Friday the 13th has the stigma of being a day when spooky and supernatural things happen. In honor of this special day, we recently sat down and watched the first ten movies in the Friday the 13th franchise. We present to you our reactions and reviews from our ridiculously daunting and ultimately pointless task in hopes you will be a more informed film connoisseur when you make your next scary video rental selection. Enjoy!

Friday the 13th (1980): This is where it all started. A group of young and very aroused camp counselors head up to Crystal Lake to fix up the camp before re-opening it. Years before, a young boy drowned while the camp’s counselors were not paying attention—a tragedy that still haunts the camp.

High points: Tom Savini’s makeup effects (especially a certain axe injury). Kevin Bacon, campy fun (literally).
Low point: Hardly justifies amount of sequels.

Friday the 13th Part II (1981): The second installment for all practical purposes is really just a remake of the original except with a few more teenagers, a western bar and, oh yeah, Jason is actually in this one. Besides that, it’s the same old same old; fries get nailed, kids get killed.
High points: An equal opportunity Jason (sore wheelchair guy), some pretty sweet chases through the woods.
Low point: Everything, but still not the worst in series.

Friday the 13th Part III (1982): Part III begins where Part II left off. Basically it is more of the same again, but it was originally released in 3-D, a gimmick that makes it one of the most enjoyable in the series.
High points: Absurdity of 3-D moments, Shelly, brief appearance of whole hockey goalie, the handballed ball, containing of the legendary mask.
Low point: Lack of excitement between 3-D moments.

Friday the 13th Part V: A New Beginning (1985): Tommy Jarvis can’t get over his trauma of Jason, so Part V finds younger Tom Jarvis and a brand new franchise. High points: A brief appearance by Corey Feldman, gratuitous nudity, random trip to a trailer park, redneck mother and son.
Low points: Lack of Jason, slow pacing, cringe inducing writing, browning Tommy Jarvis, loss of campy fun.

Friday the 13th Part VII: The New Blood (1988): A girl with telekinetic powers accidentally releases Jason from his underwater residence that Tommy had relocated him to.
High points: Kane Hodder as Jason, girl who dresses like Hillary Clinton.
Low points: The premise, the worst psychologist ever, disappointing ending.

Friday the 13th Part VIII: JASONLIVES (1986): The return of Indiana Jones is quite appealing when first heard, conjuring up some of the most famous scenes in the past three movies, but the movie falls a bit short of taking an equal role in the series. The plot really doesn’t hold the bang the other films brought to the big screen. Where the other films were filled with the greatest thrills and suspense, this movie is quite lacking in edge-of-your-seat excitement.
This plot may have twists and turns, but it never has the classic obstacles where Jones, after falling entirely off the trail and being beaten down by his rivals, works his way back to retake the lead. That aspect was sorely missed in this show where

The Fall provides beauty but lacks in plot

OUR TAKE: ★★★☆☆

By Phillip Tharp
Senior Staff Writer

While it undoubtedly conjures up memories of Terry Gilliam’s thoroughly entertaining box-office flop The Adventures of Baron Munchausen and the always enjoyable The Princess Bride, Tarsem Singh’s most recent attempt into traditional, high-ga
dre filmmaking, The Fall, is a spectacle to behold. Although The Fall is distinctly more violent than both of the aforementioned films, the similarities between the three movies are numerous, with The Fall containing both the characteristic strong fantasy story interspersed with the somewhat odd and quirky humor.

Tarsem, the one-word name that the director prefers to be referred to as, has constructed a visual barrage of dazzling images and settings that successfully stun the viewer with their beauty. However, the strong focus that Tarsem has placed on imagery seems to have shifted his priority away from the film’s story, creating an emotionally lacking film that tries desperately to find substance and meaning.

Set in 1910, The Fall follows Roy Walker (Lee Pace, excellent with what he’s given), a Hollywood film stunt man who has been injured on the set of his most recent film as he attempted to do an extremely dangerous stunt in an effort to woo the girl he loves.

Trapped in a hospital and unable to walk, Roy befriends a young girl named Alexandra (Carinca Untaru, cute), who is similarly stuck under the care of nurses due to a broken arm.

With little opportunity to engage in many other activities, Roy begins to tell Alexandra a fantasy story about five men seeking revenge on the evil Governor Odiolus, each man having been betrayed or suffered a loss at the hand of this ruthless leader.

The group is composed of a masked bandit, an explosives expert, an Indian, an African prince, and Charles Darwin. As the film progresses, several parallels can be noted between the fantasy story being told by Roy and the actual events that unfold onscreen at the hospital. Roy’s depression due to his physis

Indy whips up some fun

OUR TAKE: ★★★★★

By Kenneth Phillips
Staff Writer

“It’s exactly as you have heard; Dr. Henry Jones Jr., better known as “Indiana” or “Indy,” is back. Indiana Jones and Kingdom of the Crystal Skull, the fourth film in a George Lucas story depicting the amazing archeological action of an academic docent and adventurer, continues the franchise of protecting strange and powerful relics from America’s enemies.

