

Detecting Marvelous Comics
Episode 1: Daredevil (2003)

By

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Critique based on Daredevil (2003)

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ARKHAM DEVIL

What's a-happenin' sidekicks! My name is Arkham Devil, and welcome to Detecting Marvelous Comics' premier episode. A series where we talk about, critique, and analyze films and series with a basis in comic books. There is such a vast library to choose from, nearly a full century's worth of content that it was hard deciding where to start. However, I decided to go with my favorite superhero film of all time, the 2003 film: Daredevil. Now, don't think that just because I love this film, I'm going to go easy on it. Years of reading comics and two film degrees influence my opinion more than anything else.

(Text after intro) Before I go any further, I must issue a spoiler warning for this series. If you do not want to have this film spoiled, please turn it off and watch the movie first. This video is meant to be an informative critique, based on my knowledge and experience in both film and comics. It is not meant to be taken as absolute fact. Please understand I do not claim to be an expert in either field, I am human and will make mistakes. However, I'll do my absolute best to research the topic to my fullest to create an in depth and enjoyable experience.

To give this film little bit of an introduction, the Daredevil film was directed by Mark Steven Johnson, and stars Ben Affleck, Jennifer Garner, Collin Farrell, and Michael Clark Duncan. It exists in Marvel's Earth-701306, otherwise known as the Daredevil/Elektra film series Universe. Simple enough, right? Now without further ado, because I hate the sound of my own voice, I'll turn this over to my sexy, saucy, and

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ARKHAM DEVIL (CONT'D)
studly partner in crime, Dylan
(Woodchuck) Wood.

2 INT. GREEN SCREEN - DAY

2

Black Screen

(Phone ringing)

Woodchuck appears as phone is picked up.

WOODCHUCK
Hey, what's up buddy? What're we
working on today? Horror script?
Another street racing movie?

ARKHAM DEVIL (OS)
(incoherent)

WOODCHUCK
You want me to do what?

ARKHAM DEVIL (OS)
(Incoherent)

WOODCHUCK
Which movie?

ARKHAM DEVIL (OS)
(Incoherent)

WOODCHUCK
That movie sucked then, and it's not
any better now. Let it go. Why not
something cool? Something relevant?
Like The Suicide Squad?

ARKHAM DEVIL (OS)
(Incoherent)

WOODCHUCK
This isn't what I meant by I owe you
one-

ARKHAM DEVIL (OS)
(Loud Incoherent)

WOODCHUCK
(sigh) fine, but now, you owe me.

Dylan cracks knuckles. Cracks neck. And looks at camera.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
 Alright, you heard the big dummy.
 Let's get this over with.

3 INT. COMPARED TO COMICS - DAY

3

Fade in "Compared to Comics" on a black screen. Fade out.

Woodchuck appears on screen with picture of Daredevil movie poster, and Frank Miller's Daredevil TPB Vol. 2 cover in background.

WOODCHUCK
 Starting out with this critique, one way of approaching it is comparing and contrasting some major scenes from the movie with the comics it was based off of.

Background changes to Vol. 1, Pg. 43, slowly scrolling down.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
 Right off the bat, the movie indirectly quotes the start of the 70's and 80's comics by saying "Though attorney Matt Murdock is blind, his other senses function with superhuman sharpness - his radar sense guided him over every obstacle! He stalks by night, a red-garbed foe of evil!"

(Insert Training montage])

Background changes to collection of Frank Miller comic covers scrolling past.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
 This direct reference to the comics fairly early in the movie raises hope that the rest of the movie is pulling from more source material and increasing its comic to movie accuracy.

(Insert Kingpin impressed)

Rotating Background between Vol. 1, pg. 63, 89, 90, (CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

While reading through the source material, the first major event from the comics that got translated to the movie is the scene with Ben Urich looking into the connection between Daredevil and Matt Murdock.

(Insert "Cool color", "you have no idea.")

Background changes to silent film scene of Ben questioning Nick.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Though this scene wasn't as drawn out and leads more towards implying what Ben is finding, and eventually finds, the connection, it still ties in a major arch and key aspect of the comics.

Background changes to Vol. 1, pg. 131, playing side by side with the clip 'A Devil know as Matt Murdock.'

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Especially as Ben is seen typing up the story naming Matt as Daredevil.

Background changes to Vol. 1, pg. 135 scrolling down.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Warning him beforehand that he created the story.

(Insert "he kills your whole family")

Background changes to Vol. 1, pg. 152, playing side by side with clip of Ben deleting story.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

And finally destroying the story which would have revealed Daredevil's secret identity. Which, as we all know, is a big part of being a superhero...unless you're Iron Man...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Background changes to silent clip of drunk Jack Murdock.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

That second scene, or more of, part of the movie that had its hands deep in the comics story is Daredevil's general origin.

Background changes to Vol. 1. Pg. 136 scrolling down halfway.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Some direct pulls were when Matt's father told him as a child to study hard and become a doctor or lawyer.

(Insert "become a doctor or lawyer, not like me")

Background changes to Vol. 1, Pg. 136 scrolling the other half down.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Matt getting bullied as a child.

(Insert "I'll give you a free shot")

Background changes to Vol. 1, pg. 137 next to a clip of gymnastics and a speed bag.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

and also working out, practicing gymnastics, and punching a speed bag as a kid.

Background changes to Vol. 1, pg. 137 next to a clip of "dad?"

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

The movie even goes as far as to include that Matt gets straight A's in school.

Background changes to silent Jack Murdock montage.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Going along with the aspects of young

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Matt that were almost verbatim from the comic books is with Jack Murdock, his father.

Background changes to Vol. 1, pg. 137-38 scrolling down.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Notably, the movie ties in the comic reference of him being a washed up prize fighter making a crooked deal with an even more crooked man

(Insert "Now it's your turn to take a dive")

Background changes to silent clip of Matt meeting Elektra in coffee shop.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

One area that the movie did veer away from the source materials is how Matt went blind.

(Insert "Blind? yeah")

Background changes to Vol. 1, pg. 139 scrolling down.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

The comics show Matt going blind from a freak accident, when he was actually trying to do something good, namely from saving a blind man from a truck transporting radiative chemicals fall out of the back and hit him in the face.

Background changes to silent radioactive accident on dock.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

However, in the movie he got it from an accidental swerve of the forklift tearing a canister of radioactive waste on the docks.

