



FILM: **THE FALL GUY**

FDG RATING: 2.8 ☹️ 😊 ○ ○ ○ ○

Film Discussion Group (FDG) Scale is 1-5 (5 is best)

David Leitch: *director, writer*  
Ryan Gosling: *actor, Colt Seavers*  
Emily Blunt: *actress, Jody*

DATE: June 23, 2024

## DISCUSSION SUMMARY: **THE FALL GUY**

A published film review stated that the 2024 action, comedy movie, *The Fall Guy*, is a thin plot strung over some excellent stunt work.

It is definitely a celebration of those thrilling stunts that make you hold your breath and a tribute to those talented, fearless performers, something we take for granted when watching nail biting action scenes. Ryan Gosling stars as stuntman, Colt Seavers, who worked as the stunt double for action star Tom Ryder when he had an almost career-ending accident (a 12-story plunge went terribly wrong.... hmmm...who is to blame??). He is still madly in love with his ex-sweetheart, Jody who is now directing a science-fiction action extravaganza, but Tom, the action star of her movie, suddenly disappears.

The producer reaches out to Colt, asking him to be Tom's stunt man and to find Tom before film production, which is already over budget, has to be cancelled. Colt is hesitant to risk his health and rehabilitation progress, but when he finds out Jody is directing the movie, he is on the first flight out of Los Angeles. Colt is worried that he may have lost his stuntman mojo while at the same time, wrestling with his feelings for Jody. This sets in motion lots of action packed scenes involving insane stunts, including a record-breaking cannon roll, an incredible fight in a spinning dumpster, and more than one massive vehicle jump. But the story gets a bit convoluted with Colt tracking down Tom, getting tricked into drinking a cocktail laced with hallucinogenic drugs, finding Tom's most recent stunt double dead, and having the producer, who is in cahoots with Tom, incriminate Colt by replacing Tom's face with Colt's on a video of the crime. Tom felt that Colt was stealing the spot light from him since Tom liked people to believe he was doing his own stunts.

It's all about what's real and what's made to seem real. What is authentic and what isn't.

As a former stuntman, director David Leitch, knows exactly how to show off his phenomenal stunt cast who take unbelievable risks to entertain audiences. *The Fall Guy* show cases almost every classic dangerous movie stunt. But for several discussion participants, the romance didn't seem authentic possibly because Gosling was so strong in his character while Blunt's performance seemed weak.

A movie about movie making is always interesting and especially seeing what goes into making a successful daring stunt. We watch Colt getting brutally bruised over and over again but right back at it. We really liked the rolling credits at the end that especially highlighted the four actual stuntmen in the film.

We agreed *The Fall Guy* deserves an Oscar for stunts. Most discussion participants felt that the stunts and story kept us entertained but a few didn't think the stunts were enough to carry the weaker parts of the movie resulting in a slippery 2.8 on our scale of 1 to 5. (5 is the best.)



See you at the movies!  
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