

# Eye on Entertainment

## Devil: Trapped in a Box with M. Night

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If you haven't been following the chronicles of M. Night Shyamalan then let me fill you in, you haven't missed much. The past four movies he's released have been nothing short of abysmal and borderline unwatchable. Don't believe me? Go watch *The Last Airbender*; however, you won't get those two hours of your life back. With that said, I was quite hesitant to see a movie where M. Night would have me trapped in an elevator. Still, he has shot the majority of his films in the Pennsylvania region, so I had to show our local director some love. In retrospect I wish I just went and saw *The Town*.

*Devil* starts off with a narrator that you soon find out is a religious security guard that will have absolutely nothing to do with anything, yet will eat up at least three minutes of screen time. All he does is pray in fear, yet he's never in any danger. He also tells us about the devil and how he roams the earth and torments "ordinary" people before he kills them and that these chains of events always begin with a suicide. This is another plot point that will have nothing to do with the story other than a reason to put the main character at the scene of the crime. The movie goes downhill quickly once you realize it actually does take place entirely in an elevator in a skyscraper.

Another problem with the film is that it is not about "ordinary" people. The entire cast trapped in the

elevator is all criminals and con artists, which is far removed from "ordinary people", unless M. Night is trying to make a statement. Maybe he's right. Maybe we are all criminals? Thanks M. Night!!! Jerk.

After this fact becomes apparent, the originality of this film goes down the drain and I suddenly realized I am watching another version of *Saw*. If you're not familiar with that over-killed series, it goes like this: evil serial killer puts a bunch of people who did bad things in a dark, scary room and tests their humanity. *Devil* is about the devil putting five bad people in an elevator to test their humanity. Since when did the DEVIL care about HUMANITY? It's the same concept except the inclusion of the supernatural. Don't expect to see anything terribly gross either, since all acts of violence occur while the lights are out and the screen goes completely black. All you see is the aftermath of the devil picking them off one by one. All the while you enjoy a movie the way Stevie Wonder would.

If the movie deserves any praises, it's for its residual message. *Devil* highlights a concept that Americans do not understand-- taking responsibility for our actions. This is an idea that is not found within our culture; a culture of lawyers, obesity, and bi-partisan finger pointing. This is a message I would love to see developed as

often as Hollywood feeds us schizophrenia movies and collaborations with Vince Vaughn. The delivery of this message was very subtle throughout the movie. The end when the plot twist was unraveled and the devil is revealed was also done fairly well. Unfortunately that was the end of the plot twists and the final five minutes played out exactly as you would predict, nothing happens. In fact the entire final scene was pointless, feel good garbage I would expect out of a Disney movie. This was a movie that needed to end in a cliffhanger. Instead, M. Night put the biggest period at the end of the sentence. I walked out of that movie looking at my friend with nothing to say because the end removed all reason to discuss anything in the film. The end left me with no reason to remember this movie other than telling you not to waste your time. The movie would have ended better without the final scene.

If you look at M. Night's filmography you will see a downward spiral of quality after *The 6th Sense*. *Devil* is, at least in comparison to his most recent flops, a diamond in the rough. It could have been better but it was at least not as unwatchable as *The Last Airbender*, but I suppose when you're that far down the only direction to go is up.

Unless you are dying to be trapped in an elevator with M. Night for two hours, here's my advice: just take the stairs.

## Horoscopes

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**Aries**- Relationships of all kinds may be quite upsetting early in the week. The Sun conjuncts Saturn, so your lover could be more stubborn than usual. Business partners won't be much better. It will be easier to resolve issues if you can wait a couple of days.

**Taurus**- Your social life is fun and will remain so for a while. Whatever else is going on in your life, you know that you can relax with friends and be yourself. At work you may be involved in a difficult situation that lacks flexibility. No one wants to change his or her mindset. If you're patient, the matter will resolve itself. Try not to get too worked up on Friday. Get out in nature to relax and revive your spirits.

**Gemini**- Don't panic if you're suffering from a creative block. There's plenty you can do to turn things around. Go for a walk, work out, or watch a movie. You need to switch off for a while in order to recharge your batteries. There are plenty of opportunities for romance at the office. Someone may have his or her eye on you.

**Cancer**- Family members can be more of a hindrance than a help. You're going to have to be patient even if you want to scream. You'll resolve everything to your satisfaction eventually. If you find things getting on your nerves on Friday, cool it. Don't let stressful situations get to you. Take time out to meditate and connect with your inner wisdom. There is plenty of passion coming your way over the weekend. Can you handle it?

**Leo**- Communicating the right message could be a problem. You know what you want to say, but finding the right words seems impossible. Don't try too hard - go with the flow. You're fueled by the idea of becoming very wealthy. Keep on believing in yourself. You can and will succeed. Meanwhile, don't let one aspect of your financial situation cause you concern. It isn't as bad as it seems. You'll forget about it by the weekend.

**Virgo**- You may have a cash flow problem to contend with, but it won't last for too long. It may be due to an error or unexpected delay. Don't worry - it will resolve itself. Try not to get too rattled by the small things in life. Make relaxation a priority over the coming days. Get a massage, soak in the bath, or kick back and watch a movie. You need to stop pushing yourself so hard. Forget perfection. Embrace life as it is.

**Libra**- You need to get out of your own way this week. You seem to be blocking your progress at every step even though you badly need to get ahead. The real problem may be that you're trying too hard. It might help to let go completely and let everything turn out as it does. You could be surprised when the result is much better than you anticipated. Mercury in your sign will help you write romantic poetry and negotiate.