Background changes to Vol. 1, pg. 139 scrolling down.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Additionally, he was a child when he lost his sight, but near full grown in the comics.

Background changes to Vol. 1, pg. 141 scrolling down.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Getting back onto what the movies did take from the comics and Jack Murdock, the movie takes the direct references like Jack being forced to take a dive in a fight or face certain death.

(Insert "I don't work for you")

Background changes to Vol.1, pg. 144 scrolling down.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

And, despite knowing that the prior fights were "fixed," Jack wins the fight to honor his son, saying, "this one's for you, Matt!"

(Insert "this one's for you Matt")

Background changes to Vol. 1, pg. 144, side by side with silent clip of Jack beat to death.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Again, the movie decided to stray when it had Jack die in a different way. In the comics he is shot in the back walking down the street as opposed to being beaten to death at the hands of the Kingpin in the movie.

Background changes to silent clip of Matt and Elektra walking down sidewalk.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Moving to the next scene, and probably one of the biggest focal points to the overall plot of both the movies and comics, which is the relationship between Matt and Elektra.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

Background changes to Vol. 1, pg. 214, side by side with silent clip of Elektra entering coffee shop.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

You would think that the movie would try to keep to the source material as much as possible; however, pretty quickly, the movie had Matt and Elektra meet in a coffee shop rather than on the steps of the library of Columbia University.

Background to Matt telling Foggy about Elektra.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Although that is just one small aspect, it did redeem itself by sticking to the fact that Elektra's father was a Greek ambassador.

(Insert "It's Greek genius")

Background changes to Vol. 1, pg. 215 scrolling down.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

That Elektra learned martial arts to keep her protected, as they did in the comics.

(Insert "bodyguard?" 'Daredevil Director's Cut' (2003)

Background changes to Vol. 1, pg 216 side by side with Matt and Elektra's acrobatics at the park.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

That Matt starts his relationship with Elektra by showing off his acrobatics.

Background changes to Vol. 1, pg 216 scrolling down.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Followed by explaining to her how he's not so helpless.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (7)

(Insert "grew up in kitchen")

Background changes to clip of Nikolas getting killed.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
And finally how Elektra's father is
killed in front of her.

(Insert "bullseye")

Background changes to Vol. 1, pg. 220 scrolling down.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Which causes her to go into a
resentment fueled depression.

(Insert "I want revenge")

Background changes to silent clip of Daredevil and Elektra
fighting.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Despite changing small aspects of Matt
and Elektra's relationship, it did
attempt to stick to the general plot
from the comics here and there.

Background changes to silent clip of Bullseye laughing at
Elektra injured.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Now, onto a more exciting story arch:
Bullseye.

background changes to Vol. 1, pg 269 scrolling down.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
The first reference from the comics
that the movie changed was how
Bullseye started on the Kingpin's
payroll, while in the comics he was
originally hired to kill Kingpin.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (8)

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
(expectations")

Background changes to silent clip of Bullseye killing fly.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
From there, the next scene in the comics was referenced as the last scene of the movie where Bullseye seamlessly killed the fly with a syringe in the hospital in the movie.

Background changes to Vol. 1, pg. 305 scrolling down and ending with clip of Bullseye modest to Kingpin scrolling into place.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Paying homage to him killing a fly with a paperclip in the comics, which was pretty neat to see translated between mediums.

Background changes to Vol. 1, pg. 310 scrolling down.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
As mentioned, Bullseye was changed to working for Kingpin right from the beginning; however, the comics didn't have him working for him until the he began to retake over the criminal underground and was recruited with a guarantee of premium future employment.

Background changes to Vol. 1, pg. 314 scrolling down.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
From here, it leads to the comic and movie scene where Bullseye tells Kingpin that he would kill Daredevil for free.

(Insert "told him I'd do you for free")

Background changes to Vol. 1, pg. 316 side by side with clip of Daredevil baton shuriken scene.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (9)

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

The final scene with Bullseye that the movie pulled a lot from the comics is the fight between Bullseye and Daredevil, specifically when Daredevil blocked an array of shuriken thrown at him by allowing them to stick into his baton and then retaliating by throwing the baton back at Bullseye.

Background changes to Vol. 1, pg. 319 side by side with clip of Daredevil and Bullseye choking each other.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

As well as when they both choke each other in a literal attempt to kill one another.

Background changes to a still of Elektra and Bullseye fighting, with a red X that appears on Elektra as her death is mentioned.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

The final major sequence in both the movie and comic that attempted to be faithful to the source material is the final arc where Bullseye fights Daredevil and kills Elektra. Spoiler alert, sorry, not sorry.

Background changes to a silent clip of Elektra/Bullseye fighting.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Despite how close it tried to keep to the comics, both created different motivations for Bullseye wanting to kill Elektra.

Background changes to Vol. 2, pg. 187 scrolling down.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

In the comics, the Punisher informs Bullseye that Elektra took his place as Kingpin's assassin. Which infuriates Bullseye and makes him want to kill her to take his place back.

Background changes to a silent clip of Ben confronting Matt.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (10)

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Whereas in the film, Bullseye was hired to kill Nikolas Natchios and his whole family, including Elektra

(Insert "He doesn't kill you, he kills your whole family")

Background changes to a silent clip of Elektra being stabbed.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

From there, the comic scenes start to play out almost one to one, like where Bullseye stabs Elektra with her own sai.

Background changes to Vol. 2, pg. 203-205 scrolling down.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Right down to the dialogue of "you're pretty good... but me...I'm magic," and "for my next trick..."

(Insert dialogue clips from film)

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

The main difference between the two is that Daredevil was not there when she was stabbed.

(Insert "No!")

Background changes to Vol. 2, pg. 206 side by side with clip of fading heartbeat.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

However, Elektra did die in the arms of Daredevil. She just had to crawl to his doorstep, after being stabbed.

Background changes to Vol. 2, pg. 208-09 scrolling down.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Another turning point from comics to movie is the way Kingpin finds out

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (11)

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
that Matt Murdock is Daredevil. In the comics, Bullseye deduces it on his own and informs Kingpin. Whereas in the movie, in the midst of his fight with the injured Daredevil, Kingpin pulls off his cowl to discover his true identity.

(Insert "The blind lawyer from hell's kitchen?")

