boat flying,

or a car flying onto a boat.

- You've got Brian falling out of his car,

driving with the tip of his,

- The tip of his toes on his converse.

- The tips of his toes.

- Keeping the gas down while the guy he's driving with
says he can't drive.

- Yes.

It is, it's well done I think.

- I do think the funniest part about the boat jump
at the end, which we talked about a bit,
is that they jump onto the boat
and it smashes onto the boat
and Carter jumps up with the shotgun and they shoot him
And then that's the end of it.

Because, and the only reason I think that's funny
is because in most other movies,
like if this was a James Bond movie
or any other action sequence,
John Wick, something like that,
jumping onto the boat would only be part one
of that whole sequence,
and then you'd have them jump out of the car
and it'd lead to a huge shootout scene
of some sort on the boat.

But nope, this is Fast and Furious.

It starts and ends with the cars at least.

And so once the jump is done,

We have a quick little shoot out there real fast, and then it's kind of just that's it.

That's all that's all we really need to see. This is not a film.

It de-escalates it very quickly.

Yeah, this is not a film where you're gonna see

Brian jump out of the car and proceed to take down five henchmen in Carter
doing all kinds of karate moves and shooting and stuff like that. It was very much just nope
Here's the car flying through the air and it smacks onto this yacht, and that's all we got for you

Which I kind of appreciated it that I was really expecting that scene to go on much longer and it really

Did not it was very much. It was done after that

Movie obviously wraps up suggests that Roman and Brian are gonna be sticking together

Which seems like it's setting up how they'll come back together with Dom later on

Roman clears his name and gets on the good side of the cops by giving them all the money

Sort of he keeps some of it for themselves

Packet ain't empty, huh?

They agree to stay in Miami and then Eva Mendez stares back at Brian longingly for some reason

The thing I'm most interested in seeing

Is that I already asked you this and you already told me that she shows back up in some of the later movies

Or at least one of them and I'm just curious to see

What that one is and how she shows back up or if it's just a cameo appearance of some sort

Which is kind of what my guess would be.

I don't think she would be majorly involved

in any of the plots of the future films,

but hey, I don't know.

She might just show up for fun at some point.

But you told me she's in one of the future movies

and I'm curious to see what that looks like

because she is such a forgettable character in this movie,

to be honest. - Right, yeah.

It's-- - So.

- Yeah, I'm excited for you to see

how she's brought back in and the other characters as well,

specifically Tej and Roman. This movie feels like an isolation, a side story as it were,

but what's important is who comes out of it. And that's, I think, one of the best parts of this.

It sets up Roman very, very well. You mentioned to me before when you started watching this, "You're going to meet more family members." If the point of this film is to just simply grow the cast of characters that will then be part of the larger family that we see in the back cat and the in the latter five or six movies in the franchise where things get really explosive then that's fine and i think as like a character intro for roman this movie is good like it's a fairly strong character intro film for him tej not so much i don't think he's bad but i just think he doesn't get a lot to do really he's just this guy who owns a garage and this guy who organizes all these races and helps organize the whole car scramble thing at the end. He's just somebody that Brian just sort of goes to for help every now and then and that's about it. He doesn't get a whole lot to do otherwise. You'll see how his role expands obviously in the future.

The overall plot wise, like, it is forgettable, sure. Especially Carter. The plot itself is not great but that's kind of what I mentioned is like they do a good job of distracting you from the plot and the pointlessness of "why is this character in this?" or "why is this happening?" or "why is this going on?" They distract you with that constantly by dropping in these car racing sequences or action set pieces or whatever. And some of those don't always make the most sense or they seem a little bit forced. The one I think about the most is when they're like "our cars are being tracked!" "Well gotta race for new cars then." Like that's a little goofy. That scene feels a little bit forced in particular. But it's fun! It's a good race that has some artificial tension.

Yes. You know, we're in the back so how are we gonna win? And creative driving, he shows Brian in sort of a creative and leadership role between the two of them. Definitely has his head on a bit more straight than Roman. The pace is good, it's fun, which, you know, I think is very important for all of these movies is the level of fun and the setting, the cars, it's all wrapped up. And again, I definitely have a bias for sure as the first one I've seen, but I think it's a good movie. Not the best, but it is good. And it's, if it was on TV, I'd sit and watch it.

