

'Daylight' quality mix of action elements

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tunnel linking Manhattan with New Jersey.

Normally, this would all be OK. But, with the addition of three trucks filled with toxic waste and an out-of-control getaway car, things get nasty.

An explosion seals off both ends of the tunnel, fills the air with noxious fumes and allows the Hudson River to start filling the tunnel with water.

Enter Latura, who survives a harrowing journey through the ventilation system to reach the survivors. However, while survival is utmost on his mind, so is the past.

A couple of years ago, Latura led a rescue team into a dangerous situation that got four of them killed, and Latura has had to live with the burden ever since. (This doesn't exactly boost his shaky credibility with the survivors, either.)

As the water level rises and the tunnel continues to collapse around them, the small group of people must band together with Kit, helping one another

to survive this life-or-death ordeal. The 14-member group of survivors is filled with faces you swear you can place, but aren't familiar enough to place. You'd almost swear you were on "The Love Boat" again.

Perhaps the most easily recognized face is that of Jay O. Sanders ("Angels In The Outfield") as skeptical father Steven Crighton. Sanders seems to be drawn towards characters who are, in essence, boneheads.

This works to his advantage in "Daylight," as we watch his character grow from frightened parent to group leader.

In fact, most of the characters evolve throughout the film, growing together as a group with one goal in mind: survival. Perhaps one of the most moving scenes of the film involves the group finally coming together to help out Kit in a dangerous situation.

The special effects for "Daylight" are excellent as well, particularly the beginning as the explosion rips through the tunnel and the vehicles within.

Sage Stallone (yes, Sly Jr.) also

The Facts

Movie: "Daylight"
Stars: Sylvester Stallone, Amy Brenneman, Jay O. Sanders
Director: Rob Cohen
Rating: PG-13 (language, violence)
Grade: B+
Five Words: Blast survivors strive to survive

shows up during the film as a teen-age thief who also is seeking freedom, in more ways than one. He acts just as well as his father (snicker).

Sylvester Stallone, while still the obvious "hero" of the film, avoids several of the pitfalls the character could have fallen into. Instead of turning into some "super-being," he holds onto the "everyman" quality, keeping him vulnerable and susceptible to his surroundings.

Tunnel out from your pile of dead week and finals week projects to catch "Daylight."

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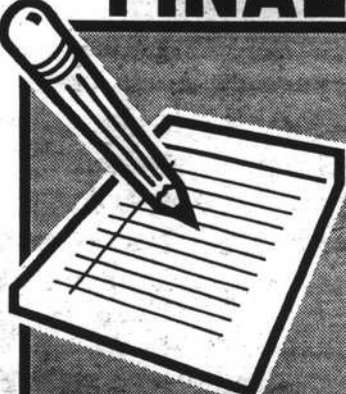
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