Of course, the film’s setting has progressed from the previous era when Indy would battle Hitler driven Nazis and their greedy archeologists attempting to pilfer religious artifacts. Now the year is 1957, and Cold War Soviets are heading their own. Dr. Jones must protect the security of America and all nations once again.

The adventure begins with Indy having to find an object – recovered from Roswell, New Mexico – ten years prior – hidden in a federal site to give to his Russian captors. Dr. Jones then narrowly escapes using his wits, fists, and whip, but now must uncover what the true interest of the Soviets is.

During his adventure, Indiana reunites with and rescues old friends such as Merion Ravenwood, Indy’s love interest from Raiders of the Lost Ark, who was captured while tracking down the Reds and piecing together the artifact’s secrets in the jungles of South America.

The return of Indiana Jones is quite appealing when first heard, conjuring up some of the most famous scenes in the past three movies, but the movie falls a bit short of taking an equal role in the series. The plot really doesn’t hold the bang the other films brought to the big screen. Where the other films were filled with the greatest thrills and suspense, this movie is quite lacking in edge-of-your-seat excitement.

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United Feature Syndicate

ACROSS
1. Tibetan holy man
5. Oil from flowers
10. Jupiter has dozens of these
15. Ollie’s sidekick
19. Golfer’s choice
20. Disgrace
21. Make a scene
22. Therefore
23. Not the one you thought
26. Heal
27. Without foundation
28. Gets up
29. Measure of light
30. Insurance
31. Gold measure
32. Peeped
34. Backbone
37. Marching-band member
38. Nursery footwear
39. Arizona tribe
40. Seer’s deck
41. Accumulate
42. Paints carefully
44. 1944 event
45. Bewildered
46. Tale
47. “The Greatest”
48. Book following Joel
49. Lopes
51. Dos Passos trilogy
52. Long in the tooth
54. Subject of an 1859 Verdi opera
55. (investment
56. Spending
57. Early victim of Stalin purge
58. Ives and others
59. Spending
60. Not those
61. Zagreb native
62. Semiquavers, e.g.
63. Big-beaked bird
64. Not the one you thought
65. Jewelled headdress
66. Not a soul
67. Cathedral space
68. Go on for the Front Office Manager to get
69. Nephew’s sib
70. Disperson
71. Horned antelope
72. Flare
73. Horned antelope
74. Vaquero’s milieu
75. Inner layer of skin
76. Is unwell
77. Part of a ream
78. APTS/LOFTS/
79. Breezed through
80. Real in the Rhineland
81. Horned antelope
82. Add-ons
83. Russians, in Cold War headlines
84. Root or ear
85. Is able to
86. They beast deuces, usually
87. More out of practice
88. Admit
89. Is able to
90. 1944 event
91. Weight allowance
92. Dieter’s target
93. Strong wind
94. Right-hand page
95. One sixteenth of a pound
96. Feeling happy
97. Smidgens
98. Admit
99. Campus crossroads
100. Lamb, anapest
101. Campus corps
102. Feeling happy
103. Existence, to Caesar
104. Dull pain
105. 678-575-8164 or email Aarti Surtani
106. Long in the tooth
107. To’s alternative
108. Editor’s order
109. Location
110. Sports venue
111. Terminal postings
112. Rocky hills
113. Put two and two together
114. Semiquavers, e.g.
115. Went by horseback
116. Accurate
117. Out on a
118. Renee Fleming solo
119. Green fuzz
120. Bug’s feeler
121. Every rough patch merely segues to
122. Angelic

Down
1. Oil from flowers
2. Treasury
3. “Fiddler’s” alternative
4. “The Fall’s” Tarsen’s labor of love, more of
5. “The Fall’s” Tarsen’s labor of love, more of
6. Not those
7. Gifts at the beach
8. Parisian pal
9. Write a new version
10. Hipped roof
11. Large chamber music group
12. “The Fall’s” Tarsen’s labor of love, more of
13. Macadamia
14. Snoreep
15. Locked up
16. Judge’s mistrial
17. Go on
18. On a
19. Cargo ship
20. Secrist’s deck
21. Corner newscast
22. Programming language
23. Party-giver
24. Trains for a fight
25. Front-cabin figure
26. Purse material, often
27. New England poet
28. Ives and others
29. With restraint
30. Accumulate
31. Corner newscast
32. Programming language
33. Party-giver
34. Trains for a fight
35. Front-cabin figure
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107. To’s alternative

THEME CROSSWORD: FALSE FRONTS

Shot in 18 countries over a period of three years, it’s obvious that The Fall’s Tarsen’s labor of love, more of a film he made to satisfy himself than...
Piled Higher & Deeper by Jorge Cham

Non Sequitur by Wiley