It's got this fun, just like ah, breezy feel to it.

Kind of like Miami.

I don't know if I'd say good, but I wouldn't say it's bad either.

I don't know if I'd say it's like fine.

I don't know.

It's like a hair below good, I guess.

I don't know if I would say it's good enough for me to rewatch this movie multiple times over for years to come, but I didn't hate it by any means.

I think it's just sort of- Yeah, it's an ill nut. It's definitely not something you want to like,

"Ugh, too fast, too furious. We got to watch it." It's like-

And I thought that's how it would be if I'm being honest. That's kind of what I was expecting-

And I'm glad to hear that. Because you do have this fresh perspective of

kind of you can better gauge how something like this has aged. I can't. And to hear you say that

it wasn't as bad as you had feared, it comes to me as very positive that maybe I'm not as crazy as I've-

Again though, like I said before, I think some of that is very much rose-tinted glasses, not for this

movie, but for this era of movies. Like it is- there's like a certain level of comfort. When I

watch this I'm like, "Oh, this reminds me of a lot of the movies I was watching when I was 10 years

older so there's like yeah so they don't make them like this anymore they don't that's for sure

let's talk a little bit more i think we've naturally touched on a lot of things uh the

stunts in uh the uh the effects used in the movie the cgi and stuff like that i think we touched on

a lot of that i don't know if you had anything else you wanted to say again it's kind of awkward

how they splice in some of the CG cars sometimes, but I think there's a sort of flow to those

sequences to where it never feels too like you're watching a video game. And even then

when they do, I think the opening scene is the one where it is the most readily apparent,

the opening race around the city. And that's not, like, that's just for fun. That's

just the opening scene of the movie to just kind of get things going, so it's not so

distracting that you feel like it's pulling you out of the experience or pulling you out of the movie it's just there for the heck of it sort of so yeah I'd agree I think we've touched on all that editing yeah that kind of goes the same thing the way they spice all of it together I did want to let's also touch on the music sound design and all that good stuff here anything about this soundtrack really stand out to you again I think the license music that's used is is, again, it's just nostalgic for that time period.

- The soundtrack is amazing.

- The opening "2 Fast 2 Furious" theme song that they have is also pretty great.

- Act a fool, what was the other one in here?

"2 Fast 2 Furious", it's just very good use of that kind of time.

It's definitely one of the movies and soundtracks of the times, like what rappers can we get to just make a soundtrack that goes with this movie.

And obviously it starts ludicrous, the ludicrous is on quite a few tracks in this.

And you'll, this is also sort of a theme going forward, more so a single in movies, but the soundtracks become part of the identity of future films.

And there are the singles that really break through a lot of the Wiz Khalifa ones in kind of the middle of the series here.

So while I don't really remember the Fast and Furious soundtrack all that well, Too Fast, Too Furious is definitely a piece of that time, and there are some songs on here that I still enjoy today.

Now am I listening to this every day? No, but...

Driving around town, listening to Act-a-Fool?

Yeah, no. No, not me, but when these songs come on in the movie, I get excited.

And that is definitely just a piece of that time.

The soundtrack has a lot of interesting people on it.

It's got Ludacris, obviously, like you mentioned, but then it's also got 2 Chainz, R. Kelly, Tyrese is on a song, Joe Budden, we've got Chibi.

The president?

Fat Joe, we've got Pitbull who does one of the tracks, some Miami representation in there for Mr. Worldwide himself. So there's a lot of people in this soundtrack that are very much yeah it's a good mix of people especially hip-hop wise that you would think about with that early 2000s era for sure. So yeah again it just kind of I don't have any love for any of the specific songs in this movie by any means but it just warm feelings for that era and reminds me of what I was hearing on the radio or what people were into that I was going to school with as a kid stuff like that I think that's largely it for the main pillars of the movie unless there's anything else you can think of that we're forgetting here I know we're gonna do our best car I think that's where no I think best car is where we're at all right then let's do it the best car in the movie this is something that we have decided to do here with all of these episodes throughout this season and it's very straightforward what is the best car in this film Max there is more cars in this movie for sure more at least more standout cars yes standout for sure absolutely way more iconic designs but again this is fairly locked and loaded for me and if you're looking at the podcast art for this particular episode you already know what my favorite car is. It is the 1999 Nissan Skyline GTR. In the beginning of the movie is Brian's car. It's silver and blue with some blue underlights. This car is awesome. What happens to this?

