

### 3. *Safety Not Guaranteed*

This movie, directed by Colin Trevorrow, was based on a fake classified ad seeking a partner for time travel. In the film, a young journalist named Darius (Aubrey Plaza) decides to answer the posting. Meeting the author, Kenneth (Mike Duplass) becomes tricky as he's extremely paranoid that the government is after him.

As things get crazier, Darius finds her disbelief starting to fade. This is really what the film is about. Taking risks on people is perhaps the most rewarding or devastating act we can commit. In other words, love trumps reality every single time.

### 2. *Cabin in the Woods*

This is the best scary movie of the year by leagues. Joss Whedon, a master of speculative fiction, co-wrote this masterpiece. I can't disclose much without ruining it for you. But, if I say "Government Cthulhu Compound" do you get excited? I do.

### 1. *Beasts of the Southern Wild*

For many reasons *Beasts of the Southern Wild* is my number one movie of the year. It's Benh Zeitlin's first feature, and it stars newcomer Quvenzhané Wallis as Hushpuppy, a six-year-old girl living in a bayou soaked with magical realism called, "The Bathtub."

Hushpuppy lives with her father, Wink (Dwight Henry), as they fight to survive the flooding Bathtub. It quickly swallows everything they own. Her father becomes a rollercoaster of emotion, sometimes scaring, and other times championing her. Eventually, a FEMA-like group tries to rescue the flood survivors, but ignores their desire to return to The Bathtub.

The movie has been attacked for utilizing black male stereotypes. Wink is sometimes gentle with his daughter, but can quickly shift into an angry alcoholic. It's also been called anti-feminist, due to a supposed lack of strong female characters.

You must see this film and decide for yourself. I look forward to more productions from all of the newcomers that made this movie amazing.

There you go, my completely biased movie list. Some honorable mentions are *Looper*, *The Ballad of Genesis and Lady Jaye*, and *Jiro Dreams of Sushi*. §



Dad. Papa. Daddy. Pops. Pa. Dada.

Think of all the names you might get called.

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