Background changes to Bullseye falling and landing on Ben's car.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Additionally, Daredevil dropping Bullseye to his presumed death is different in the comics than in the movie.

(Insert "Don't you people ever die?" 'X-Men' (2000)

Background changes to Vol. 2, pg. 216 scrolling down.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
In the comics, Bullseye and Daredevil are hanging from a wire. Bullseye slips and Daredevil catches him, only to inform him that he'll "kill no one ever again," and drops him.

Background changes to Bullseye getting shot through hands.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Whereas in the movie, Daredevil pushes the injured and vulnerable Bullseye out of a church window.

(Insert "Have mercy")

Background changes to Vol. 2, pg. 219 scrolling down.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (12)

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Despite going back and forth from the source material, another, final, similarity between the comics and the movie is how Bullseye's fall put him on a full body cast, unable to move. Well, except to kill that fly.

(Insert clip of fly get killed, but with audio, "Fly Bitch" 'Die you damn fly! Fly in the house' (2015)

Background changes back to solid black with only Woodchuck still.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

And so, we believe the Compared to Comics section deserves 6 out of 10.

(Insert 6/10)

4 INT. ORIGIN - DAY.

4

Fade in "Origin" on a black screen. Fade out.

Background changes to silent clip of first young Matt's fight.

WOODCHUCK

Alright, now let's dive into the the origin part of this show. The film began by covering the backstory for a good 15 minutes. It shows Matt Murdock's knack for getting into fights, even as a kid.

Background changes to a silent clip of young Matt in hospital with city sounds.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

It also covers Matt getting his radar-esque powers.

Background changes to silent clip of young Matt doing flips on roof tops.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

His acrobatic training on rooftops.

Background changes to silent clip of Jack telling young Matt to be a lawyer.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

And his dad telling him to become a lawyer.

Background changes to silent clip of Jack being beat to death

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Though this intro covers how his dad was killed.

Background changes to silent clip of Stavros making Jack a deal.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

The original murderer, the Fixer.

Background changes to silent clip of Kingpin telling Daredevil he killed his dad.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Was replaced by the Kingpin, which better fit into the overall narrative of the film.

Background change to silent clip of young Matt saving Stan Lee from entering traffic.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

As I mentioned earlier, in the comics, Matt got his powers while saving an old man from getting hit by a truck.

Background changes to silent clip of forklift breaking canister.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Upon rescuing the old man from the truck, some of the radioactive waste content it was hauling splashed onto his eyes. This waste caused him to lose his sight, but also increased the abilities of his remaining four senses. And again, in the movie this event became an accident at the docks.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Background changes to silent clip of Maggie standing over young Matt in hospital 'Daredevil: Director's Cut (2003).

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Despite how many details this introduction gives to Matt and his childhood, it does leave some things left unanswered. Some examples are, where is his mother? What happened to her? We only briefly see her in the extended edition.

Background changes to silent clip of suits in apartment.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

How did he get his suits? Are we to assume that a struggling pro-bono lawyer, who for all intents and purposes is blind, can afford or even make his own suits and gear?

(Insert "people who pay their bills")

Background changes to silent clip of Stick training Elektra 'Elektra' (2005).

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

It also doesn't cover how Matt was originally trained by Stick.

Background changes to silent clip of Jack training.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Yes, his father was a boxer, so having some skill makes sense.

Background changes to silent clip of Matt and Elektra's fight in park.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

However, where did he learn martial arts, especially while blind?

Background changes to silent clip of Jack's death transition to adult Matt.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

A final question the audience is left wondering is, what happened to him after his dad died? We just jump straight from his dad's death to him as an adult.

Background changes to silent clip of Young Matt's introduction.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Even with all of these questions lingering over the movie's premise, the intro did provide a considerable amount of details to get a basic understanding of the characters beginnings. And so, 5 out of 10 feels like a fair score.

5 INT. OVERALL/CONTINUOUS STORY

5

Fade in "Overall/Continuous Story" on a black screen. Fade out.

Background remains black as Woodchuck pops in.

WOODCHUCK

Moving from the origins to the overall story arch; there is a strong message early in the film that rang true to me, which is:

Background changes to silent clip of Daredevil's fight with Kingpin.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Even if they're bigger than you.

Background changes to silent clip of bar fight.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Even if you're outnumbered.

Background to silent clip of first time Matt is in confession.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Even if you know you'll lose.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

(Insert Priest saying "you can't
fight like this")

Background changes to silent clip of Matt and Foggy talking
to Fisk.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Always stand up for yourself and what
you believe.

(Insert "We only represent clients
that are innocent".)

Background changes to silent clip of Jack with Matt in the
crowd.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Never give up.

(Insert young Matt yelling to Jack
"Never Give up")

Background changes to silent clip of blind young Matt
fighting bullies.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Always stand up to bullies.

Background changes to Stan Lee, Kirby, Miller, Mack, Bendis,
Smith, and Quesada comics crossing screen.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
From there, another aspect that
grabbed at our attention, besides the
message, was the comic references or
cameos. Some examples are:

Background changes to silent clip of Stavros talking to Jack.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
The quote "Miller, Mack, Bendis,
they're all my fighters," delivered by
the crime lord, Fallon.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

(Insert "Miller, Mack, Bendis,
they're all my fighters")

Background changes to silent clip of Frank Miller with pen in head.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Frank Miller as the "Man with Pen in
Head"

Background changes to silent clip of Daredevil hitting Jose Quesada with a baton.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Jose Quesada and his goons fight with
Daredevil at Josie's bar. Which is a
reference to Joe Quesada, the artist
on Kevin Smith's "Guardian Devil"
comic run.

(Insert "Jose Quesada. And the
rest of Jose Quesada")

Background changes to silent clip of Kevin Smith scene.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Brief Daredevil comic author, Kevin
Smith, is also credited in the film as
"Jack Kirby," the forensic assistant,
which is also a reference to Stan
Lee's artist and partner.

(Insert "That's some weird shit
right there")

Background changes to silent clip of Stan Lee looking up from his newspaper.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Finally, Stan Lee cameos as the "Old
Man at Crossing."

Background changes to silent clip of fiery DD's.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

These extra "easter eggs" were enjoyable, though hidden so that fans might only notice. Despite the cool cameos, it was a struggle to be impressed with some other areas of the film like: why would Daredevil go through the trouble of putting gasoline on the concrete in the shape of two D's? This scene might have originally been for theatrics and the trailer, even still, it felt very impractical.

