

Mission: Impossible- Fallout is
Tom Cruise's BEST Movie Yet!

Written by: Eric Cameron



FALLOUT

Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to go out and see *Mission: Impossible-Fallout* on the biggest screen possible this weekend! *Fallout* is not only a huge success for the film's franchise, but it is a success for all of 2018 cinema and the future of action movies. It is the culmination of everything the series has produced, and much, much more. While I had no clue what to expect, I knew I would be in for an incredible ride! I was thrilled to get the chance to see *Fallout* last night at a pre-screening in New York City. Now, a whole twenty four hours later, I am still awestruck! This review will be 100% spoiler-free, because I highly recommend that anyone with intentions of seeing *Mission: Impossible- Fallout* stay completely away from any and all kinds of spoilers.

Mission: Impossible- Fallout was written, directed, and produced by Christopher McQuarrie, produced by J.J. Abrams and Tom Cruise, and stars Cruise himself as the film's lead, Ethan Hunt. *Fallout* also stars Rebecca Ferguson, Henry Cavill, Simon Pegg, and many more. The film starts off two years following 2015's hit, *Mission: Impossible- Rogue Nation*. One particular thing about *Fallout* that I really dig is that it strongly references the other films of the franchise, yet someone who has never watched any of the five previous *Mission: Impossible* films will still be able to follow and enjoy *Fallout* [for the most part]. If you have yet to watch a *Mission: Impossible* film, I strongly recommend watching *Mission: Impossible- 3*, *Mission: Impossible- Ghost Protocol*, and *Mission: Impossible- Rogue Nation* prior to viewing *Fallout*. Watching those three films first will definitely help you understand what is going on in *Fallout*.

At 2 hours and 27 minutes, *Mission: Impossible- Fallout* is the longest film in the series, and for a good reason. I can't think of a single second that I would have cut from the movie. Although there are some pacing issues in the first half of the film, everything in the first hour and a half is the gradual buildup to *Fallout*'s climax. My screening started at exactly 7:45pm. For the first hour and a half, the film was pretty consistent with the high standard established by the

series. It begins as the fun, action-packed *Mission: Impossible* movie that one would expect. The action throughout *Fallout* is brought to a whole new level of spectacle, which helps move the film along. The first hour and half really wasn't super interesting to me aside from the incredible action. I became more invested in the story by exactly 9:15pm when my heart began to race and I found myself on the edge of my seat! At that point, it became clear to me that this would become the best film of the franchise.

Before I go ranting and raving about how amazing *Fallout* is, I will address the few very minor cons that I found with the film. In addition to its slow start, I found it a tad hard keeping track of all of the side characters and their alliances in the beginning. That first hour and a half featured many side characters and thugs, all of whom seemed to look similar. Not many of them really had any distinctive characteristics to make it easy for the audience to identify them. While that may be a creative choice, which I totally understand and respect, it made things just a little confusing at times in the beginning. Then again, this is a huge nitpick and I've only seen the film once. I'm sure when I see *Fallout* again, I'll have an easier time identifying everyone. Oh, and I'll be watching *Fallout* many more times. This is not a film to watch just once; it requires multiple viewings to fully absorb and appreciate it.

Mission: Impossible- Fallout is honestly so incredible I could go on for hours praising it. Unfortunately, it's hard for me to do that without going into spoiler-territory. Without spoiling anything, I'll run down some of my favorite parts about *Fallout*:

1. Some of the best character-development in any *Mission: Impossible* film
 - The character-development, particularly in Tom Cruise's Ethan Hunt, is stellar. It ties in everything that Hunt has gone through throughout his IMF (Impossible Missions Force) career perfectly. His development in this film does take a bit and really occurs in the third act, but it is well-worth the wait. Everything that Hunt undergoes throughout the course of the film builds up to *Fallout*'s compelling, stressful, and intense final act. Tom Cruise gives his best performance to date!
2. Some of the best action in any *Mission: Impossible* film
 - I think this was a given, but the action in *Fallout* is, by far, the best. I don't think I need to say any more.
3. The highest stakes since *Ghost Protocol*, if not higher
 - I'm not touching spoiler-territory, but the stakes in *Fallout* are insanely high, riveting, and skin-crawling.
4. Most intense scenes since *Mission: Impossible- 3*
 - J.J. Abrams (one of my favorite filmmakers in history) crafted some of the most intense scenes I have ever seen in 2006's *Mission: Impossible- 3*. *Ghost Protocol* and *Rogue Nation* also feature some very intense scenes, but I couldn't compare

them to MI3's. *Fallout*, however, features quite possibly the most intense scenes in the franchise. I'm really happy to see the return of that filmmaking technique.

5. The audience feels every punch
 - Whenever characters like Ethan Hunt (Tom Cruise) or August Walker (Henry Cavill) throw a punch, the audience feels it. I was constantly jumping in my seat due to the intensity of each punch that was thrown. It is truly magnificent and astounding!
6. Twists and Turns
 - Every good *Mission: Impossible* film has this. *Fallout* takes it to a whole new level.
7. All actors and actresses bring their A-game
 - Every single performance in *Fallout* was spectacular. The whole ensemble does a phenomenal job. Franchise newcomer, Henry Cavill, brings his best performance throughout his filmography to date. Every performance was so unique and well-acted that it is impossible for me to say who performed best. Everyone was absolutely incredible.
8. Lorne Balfe's Score
 - The only album I'll be listening to this summer.

After only one viewing, I believe it is safe to say that *Mission: Impossible- Fallout* is my favorite of the series. My personal ranking goes as follows:

1. *Mission: Impossible- Fallout*
2. *Mission: Impossible- 3*
3. *Mission: Impossible- Ghost Protocol*
4. *Mission: Impossible- Rogue Nation*
5. *Mission: Impossible*
6. *Mission: Impossible- 2*

In conclusion, *Mission: Impossible- Fallout* is the reason to go to the cinema. It is the purest form of modern blockbuster entertainment, and is a breakthrough for the future of action filmography. Rather than an abundance of boring CGI, *Mission: Impossible- Fallout* utilizes classic practical effects, stunts, and real action. Tom Cruise's absolutely spectacular and insane stunts are death-defying and thrilling! Cruise's stellar performance in *Fallout* is by far his strongest in his career. I'm still completely mesmerized by how all of the action was practical. That aspect of the film is so admirable; I'm simply in awe. Better yet, the film's narrative, writing, and direction is just as impressive as the action, and is sure not to disappoint! Go see the film of the summer, *Mission: Impossible- Fallout*, in theatres this Friday! This is a mission you must accept!