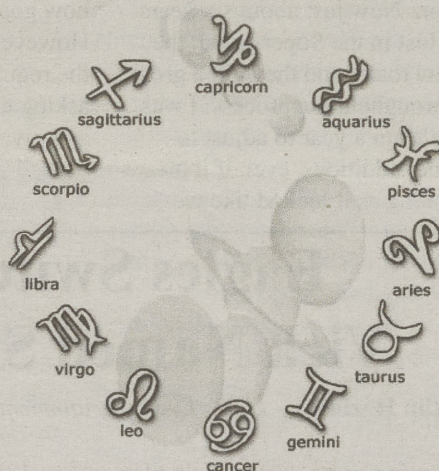
**Scorpio**- You're in full swing, and your passionate side will light up as Venus and Mars connect in your sign. You can almost hear the fireworks exploding and the stars shaking in the heavens. You and your lover are going to have a ball. Friends may delight and frustrate you in equal measure. If you need some time alone, then take it. Every now and again you need to be in your own company in order to recharge your batteries.

**Sagittarius**- Secret desires may haunt you. This is the time when you may have dreams or powerful fantasies about someone or something. Try to become aware of your real motives. You'll then know whether or not to pursue this. You seem keen to travel and enjoy a taste of freedom. You may want to purchase a place in another country, if you haven't already. A friend could be very stubborn. You'll need to retain your sense of humor.

**Capricorn**- You may reach a critical point on your way to attaining a career goal. Don't see those obstacles as problems. See them as challenges and you'll grow in strength as you rise above them. You may not see eye to eye with someone even though you're desperate to reach an agreement. It helps to put yourself in their shoes. You'll then know exactly what you need to do. Love comes your way when you broaden your horizons.

**Aquarius**- A legal issue or too much red tape may cause you endless problems. No matter what you do, it only seems to get worse. Try doing nothing and everything will automatically get sorted. A career dream may come true as you connect with the very person who can help you achieve it. You're very determined to get what you want even if it means stepping on a few toes. The harder you work, the luckier you'll be.

**Pisces**- Difficulties with loans, mortgages, or taxes could cause a few headaches. You may have to apply pressure to the right person or department in order to make any headway. You and your lover could get on each other's nerves. Although you don't mean to, you seem to be aggravating each other. It may help you both if you can each find some space to yourself. A romantic meeting in an exotic, faraway place will make you very happy.



## farewell to THE WORLD'S BEST BOSS

By Sarah Sharp--Lion's Eye Staff Writer--ses5467@psu.edu

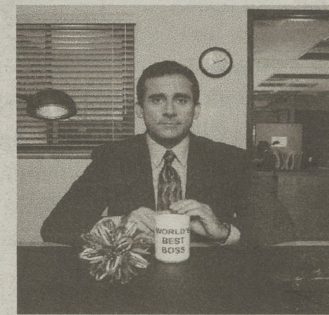
As "The Office" embarks on its seventh season, fans are bombarded with bitter sweet feelings. Although this will not be the last season of this popular show, it will be the final show for the beloved Michael Scott (Steve Carell). Michael Scott was the quirky and at times offensive regional manager of Dunder Mifflin Paper Company in Scranton Pennsylvania.

Michael Scott uses a multitude of inappropriate jokes, personal problems and a variety of seminars involving topics that range from sexual harassment and drugs to grief counseling and obesity throughout the show. Frequently, Michael uses his co-workers and subordinates as a substitute family, often meddling in their private lives. Longing to be everyone's friend, he considers "a friend first and a boss second, and probably an entertainer third." When asked whether he wants to be feared or loved he responds, "um, easy: Both. I want people to be afraid of how much they love me." With the hopes to be accepted by his co-workers, Michael would say crude statements looking for a laugh. His favorite phrase, "that's what she said" has become a popular innuendo among its fans.

Steve Carell, age 48, started his "Office" Career in 2005 when the show was adapted from the original British TV show "The Office". Over four consecutive years of the show Carell has been nominated for countless awards including the Golden Globe Award for Best Actor and the Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Lead Actor- Comedy Series. His portrayal of the fun loving and laid-back manager won over the hearts of many comedy fans. Steve Carell has developed the character of Michael Scott so perfectly, making him an essential member of the office's dynamics. Because of his affective depiction of this eccentric office manager, the news of Steve Carell's plan to leave the show came as a shock to many Office fans. Carell explains, "I just think it's time, I want to fulfill my contract. When I first signed on I had a contract for seven seasons, and this coming year is my seventh. I just thought it was time for my character to go."

He may think it is time for Michael Scott to leave Dunder Mifflin, but do Office fans agree? Freshman Sarah Demartino (International Studies) exclaims "he is the show! It just won't be the same without him." Will this be the end of the Office? Carell does not believe this; "It doesn't certainly mean the end of the show. I think it's just a dynamic change to the show, which could be a good thing, actually. Add some new life and some new energy...I see it as a positive in general for the show."

Now the question remains, who will replace Steve Carell? Rumor has it that NBC is considering the Oscar-nominated actor Harvey Keitel. Other rumors point to characters with in the Office family including Ricky Gervais, who played Michael's predecessor on the British Office, Kathy Bates, who plays Jo Bennett Michael's boss, Holly Flax (Amy Ryan), Michael's former love interest, and of course Dwight (Rainn Wilson) as a co-manager with Jim Halpert (John Krasinski). Outside actors, who seem to be considered as his successor, include Michael Emerson, Ben Linus on "Lost", and David Cross, the hilarious Tobias Funke from *Arrested Development*. It seems, however, that only time will tell how this story will unfold.



Steve Carell as World's Best Boss Michael Scott. Carell has announced that this is his last season on the Emmy Award winning sitcom.

(Photo courtesy of guestofaguest.com)