Background change to silent clip of Bullseye's warning shot.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

A few other issues were with how much screen time, dialogue, and attention Bullseye got.

(Insert "First one's a warning, padre.")

Background changes to silent clip of Bullseye killing the bar owner.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

With how he was being presented and how major a part he is to Daredevil as a character, we should have seen more of an establishing story for him, at least more than "he's just a hired assassin."

(Insert "Bring me Bullseye")

Background changes to silent clip of Daredevil tossing rose.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

The other aspect that seemed unnecessary was when Daredevil tosses the rose down the alley to honor his father. This act feels more like adding insult to injury.

Background changes to silent clip of Daredevil taking down (CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

Kingpin.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Sure it's a metaphor for the Kingpin
falling.

Background changes to silent clip of young Matt finding a
rose on Jack.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

But a rose was also set on his
father's chest after the Kingpin
killed him. It felt a bit contrived
and contradictory.

Background changes to silent clip of Matt and Elektra
fighting in park ending with Elektra surprised by what Matt
can do.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Though there are many places that
could be torn apart with this film and
viewed as negative, there are still
some redeeming qualities sprinkled
into the mix. Take Elektra and Matt
fighting with each other in the park.

Yes it is a bit cheesy and over the
top, but totally mid-2000's style, and
ya boy Arkham Devil is all about that.

(Insert "Tally ho" 'Spider-Man'
(2002)

(Inset "You're on Fire" 'Fantastic
Four' (2005)

(Insert "Hold this line" X-Men:
Last Stand (2006)

Background changes to still at the beginning of Elektra's
training.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Que mid-2000's angsty soundtrack.

(Insert Elektra training)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

Background changes to silent clips of courtroom, coffee shop, Nelson and Murdock, and the ball.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Moving on to some of the better aspects of this movie like how the writers stuck to Matt's moral compass as a lawyer of only taking cases that are innocent, even if it's pro-bono. As a fan, it was easy to appreciate that they incorporated details like this.

Background changes to silent clip of beginning of Foggy and Matt at coffee shop.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Another detail that makes the characters relatable and more like their comic book selves is Matt and Foggy's dynamic and banter throughout the movie.

(Insert Foggy and Matt banter.)

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

It really shows their brotherly relationship and how much they bonded in college and in business partnership.

These scenes help fuel the storyline and keep the film mildly on track with the comics.

Background changes to silent clip of Kingpin's introduction.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

However, one major flaw to this film in general is the lack of character establishment. Take the Kingpin for example.

Background changes to silent clip of talking about Kingpin at the courthouse.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (7)

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

The film doesn't really establish who the Kingpin is when first referenced at the courthouse, it just implies that he is preexisting, that the audience should already know, which doesn't get any clearer throughout the movie beyond the idea that he's the bad guy.

(Insert "Kingpin must be pushing bail")

Background changes to silent clip of Matt arguing in court.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Another shortcoming was how little investment the film put into showing Matt as a lawyer. We don't get to see much beyond the case against Jose Quesada. It would have been interesting if they had added more of Matt being a lawyer, especially since, in the comics, he's great in the courtroom.

(Insert "I said I was sorry, what do you want?")

Background changes to silent clip of Nikolas' death.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Beyond those smaller issues, there were a few other problems that felt like lazy writing and planning. Like, why would Bullseye kill Elektra after Nikolas?

Background changes to silent clip of Elektra crying and shooting at Daredevil.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Wouldn't it make more sense to kill her first, thus making him suffer?

Background changes to silent clip of Daredevil and Elektra fighting, and then Elektra and Bullseye fighting. (CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (8)

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

That felt like a lazy excuse for a motive to start fighting the others.

Background changes to silent clip of Kirby and Urich baton scene.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Also, we see the forensic assistant Jack Kirby show Ben Urich Daredevil's baton that turns into the staff. But it is also the same walking cane that Matt Murdock uses by day, that Ben, and everyone else for that matter, saw at the ball.

(Insert "Nice color" "I wouldn't know")

Background changes to silent clip of Matt walking down street, end of movie.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Why is he using his combat baton for everyday use when he doesn't fight without his suit? In the comics it is because he wears his suit under his clothes, as a good superhero should. But that is not the case in the film. So it comes across as forced and unnecessary.

Background changes to silent clip of Bullseye talking to Kingpin.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

For most of the film, dialogue meets expectations, but not for Bullseye's line, "I want a bloody costume."

(Insert "I want a bloody costume")

Background changes to silent clip of Suit up montage.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

We get to see Daredevil and Elektra suit up, but Bullseye wears the same

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (9)

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
long black leather coat as before.

(Insert flap leather coat)

Background changes to silent clip of Daredevil coming home after Josie's.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
After pointing out a few of the problems with the storytelling, there were a few notable positive parts. Like how we get to see Matt's collapsing love life from Heather's breakup voicemail.

(Insert Voicemail)

Background changes to silent clip of enter Elektra

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Which makes for a good opening for his relationship with Elektra.

Background changes to silent clip of Matt and Elektra dancing.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
As Elektra and Matt's relationship grows and blossoms, we get to see something in Matt that he hasn't experienced in decades. Wuv. True Wuv. His passion and re-ignited hope was touching and inspiring.

(Insert "You are so beautiful,"
"Stay with me," "I found you")

Background changes to silent clips of three fight montage.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Another aspect that worked was the fight sequences. Pulling off three large fight sequences back to back to back was ambitious, but it felt like
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (10)

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
it worked. The first fight is between
Elektra and Daredevil, the battle
between lovers turned enemies, because
of a misunderstanding.

(Insert "I didn't kill your
father" "Liar")

Background changes to silent clip just before Elektra's
death.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Which ends with her death at the hands
of Bullseye.

(Insert "And for my next trick")

Background changes to silent clip of Elektra crawling to
Daredevil.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
And thus bringing a tragic closure to
their relationship.

Background changes to silent clip of both choking.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Next is the fight between Bullseye and
Daredevil, the battle of rivals. Money
is no longer a factor.

("I'll do you for free")

Background changes to silent clip of Bullseye miss hitting
Daredevil.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Bullseye has let his pride get the
better of him and wants to kill the
only man to make him miss his target.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (11)

(Insert "Too much pride can kill a man" "he made me miss")

Background changes to silent clip of dripping blood on cross.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Also, Daredevil's out for blood over the death of his girlfriend.