Do they establish that? Or I guess he just gets arrested, doesn't he? Yeah, I guess arrested and in the impound lot. I will say that I had a little RC car, the micro-machines, that you could like customize and change little parts out and stuff and we had some Fast and Furious like body kits that would go over the top. I did have the Supra, the Toyota Supra, the brown one. I had that shell but the Skyline is absolutely my favorite car in this movie. I think it's definitely the best. What about you? What do you think?

It's kind of a toss-up because I like a lot of the old school cars for sure which I know is weird to say because we've got a lot of these cars are identifiable with this era. I like the 1970 Dodge Challenger that is used, the one of the ones that they race for slips with.

- Yes. - The orange one, I believe.

- It is, yeah. - It's a really cool looking car. I like old school

Challengers. - Awesome car, yeah.

- But I do have to agree the coolest one is definitely the 1999

Nissan Skyline. That car is very... When you see it whipping around the corners there in the opening

scene and then it's they gave him the coolest car of the bunch I believe in

that opening sequence and I don't know what it is about it that I like so much

obviously the but you got the blue racing stripes on in stuff like that but

it's kind of it's kind of duller compared to the other ones but it's just

I think it really is those blue under lights that really make it pop in that

scene that it's in. It's the silver, the spoiler, all that stuff really sells it for me. This

has just got... It matches Paul Walker's eyes very well. It's just got a good energy to

it and I think it looks slick on the road. It's fun. It's his personality through and

through. I love this car so much. Yeah, it's definitely the best one. I'm with you. Last

Let's talk about the legacy of this film before we wrap up here and close out.

Where do you think this movie's legacy is nowadays?

We talked about how the first one was very much just the starting point for the franchise.

If that was the starting point, then what is this one's legacy?

You can speak to the larger franchise.

I cannot, obviously, at this point.

The legacy is Brian and Roman and Tej,

and that's the obvious answer,

because they are the only ones

that are carrying through forward.

And then Monica as well, she's also in the future.

So that's the legacy of this film in a broader sense.

Personally, it's the movie that started

The Fast and Furious for me,

and so I'll forever be indebted to it in a strange way.

I'm sure I eventually would have seen Tokyo Drift

or Fast and Furious or Fast Five.

At some point I would have seen these movies,

but the nature that surrounded how I became exposed

to this series will always be intricately tied

to this one that's in Miami,

which I've lived in Florida the last 13 years or so

of my life, so there's that angle to it as well.

not that I've been to Miami a bunch.

There's just a difference in this movie

that I think makes it unforgettable

in a similar way Tokyo Drift is,

'cause Tokyo Drift is in Japan,

has this sort of angle, it's segmented in a way

from the rest of the franchise.

And I'll always have a soft spot for Too Fast, Too Furious.

- They do do a good job.

We haven't really mentioned that,

I feel like the vibes between this movie and Fast One are very distinct from one another.

The first one definitely feels, I mean obviously they're shooting them in different locations, duh.

But they do do a great job of making them feel like they are set in completely different parts of the country.

They have different vibes to them in that sense.

And obviously they're filming on location.

I think the first one was filmed in LA and this one was filmed in Miami.

So naturally that's going to come through.

It respects the culture of the place it's in.

Yes that too.

Yes very much so.

It's hard for me to speak about the legacy too much with this one again because I don't have larger context for all the others.

So far I would just say the legacy of this one in my mind is this is just a typical sequel for movie studios back in the day.

And I don't know how it's viewed nowadays, but this very much feels like the first one came out and who releases this?

Is it Universal?

Universal.

Universal was like, "Oh hey, this movie did better than we thought.

Let's greenlight a sequel and get it out within two years."

And they rushed this out.

And that rushing did not lead to a bad movie, but it just feels emblematic of, "Hey, this

thing did pretty well.

Let's make another one of those."

and then they did that and they found a story

and threw it all together quickly

and they got Paul Walker back

but they couldn't get Vin Diesel back

and then this is the movie that came about as a result.

