

## “Tenet” Takes Time on a Tenuous Trek

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[Tyler County Booster](#), 10-8-20, 4A.

Wow! I enjoyed portions of this huge production, but I'm still confused.

Fortunately, I read a little before going, and I am sad to say that all should read a lot before going. Many critics have already weighed in on Tenet's convulsions.

I appreciated its stunning CGI and grand scenery and careful acting.

But what was the main plot?

No one should have to guess throughout the movie, and much less after the movie. Its flip-flop of time bending doubtlessly meant more to the director than a seasoned audience, even one that typically enjoys Sci Fi. What is “tenet” after all?

Because the characters had appeal, though not developed well, there were dynamic scenes that would've flowed much more excitingly if the plot agenda was clear. Yet it seems the plot was purposed to be obscure. The number of times that “time” was bent or twisted or moved perturbed the mind. How they moved through time was never explained. We had to accept on faith through shallow statements that the future was invading the present with some tricks that upset entropy, a term that needed fleshing out in the movie's science.

What was the bomb going to do? When you find out, let me know.

The trailer teased with a huge 747-like plane going to ram something, but, again, why?

No one should have to rely upon a commentary before (or after) to be told the disaster the heroes diverted was some kind of human caused climate catastrophe. This is the first movie in which the threatened WWII-like catastrophe itself remained a total mystery.

Director Christopher Nolan failed in this, abysmally, and should have had a seasoned director like Spielberg give fresh eyes to the script. The several spectacular scenes compelled with an incomprehensible plot line, which kept one hoping for a clarity that never arrived. How “time” was used became the greatest mystery and forced one to guess most of the time as to who was in which “time” throughout.

The only connection to the 2010 movie Inception was in the marketers' ploy, and doubtlessly Inception's intriguing plotline and unique twist on reality helped to hype Tenet.

Still, Tenet became tedious and then closed with a tenuous tease to a sequel that will only be comprehended if the viewer reads gobs about Director Nolan's intentions and inceptions. Blah.

However, the "Protagonist," as he came to call himself, passed by his old or future self and saved the lady in distress in the subplot. And she came to his aid as she passed by herself in time, too. So the hero saved the lovely lady in the end, the only clear point.

Nolan forced the audience to wonder how all these time crossings worked together. At times, one wondered where one was in the movie, whether in the movie's past, present, or



future. And, unique to this epic in time, strangely there were “times” where the past moved backward as the future unfolded. When two “times” appeared concurrently, goodness, that stretched common sense even for a Sci Fi flick. And Nolan did not think to do what nearly every good Sci Fi movie does when radically twisting reality; he could have placed an Einstein-like actor to prep or warn or expose for the Protagonist—and us—better how and why time flipped.

Nolan foisted too many assumptions to make this as great an epic as it could have been if he had thought about making clarity job one for the audience.



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