Background changes to silent clip of fading heartbeat.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

After feeling her heartbeat fade away as he held her in her last moments.

Background changes to silent clip of Daredevil's arrival at the penthouse.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Finally, it all ends with the fight between Kingpin and Daredevil, the battle of vengeance.

Hello, my name is Matt Murdock, you killed my father, prepare to die.

(Insert Inigo Montioya with Daredevil's face comically pasted over Matt's, followed by Kingpin throwing him into the wall, spongebob "my leg".)

Background continues as silent clip of Daredevil and Kingpin fighting.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

The inevitable duel to bring justice for Jack Murdock's death.

(Insert "You killed the only two people I've ever loved" "Hello Darkness my old friend".)

Background changes to silent clip of Fist to Jack's face.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (12)

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

The Kingpin sealed his fate that day,
the day he dealt the killing blow in
the alley.

Background changes to silent clips of Kingpin in jail,
Bullseye in cast, and braille.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

All in all, these fights do not
distract from the overall story or
bore the audience with too much
action. They build off of what has
been established and bring closure to
the major arcs of the movie. It is
remarkable how much they added to only
2 hours and 13 minutes.

Background changes to silent clips of church bell and pipes.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Breaking down the Bullseye fight a bit
more thoroughly, it was interesting
how Bullseye picks up Daredevil's
weakness to sound in their fight on
the pipes and then uses it to his
advantage when he rings the church
bell and hits the pipes to
incapacitate him.

Background changes to silent clip of pain from the subway.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

It was a great way to follow
Daredevil's one weakness throughout
the film and use it against him.

Background changes to silent clip of Bullseye talking to
injured Daredevil.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Also, Bullseye filled in the last
piece of the puzzle that Matt needed
to discover who killed his father.

(Insert "Fisk was right about you")

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

He learned that the man that killed
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (13)

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
his father and the Kingpin of crime
are one in the same.

(Insert "That whole red rose
thing, he loves that shit" over
rose on Jack Murdock)

Background changes to Black, with Woodchuck still remaining.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
The Overall/Continuous story was
pretty good, but still left a good
deal of flaws just begging to be
pointed out. And for this reason we
have chosen to give it 6 out of 10.

6 INT. CLIFF HANGERS/SEQUEL POSSIBILITY - DAY

6

Fade in "Cliffhangers/Sequel Possibility" on a black screen.
Fade out.

Background changes to silent clips of Joker card from 'Batman Begins' (2005), electronics on fritz, Dr. Doom 'Fantastic Four' (2005), Magneto chess piece 'X-Men: Last Stand (2006).

WOODCHUCK
Most super hero films, even those from
the early and mid 2000s often tried to
leave room for possible sequels. You
never knew if a film would take off
enough to warrant one.

When it comes to this film, it leaves
a lot open for the possibility of
sequels, but the only reason it won't
score higher is that it doesn't follow
through with everything it has set up.

Background changes to silent clip of Matt on roof at end of
movie.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
A few key, sequel worthy bits and
pieces are when Matt finds the braille
pendant on the rooftop.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

(Insert "Braille")

Background changes to silent clip of Matt feeling Elektra's necklace.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

This heavily implies that Elektra did not actually die at the hands of Bullseye and left him a pendant to remember her by.

(Insert "Does it come in Braille?")

Background changes to silent clip of Elektra resurrection 'Elektra' (2005).

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

However, as seen in the 'Elektra' movie, she was actually dead and was brought back to life.

Background changes to various silent clips of Elektra with pendant.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

The only time she would have had time to leave the pendant on the roof is either before she died or after she returned to life, which either is plausible but might not be what a general viewer might interpret.

Background changes to silent clip of Ben typing.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

A couple other scenes that could lead into a more direct sequel are when Ben Urich reveals that he knows who Daredevil truly is, then deletes his article instead of publishing it, implying that he wants to help Matt not only now but in furthering his hero escapades. Especially with his line, "Go get 'em, Matt."

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

(Insert "Go get 'em Matt")

Background changes to silent clip of Bullseye in hospital bandaged up.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

The final event comes from the post credit scene where we see an injured bullseye, bandaged up in a hospital room.

Background changes to Daredevil #5, Kevin Smith, adamantium skeleton.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Which would have been a perfect opportunity to give him the adamantium bones that he has in the comics. We also see him kill a fly with a needle, proving that his injuries did nothing to hinder his marksmanship.

(Insert "Bullseye")

Background changes to silent clip of Elektra training with the Chaste 'Elektra' (2005).

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Much of this provides the footwork and premise for a second movie. But all we got was Elektra, which, no offense, felt far more inferior.

Background changes to silent clip of Foggy and Karen.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

It would have been great to see a second movie where Karen gets a larger role and Foggy finds out that his not-so blind friend and partner in-law is actually the vigilante known as Daredevil, which he has been excitedly following in the tabloids.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

(Insert "Been seeing this guy in
the paper")

Background changes to silent clip of Typhoid Mary 'Elektra'
(2005), followed by Black Widow flipping Happy 'Iron Man 2'
(2010).

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Maybe bring in Typhoid Mary or even
Black Widow since Paramount hadn't yet
brought her into their metaphorical
toy box.

Background changes to crossover rumor website scrolling down.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
But instead all we got was a rumor of
a Daredevil/Fantastic Four/X-Men Fox
property crossover.

Background changes to silent clip of Happy trying to figure
out FaceTime 'Iron Man 3' (2013).

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
And then later down the road, as far
as actors go, Foggy becomes Forehead
of Security or Happy Hogan in the MCU.

(Insert "Is this Forehead of
security?")

Background changes to silent clip of Batman threatening
superman 'Batman vs Superman' (2016).

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
And Matt becomes BatFleck.

(Insert "Do you bleed? You will.")

Background remains a still of Batfleck.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
While Daredevil may not have done the
best at following through with setting
up sequels, at least it didn't try to
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
 shoehorn setting up 5 other
 character's movies like one particular
 film that comes to mind. (ahem). So,
 for that reason we choose to give
 Cliffhangers and Possible Sequels a 6
 out of 10.

7 INT. RANGE OF PROTAGONISTS - DAY

7

Fade in "Range of Protagonists" on a black screen. Fade out.

