

DVD Review: Kick Ass Doesn't

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How do you make a superhero? Bitten by a radioactive spider? Born a mutant? Come from a distant planet? Apparently you don't need superpowers to be a superhero. All you need is to be stabbed and hit by a car, or have vengeance on your mind, or want to prove yourself to your father. I was all ready to see a comic book geek become the hero; a true rags to riches kind of movie. However, [Kick-Ass](#) was not that movie.

My initial opinion early in the movie was that these kids' parents are extremely messed up. And then I realized that, no, this entire movie is messed up. Kick Ass (Aaron Johnson) feels no pain, Red Mist (Christopher Mintz-Plasse) is a stoner, Hit Girl (Chloe Moretz) is beyond help, and Big Daddy is working solely on vengeance.

The live beatdown of Big Daddy (Nicholas Cage) and Kick Ass reminded me very much of the old Joker vs. Batman confrontations. But this is no comic book and when these guys get beat, they won't easily get back up. It fit easily into the destructive tone of the entire movie, though.

I wish I could say I loved this movie as a "good triumphs over evil" hero movie. Sadly, I can't say that. What I can say is that I'm concerned about the future of Mindy. She's been warped beyond imagination and whatever hope she had of being a normal little girl died the day her father got out of prison. This isn't a game, no matter how he framed it. This is the mental and emotional warping of a killer in the making. And with the death of her father, it's only going to escalate.

What's the lesson here? Don't become a superhero, kids. It'll only turn you into a sociopath.