**Movies: the Winners and the Losers**

By Srijan Satpathy

The year of 2014 was filled with movies that captivated audiences all over the world, from *Divergent* to *Guardians of the Galaxy* to *The Expendables 3*. Put your seatbelts on, because here is a quick rundown of the winners and losers of film in 2014 (there are many more; I have just listed a few):

**Winners:**

1. *Guardians of the Galaxy*: Currently grossing just over $500 million, this movie enthralled Marvel fans everywhere.
2. *The Expendables 3*: If action movies are your thing, then this is definitely the right movie for you.
3. *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*: Based upon the Nickelodeon franchise of the same name, this movie brings the same fun and action with a realistic twist to the screen. Don’t forget, this movie was *produced* by Michael Bay.
4. *The Giver*: Although most book-based films don’t follow the original storyline very well, this movie truly helps bring Lois Lowry’s book to life.
5. *Divergent*: Veronica Roth’s debuting novel is portrayed with plenty of action and adventure, with some romance in the mix as well.

**Losers:**

1. *Transformers: Age of Extinction*: Although this movie is undoubtedly the highest grossing film of 2014, its plot and synopsis predominantly shows only in the first 10 minutes, followed by explosions and more explosions.
2. *Transcendence*: This movie was highly anticipated, with Johnny Depp in the lead role and the extremely talented cinematographer Wally Pfister (*Inception* and *The Dark Knight Rises*) in his directorial debut, but audiences criticized the movie’s plot and characters.
3. *Blended*: Adam Sandler forces minor laughs in the slapstick comedy, but critics say, “*Blended* commits the rare Sandler sin of provoking little more than boredom.”

What do you do next? The answer is simple! Go watch some movies and decide for yourself which films topped the list and which films simply fell short. Now that you’ve read the facts, go and “smell the roses!”