Background changes to silent clip of Matt and Foggy in front
 of courthouse.

WOODCHUCK
 Daredevil's list of protagonists in
 this film were incredible! Matt
 Murdock/Daredevil.

(Insert "Not tonight, I have work
 to do")

Background changes to silent clip of Elektra mid kick.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
 Elektra Natchios.

(Insert "My name's Elektra
 Natchios")

Background changes to silent clip of Foggy Nelson and
 Murdock.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
 Franklin (Foggy) Nelson.

(Insert "I look like a sandford
 son")

Background changes to silent clip of Ben interviewing Nick.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
 Ben Urich.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

(Insert fire "Got it")

Background changes to silent clip of Jack talking to young Matt.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Jack Murdock.

(Insert "You don't hit nothin' but books, got me?")

Background changes to silent clip of Nick talking to SWAT.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Nick Manolis.

(Insert "Keep them in your sights, both of them")

Background changes to silent clip of Karen at Nelson and Murdock.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
And even though they hardly played a part there was also Karen Page.

(Insert "This just came by messenger, plus one")

Background changes to silent clip of Josie pouring drinks.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
And Josie in the extended version.

(Insert "No burn outs asshole")

Background changes to silent clip of Nikolas Natchios discussion leaving with Kingpin.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Not to mention the characters they altered, such as: Hugo Kostas Natchios
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
to Nikolas Natchios.

(Insert "I'm out")

Background changes to silent clip of Matt's first scene in confession.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
And creating Father Everett, rather than pulling one of the priests from the comics. But all the same it counts.

(Insert "I'm not crazy about the costume either")

Background changes to silent clip of young Matt at the hospital with Maggie.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Still, it would have been nice to see Matt's mother, Sister Maggie, or even have her referenced anywhere beyond the Director's Cut.

Background changes to Black, with still of Woodchuck.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
All in all, not a bad line up of protagonists. And so we feel giving the Range of Protagonists category a 9 out of 10 to be a fair score.

8 INT. RANGE OF ANTAGONISTS - DAY

8

Fade in "Range of Antagonists" on a black screen. Fade out.

Background changes to silent clip of Nikolas' death.

WOODCHUCK
A brilliant cast of large Daredevil villains were brought to the table, such as: Bullseye

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

(Insert "Bullseye")

Background changes to silent clip of Kingpin asking for Bullseye.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Wilson Fisk or Kingpin.

(Insert "The press want a Kingpin,
I'll give them a Kingpin")

Background changes to silent clip of Wesley at ball.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
And Wesley Owen Welch.

(Insert "You want to see mister
Fisk, you make an appointment")

Background changes to silent clip of Jose at bar.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
And then creating Jose Quesada in
honor of Joe Quesada.

(Insert "Is this guy for real?")

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Also, Fallon as an interpretation of
The Fixer.

(Insert "You never stopped")

Background changes to silent montage clips of villains listed.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
But it is a little disappointing that
that was the extent of our villains,
and how it didn't really reference
beyond these four, despite Daredevil

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
 having such a large toy box of
 villains to choose from, such as: the
 Hand, Typhoid Mary, The Purple Man,
 The Owl, or Gladiator. Hell, it would
 have even been interesting if they
 included Turk.

(Insert comic photos of each
 character as referenced)

Background changes to still with four villains combined.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
 The amount of villains seen, or even
 referenced, left much to be desired in
 this film. Which is why we're giving
 "Range of Antagonists" only a 4 out of
 10.

9 INT. CINEMATOGRAPHY AND EDITING - DAY

9

Fade in "Cinematography and Editing" on a black screen. Fade
 out.

Background changes to silent clip of rafters jumps.

WOODCHUCK
 Daredevil's unrealistic and over the
 top jumps across impossible distances,
 was a bit contrived and broke the
 suspension of disbelief on more than
 one occasion.

Background changes to silent clip of jump to Josie's bar.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
 Not to mention super jumps are not one
 of Daredevil's abilities.

Background changes to silent clip of bullets flying.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
 He is merely a marvel with superhuman
 senses and above average strength and
 acrobatics.

Background changes to silent clip of Daredevil on church.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Despite the unrealistic aspects, there were some brilliant uses of establishing shots. Subtle fades of city landscapes. A hard cut to the courthouse. Plane flying. As an editor and filmmaker, this sequence was much appreciated

(Insert each reference)

Background changes to silent clip of Bullseye drinking.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Another example of great cinematography was with Bullseye's trick shots, which were beautifully captured with camera trickery: the darts, the paper clips, and the peanut. Everything felt very tasteful.

(Insert each reference.)

Background changes to silent clip of bike scene.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Apparently the camera loves Bullseye. Take the scene in which Bullseye is riding on the motorcycle in pursuit of Nikolas Natchios. It had an incredible filming style. Both frantically swerving through traffic to keep ahead of him, as well as through the perspective of the front of the bike. And then Bullseye standing on the bike and throwing the shuriken at the limo drivers, totally impractical, but totally badass.

Background changes to quiet clip of Elektra practicing.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Another scene that I enjoyed was Evanescence's "Bring Me To Life" playing over the montage of Elektra

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
practicing with her sais and Daredevil
suiting up, masterfully cut and
beautiful. Chef's kiss!

Background changes to silent montage clips of park, rooftops,
church, and penthouse.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Overall, each fight scene does a
phenomenal job at following the action
and keeping a fast pace while being
slow enough that the audience is able
to follow each movement and attack,
which was a combination of stunt
choreography, cinematography, and
cutting.

Background changes to silent clip of cowl and rose.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
One scene that lost its value was the
insert of Daredevil's cowl, the rose
petals, and the blood mixing in water.
At the time of release, it felt really
cool and moving but over time it did
not age well and felt forced,
especially after visually representing
what was just said.

Background changes to silent montage clips of motorcycle
kick, Daredevil on his way to Elektra, and the rose falling.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Adding to that, most of the special
effects in the film looked fake and
did not age well, even simple things
like the back flip kick off of the
motorcycle, parkour up the alley and
across rooftops, even the rose
falling.

Background changes to Soundtrack CD front and back.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
One thing that is easy to overlook but
should be appreciated is the film's
soundtrack and scoring. With this
film, the soundtrack captures much of
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
the feelings of the mid-2000s, as well
as adding an angsty and fitting rock
tone.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Evanescence,
 (Beat)
Drowning Pool featuring Rob Zombie,
 (Beat)
Seether,
 (Beat)
Nickelback,
 (Beat)
Moby,
 (Beat)
and Saliva,
 (Beat)
were just a few noteworthy bands
included in this soundtrack.