Within the larger context of the series,

I'm going to guess this feels somewhat like the Black Sheep

but again, it does a good job of introducing the things

that I think, that I know will carry forward

which is Roman, Brian and Roman's relationship

and then just, I assume how they eventually meet back up

Dom and then has to do with things that happen in this movie. So again I can't speak too much to the

larger legacy of what this film is. Nowadays I think this film's legacy is probably that it's

one of the lower ones on the list that people never rewatch or want to rewatch. But I think

on its own it's totally fine and it's worth I don't know if I want to say it's worth revisiting

but again I did not hate watching it and I think it's fine if you're totally watching this with a

fresh perspective to come in for the first time and experience this. You don't have to dread watching

this by any means. Well I think that wraps up our discussion on Too Fast Too Furious. Thank you so

much for listening. You can follow the show on Twitter @ChapterSelect and listen to the rest of

of our episodes on the Fast and the Furious

here and previous seasons.

You can follow Logan on Twitter @moremantwelv

and his writing over at comicbook.com.

You can follow myself on Twitter @MaxRoberts143

and my writing over at maxfrequency.net.

And until next time, adios, bye bye.

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.

Follow the show @chapterselect

and check out previous seasons at chapterselect.com.

Don't stop yet.

Did you stop?

No.

Okay, I was gonna say don't stop yet

because there was one other legacy thing I didn't mention,

but I felt we were at a natural stopping point

so I didn't want to bring it up.

The name of the movie.

- Oh yeah, duh.

- Too fast, too furious.

- We do need to talk about this.

- I'll put this, this'll be a post show.

'Cause--

- You want to put it post show?

- I'll put the--

- Or do you want to splice it into the middle?

- No, I'll put post show in.

This is hilarious.

The name of the movie is one of the most iconic things from the film.

- Yeah, it is.

- Holy smokes.

- This is actually something,

actually something I remembered the other day after he finished watching it. I was like,

"I've finally seen '2 Fast 2 Furious,'" the film that everybody dopes on all the time with the name.

That's why I told you to open the show with "2 Chapter 2 Select."

It is. I mean, really, they've only come close to repeating that with Fast 5. Great name.

"Furious 7's bad," "Fate of the Furious is bad," because they didn't do F8.

they had the opportunity with F, Fate of the Furious. It just had to be F8, that's it. F8

of the Furious. That's all they had to do. They were so close. What is the worst, what is the

worst title probably? 9? Because the formal title is F9, the Fast Saga. That's a horrible name. So

It's either 9, I think 4, Fast and Furious. Fast and Furious.

It's because the only differentiator is the "the's".

And you don't know if you're referring to the series as a whole or the individual movie.

So I think those are probably the weakest. I also think Fast and Furious 6 is pretty plain.

Yes. It's not.

At least Furious 7 chose one of the two. And coming off of Fast 5 it made sense to have a movie with furious as the main word. Is this the next one Fast X? Yes Fast X, Fast 10 is the one in May. I like that title just because it's so ridiculous. Is the next one gonna be this next one a two-parter? Is it gonna be Fast 11? There are two movies I don't believe it is like a two-parter in the sense of Deathly Hallows or Mission Impossible. It is though in the way that they've said that the next two really tie together but I don't know if they're gonna make them individual movies or parts or what the deal is. Or they're obviously individual

movies but I don't know if it's going to be like an Infinity War in-game type thing where there are two different movies but they obviously go very much hand in hand.

Yeah I don't believe so. So the Fast Saga will conclude with the 10th and 11th episodes or movies. But look at this. Although the remaining is produced less or less higher as a placement week later. Estimate production budget of \$300 million it ranks as the fifth, joint fifth most expensive film ever made. Holy smokes. Yeah, the name of this movie is awesome.

It is very good and I'm glad you mentioned it because we absolutely need to bring it up.

I totally forgot about that. That is absolutely hands down the most iconic thing associated with

We Hungry? It's definitely the title though. The title still has like a sticking place in culture.

Because it's so bad. It's so bad that it's good. It's so bad that it's good.

It's very early 2000s. It's the... Step aside, Empire Strikes Back. The king of sequel names has been crowned.

Bye.

(door slams)