

Film Review: 'Mission: Impossible - Rogue Nation' at Top of Its Game

Submitted by [PatrickMcD](#) [1] on July 31, 2015 - 7:54am

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CHICAGO – The sensational summer movie season of 2015 still has some pulse pounding tricks up its sleeve, and “Mission: Impossible - Rogue Nation” fulfills that sensation with a wham-bam bag of spy games. Tom Cruise, Simon Pegg and Jeremy Renner are back, joined by femme kick-ass Rebecca Ferguson.



Rating: **4.0/5.0**

Another advantage in this 5th chapter of the “Mission” series is Christopher McQuarrie (“Edge of Tomorrow”) who conceived the story, wrote the screenplay and directed the film. That kind of creative control is evident in each frame, as the confrontations, escapes, capers and chase scenes are all brilliantly refreshed. There are homages to other thrillers (including a direct Alfred Hitchcock Man-Who-Knew-Too-Much reference), a deeply desperate villain and virtually everything on the line. Also impressive is their decision to not necessarily have a “love interest” for Cruise’s Ethan Hunt, but have the female counterpart as an equal partner as a spy, whose quick decisions matches the male lead, and whose ability to bring down her tormentors creates a boldness and snap that evolves the all-male Impossible Mission Force (IMF).

These are dark days for the IMF. Their “methods” in certain deep operation cases are called to the carpet before the United States Senate. Leading the charge against their existence is the director of the CIA, Alan Hunley (Alec Baldwin). He is asking to disband IMF, and put it under his agency. William Brandt (Jeremy Renner) is no help at that committee hearing, as he is sworn to secrecy as a member of the force.

Meanwhile, IMF super spy Ethan Hunt (Tom Cruise) has gone missing, and his status is downgraded to rogue by the CIA. His elusiveness is effective, because he is close to breaking into an international terrorist enemy, the mysterious Syndicate. He escaped from them once with the help of Ilsa (Rebecca Ferguson), who may or may not be rogue herself, and enlists his tech man Benji (Simon Pegg) to help bring the latest mission into focus.

“Mission: Impossible – Rogue Nation” opens everywhere on July 31st, in regular and IMAX screenings. See local listings for IMAX theaters and show times. Featuring Rebecca Ferguson, Tom Cruise, Simon Pegg, Jeremy Renner, Ving Rhames and Alec Baldwin. Screenplay written and directed by Christopher McQuarrie. Rated “PG-13”



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Tom Cruise as Ethan Hunt is Cruising in 'Mission: Impossible - Rogue Nation'

Photo credit: Paramount Pictures



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