(Insert clips of each song)

Background changes to silent clip of 'Bring me to life',
music video (2003).

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
One thing to mention is how this film
helped make "Bring Me to Life" famous
and put Evanescence in the limelight.

(Insert "Bring me to life" music
video clip with audio)

Background changes to quiet clip of Elektra training, picking
up where the song left off in the music video.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Everytime this song comes on, the
scene from this film always comes to
mind. From a film maker's perspective,
there is a lot that was done very
well, but also a lot that could have
been done better. And thus we have
chosen to give the Cinematography and
Editing, 6 out of 10.

10 INT. SCRIPT/DIALOGUE - DAY

10

Fade in "Script/Dialogue" on a black screen. Fade out.

Background changes to silent clip of Matt and Elektra talking in coffee shop.

WOODCHUCK

Overall the dialogue in this film
isn't phenomenal but it's not horrible
either.

(Insert "You know, I've never seen
him before." "She sounds like a
Mexican appetizer")

Background freezes and fades to gray.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

It's simply, very, mid-2000's
superhero. Let's remember the truly
inspirational quote from Spider-man.

(Insert "It's you that's out,
Goblin, out of your mind"?
'Spider-Man' (2002)

Background changes to silent clip of just before Matt starts narrating his origin.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Early in the film we have Matt
narrating his origin, to give the
viewer a little more context for his
abilities and training.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

(Insert "I had lost my sight, but I got something back in return. My remaining four senses functioned with superhuman sharpness. But most amazing of all, my sense of sound gave off a kind of radar sense. High above the city streets, I trained my body and my senses. An acute sense of touch gave me both strength and balance, until the city itself became my playground.")

Background changes to silent clip of just before Jack's beating.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

This scene held a very powerful line of dialogue that exemplified the pain that Matt undergoes everyday.

(Insert "I waited outside the Olympic for my father. In some ways, I'm still waiting. Nobody cared much about the death of a washed-up prizefighter... nobody but me.")

Background changes to silent clip of Matt returning to apartment.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Lines like

(Insert "Can one man make a difference? There are days when I believe, and others when I have lost all faith.")

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Truly make this movie for Arkham Devil.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Background changes to silent clip of Kingpin asking for Bullseye.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
While probably a fun way to introduce a character back in the day, Kingpin's line.

(Insert "The press want a Kingpin, so I'll give them a Kingpin. Get me Bullseye")

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Didn't exactly age well.

Background changes to silent clips of beating criminal, followed by sparring Kingpin.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
But there was a lot of cheesy dialogue like this.

(Insert both lines "I'm not the bad guy")

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
That felt a little forced.

Background changes to clip of man being attacked by Kingpin's thug. "No no no"

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Also, more of a comment on acting than dialogue, but that performance of the victim that is being beaten by the criminal lacks luster and is totally unbelievable.

Background changes to silent clip of thug's son.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
As well as the acting of the criminal's son, when he says

(Insert "Please don't hurt me")

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

It looks like he's trying not to smile through the scene.

Background changes to silent clip of after Kingpin is defeated.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

The final dialogue between Daredevil and Kingpin is also pretty cheesy, see for yourself.

(Insert "blood in water")

Background changes to silent clip of Daredevil nodding to Ben.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Despite all of that, one last quote to appreciate is Daredevil's final voice over monologue:

("One man can make a difference. Hell's Kitchen is my neighborhood. I prowl the rooftops and alleyways at night. Watching in the darkness. Forever in darkness. A guardian devil.")

Background changes to silent clip of Matt and Foggy bantering.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

The film had a lot of strong and empowering lines of dialogue but was unfortunately overshadowed by too many cheesy and forced one-liners. So, for that reason, we have chosen to give the Script and Dialogue 5 out of 10.

11 INT. CONTINUITY - DAY

11

Fade in "Continuity" on a black screen. Fade out.

Background changes to silent clip of Jose Quesada's death.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

WOODCHUCK

So this category, out of all the others, was where this movie really let the audience down. One example is how Daredevil is fine with killing Jose Quesada.

Background changes to silent clip of Bullseye thrown out window.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

And trying to kill Bullseye.

Background changes to silent clip of Daredevil missing the killing blow on Kingpin.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

But literally minutes later, not fine with killing the Kingpin.

(Insert "I don't understand")

Background continues.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

All to prove a point that "he's not the bad guy"?

(Insert "I'm not the bad guy")

Background continues.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

This continuity in character behavior is not consistent and while the line is "cool" I don't think it properly matches his established personality.

Background changes to silent clip of Daredevil walking into apartment.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

However, does manage to find a few sweet spots like when It shows his various costumes, cowls, and billy clubs in his apartment, which gives the viewer the opportunity to see why
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
his costume will occasionally vary
from scene to scene.

Background changes to silent clip of Daredevil choking Jose Quesada.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Like how his cowl has flaps in the
rear in the bar and train station
scenes.

Background changes to silent clip of Kingpin pulling
Daredevil's cowl off.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
But does not in his fight with
Kingpin.

Background changes to silent clips of Matt in his bathroom,
in the Nelson and Murdock office, in the rain with Elektra,
at the ball, and after his cowl is ripped off by the Kingpin.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Also, throughout the movie there are a
few scenes in which we get to see
Matt's eyes. They were fogged out and
scarred from the chemicals. The Art
Department did a great job of keeping
that consistent. But from there it
quickly rolls back downhill.

Background changes to silent clip of Elektra feeling the
scars on Matt's back.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
In the scene where Elektra stays the
night with Matt, they are in bed
together.

Background changes to silent clip of Matt's water coffin.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
However, we have established in a
couple scenes at this point that Matt
sleeps in a sound proof coffin full of
water so he can sleep soundly and
suppress the noise of the city.

Background changes to silent clip of Matt hitting his
answering machine.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

And the only other girlfriend that we know of, Heather, has never been to his apartment.

(Insert "never even seen your apartment")

Background changes to silent clip of invitation on bed.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Where did he get the bed from? And if we are to assume he is at her place, why did she leave him alone in her house when she left in the morning?

