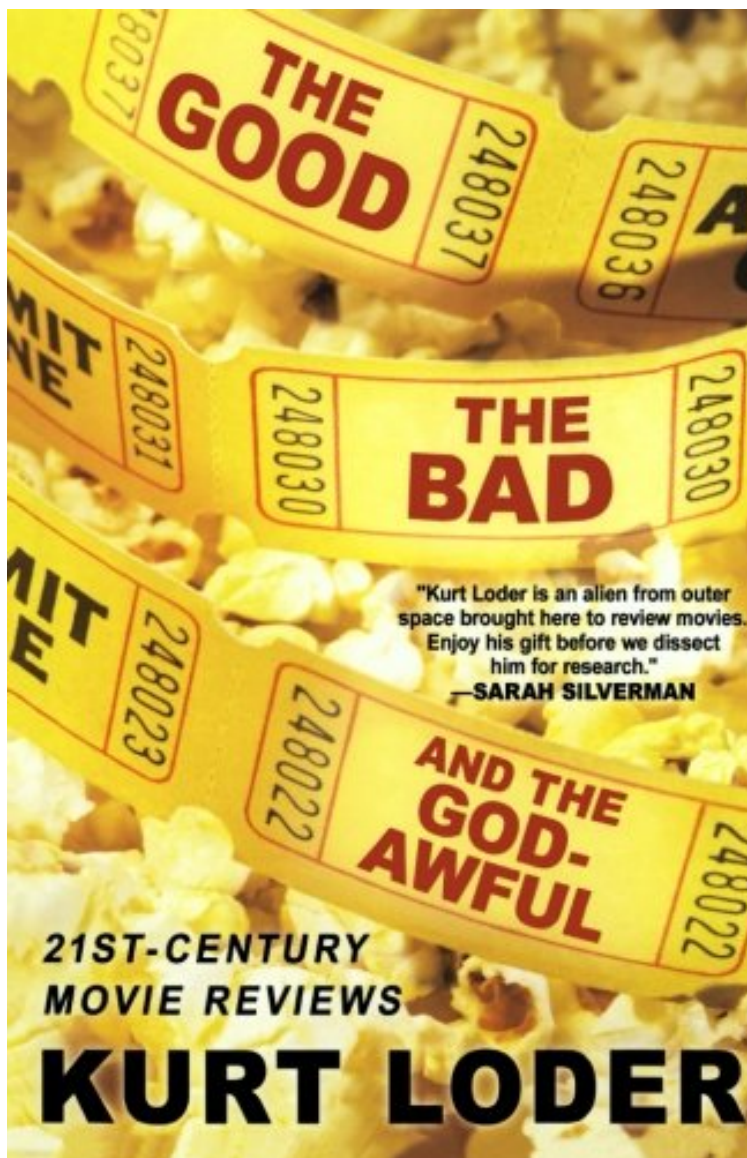


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## The Good, the Bad and the Godawful: 21st-Century Movie Reviews

*Kurt Loder*

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**Kurt Loder : The Good, the Bad and the Godawful: 21st-Century Movie Reviews** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Good, the Bad and the Godawful: 21st-Century Movie Reviews:

1 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Interesting collection By Ron Nutter Like any collection of reviews, there are hits and misses. It is entertaining to read, though. I enjoyed it. My computer says I need to add one more word, so I add the word "codswallop." 2 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Kurt Doesn't Waste Words By

Peter Baklava Kurt Loder considers himself a "film reviewer" as opposed to a "film critic". Essentially that means that he chooses to review "meat and potatoes" movies instead of focusing only on esoteric films. He is a filter for the common moviegoer. He's also totally unpretentious, cheerful, tidy and slightly astringent. His reviews are neat little bundles with a witty parting line at the end--which means that if you want a quick take on his opinion, you can just fastforward to the concluding sentence. This volume covers some two hundred odd titles from the first decade of the new century. Loder's categorizations of the movies emphasize the rather crass way that movies are marketed to target audiences. I found that I had actually viewed less than 15% of these movies, most of which had no brush whatsoever with the Academy Awards. But as I said, Loder is not an esoteric reviewer, and he gives space to all the types of movies (low and high art both) flowing through the cultural river. Read in their entirety, books like this tend to confirm the idea that we are indeed amusing ourselves to death. One of Loder's greatest gifts is that he can reduce and make legible even the loopiest, most convoluted plots in movies, and dog knows we are now regularly subjected to movie plots that are infuriatingly obtuse. Kurt spins his spidery analytical silk and salts them away all the same, in a fastidious packet that is low on verbiage. He has a good grasp of the mechanics of the movie industry, and he can quickly diagnose just why a film succeeds or fails. Loder reviews for "Reason" magazine, and perhaps that is why his reviews are so panoptical, as deadpan analyses of what people really watch. In addition to his familiarity with all the niches and the low appetites that collar even the most high-minded, he is cognizant of films that are increasingly worthy of attention, such as the wealth of good documentaries that are being produced. Still, if he ever releases another book of reviews, I hope that it will be called "Kurt's Essentials". Then, his humble readers won't spend so much time wondering why these films (the bad and 'godawful' ones) were even made. 0 of 14 people found the following review helpful. Purchased as gift By Rebecca Coates I saw a review for this book last year and wanted to get it for my mother. Well, this year I did. Hope she likes it!

The former Rolling Stone writer and MTV host takes off from classic Roger Ebert and sails boldly into the new millennium. Millions grew up reading the author's record reviews and watching him on MTV's "The Week in Rock." In this collection of more than 200 movie reviews from MTV.com and, more recently, the Reason magazine Website, plus sidebars exclusive to this volume, Loder demonstrates his characteristic wry voice and finely honed observations. The author shines when writing on the best that Hollywood and indie filmmakers have to offer, and his negative reviews are sometimes more fun than his raves. This freewheeling survey of the wild, the wonderful and the altogether otherwise is an indispensable book for any film buff.

The charm and success of the book is that Loder brings his substantial writing skills--and his keen understanding of pop culture and how it works--to discussing both serious and zombie movies in a way that sounds like your best friend intelligently ranting to you about a film in a bar. Publishers Weekly If you love movies--even the bad ones--do yourself a favor and run to the nearest bookstore and buy this book. Keep it on your bedside table and I promise, you'll be a better person for it. Tucson Citizen Kurt Loder is an alien from outer space brought here to review movies. Enjoy his gift before we dissect him for research. Sarah Silverman Every sentence [is] a witty, take-no-prisoners surprise. Owen Gleiberman, Entertainment Weekly Reading this book is like sitting next to Kurt at the movies only you get to laugh as loud as you want! Chris Connelly, ABC News contributing correspondent and former editor, Premiere Magazine Loder's thoughts on all the movies are interesting and he makes a good reviewer - hitting the high points of the movie and getting his point across without being too preachy. And movie lovers will enjoy reading about their favorites and most-hated. News and Sentinel.com it's pure Loder through and through if you're a fan of Loder's sharply irreverent views, you'll be happy to read he's applied it very well here on a wide variety of movies. David Konow, TGDaily.com About the Author KURT LODER currently writes about movies for REASON ONLINE. He was staff writer and senior editor at ROLLING STONE for nine years, where he remains a contributing editor; writer and host of MTV's THE WEEK IN ROCK for more than a decade; and movie reviewer for MTV.com. He is the co-author of Tina Turner's autobiography, I, TINA, a NEW YORK TIMES bestseller.