Background changes to silent clip of kick off of motorcycle.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Another scene is when, after getting kicked off the motorcycle, Bullseye has nothing in his hand.

Background continues.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

But cut to the next clip, he is holding Daredevil's baton.

(Insert "drop something?")

Background continues.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

How did he get it if he couldn't have reached it?

(insert "I'm magic")

Background changes to silent clip of hanging laundry.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)

Even small details that might not have been thought of by the film makers were noticeable, take the several

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
sheets hanging to dry during Daredevil
and Elektra's fight that have creases
in them, implying that they are fresh
out of the package and have never been
washed before.

Background changes to silent clip of a baton hitting
Bullseye's forehead.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Another is when, after throwing his
baton at Bullseye, Daredevil leaves a
red mark in the center of Bullseye's
forehead.

Background continues.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
But every clip that we see him in from
that point onwards his red mark has
disappeared.

(Insert "Let's bring on the pain.")

Background continues.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
How did he heal that fast? He has no
healing factor, like Wolverine.

(Insert Wolverine claw flip off
'X-Men' (2000)

Background changes to silent clip of article being typed.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Even the font on Ben Urich's article
changes when he goes to delete his
story and allow Matt to continue as
Daredevil.

Background changes to still of a full moon.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Finally, while full moons are pretty
appealing for night scenes, it's

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
worthwhile to acknowledge that it only
happens once a month thanks to the
lunar cycle.

Background changes to silent clip of Daredevil bleeding on
church.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
With this in mind, why does the
Daredevil movie exist in a universe
that always has a full moon?

(Insert "I would seek justice, one
way or another", jump onto
Josie's bar, "I thought that was
the right answer")

Background changes to still of Daredevil, Elektra, Bullseye,
and Kingpin in front of a full moon.

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Does the earth just never pass between
the moon and sun in that universe?
Does Daredevil and the villains only
come out on full moons?

(Insert Lupin during full moon
'Harry Potter and the Prisoner of
Azkaban' (2004)

WOODCHUCK (CONT'D)
Unfortunately, the continuity was just
too poor and ill managed to be
ignored. It felt like Director Mark
Steven Johnson cared more about his
film looking edgy and cool then he did
about it flowing properly. And for
this reason we give the Continuity a 2
out of 10.

12 INT. OFFICE - DAY

12

Arkham Devil reaches out and forces Woodchuck off screen as
he swipes to the side.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ARKHAM DEVIL

Alright, that is just about enough bashing on my favorite superhero film, thank you. Go play in traffic. I'll take it from here. Now onto our tenth and final category.

Daredevil claps his hands together and performs Spongebob's "imagination" hand motion, as Rewatch Ability appears above him.

ARKHAM DEVIL (CONT'D)

Rewatch ability.

Rewatch Ability fades away.

ARKHAM DEVIL (CONT'D)

I have rewatched this movie more times than I can count.

(Insert Michael Jackson popcorn
'Thriller' (1983))

ARKHAM DEVIL (CONT'D)

Whether it be for enjoyment, critique, film study, picking up easter eggs, or putting it on in the background as I work on something like a script breakdown or a cosplay. No matter the reason, putting this on the TV is sure to put a smile on my face. And as such, I don't care what my boy Woodchuck, or anyone else has to say. I'll give Daredevil a big ol' 10 out of 10 on rewatch ability.

Which leads us to the overall score for the movie. While this may be my favorite superhero flick, obviously.

Arkham Devil gestures to his costume.

ARKHAM DEVIL (CONT'D)

It does not mean that I'll be any less fair on it than any other form of comic book media. I whole heartedly acknowledge its shortcomings. Therefore, my final score for the 2003 Daredevil film is 59 out of 100. A

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

ARKHAM DEVIL (CONT'D)
failing score.

I want to thank you all for watching Detecting Marvelous Comic's first ever critique. I want to thank Dylan (Woodchuck) Wood for lending his fabulous voice. I want to thank Kimber Wymore for all her hard work helping me write and edit the script. And I would like to thank Tom Sanford for providing the custom scoring.

Stay tuned next time, when we continue through the world of Marvel's Earth-701306, as we critique the 2005 film Elektra.

If you like hearing about about opinions on geek culture, I encourage you to check out Kevin Smith's podcast 'Fat Man Beyond.' Or if you like hearing about in depth analysis on trivial topics, I encourage you to check out Dan Cummin's 'Timesuck' Podcast. Neither are a sponsor.

If you'd like to help our channel grow, and you have a couple dollars to kill, we would be beside ourselves with joy over a donation. Five dollars a month buys you a shout out on the videos, if you so choose. Link to donations will be on the screen.

Be sure to like, comment, and subscribe. It really does help the channel grow. Thank you all again, so very much. Stay Creative, and Stay Beautiful! Night y'all!

13 INT. OFFICE - DAY

13

Arkham Devil pulls the screen to the side.

ARKHAM DEVIL
Woah, easy chatterbox. Look at that runtime. Talk much? You've been going for so long that we'll definitely have to separate this into a couple videos. Jeez, this guy over here. Am I right?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ARKHAM DEVIL (CONT'D)

(Credits) I want to thank you all for watching Detecting Marvelous Comic's first ever episode. I want to thank Dylan (Woodchuck) Wood for lending his fabulous voice. I want to thank Kimber Wymore for all her hard work helping me write and edit the script. And I would like to thank Tom Sanford for providing the custom scoring.

Stay tuned next time, when we continue with part 2 of this critique. Coming soon.

(text before credits) If you like hearing about opinions on geek culture, I encourage you to check out Kevin Smith's podcast 'Fat Man Beyond.' Or if you like hearing about in depth analysis on trivial topics, I encourage you to check out Dan Cummin's 'Timesuck' Podcast. Neither are a sponsor.

Be sure to like, comment, and subscribe. It really does help the channel grow. Thank you all again, so very much for watching. Stay Creative, and Stay Beautiful! Night y'all!

References:

Thriller (1983)

X-Men (2000)

Spider-Man (2002)

Daredevil (2003)

Daredevil Director's Cut (2003)

Bring me to life music video (2003)

Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban (2004)

Batman Begins (2005)

Elektra (2005)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Fantastic Four (2005)

X-Men: Last stand (2006)

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Daredevil by Frank Miller & Klaus Janson Vol. 2 (Trade Paperback) (2008)

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