

Enjoy a violent, thought provoking mind trip up future lane in *Looper*

Kellen Aguilar
STAFF WRITER

"This time travel crap just fries your brain like an egg." So says Abe, a criminal mastermind and head honcho in the Time-Assassins Department, sent from the future to the year 2042.

Thirty years from then, 2072, time travel will have been invented, much to the avail of big and major crime syndicates. Apparently, the future has no warm-hearted Marty McFlys or gray haired Docs; it's just one big dystopia of organized crime and timeless Mafiosos. Instead of "whacking" rivals by making their new roommates fish at the bottom of a lake, these gangsters of the future "Loop" victims to 2042 where "specialized assassins" sit in murderous waiting.

Enter Joseph Gordon-Levitt as Joe, a respected member of this band of hitmen, called "Loopers."

When Joe's best bud Seth, played by Paul Dano (who exceptionally plays a sardonic teenage cleric in Paul Thomas Anderson's *There Will Be Blood*) comes bursting through his apartment window in a harried huff and rattling on about how he was sent his own future self to kill, things start getting interesting. In the terrible near future of the future (the one that that the really really bad guys are from), some one-man army calling himself, or herself, the "RainMaker" is going around closing out all of the Loopers by sending them their own future selves to assassinate.

Lo and behold, Joe is sent his future self too (a gruff, hard knock Bruce Willis like you know and love him). But instead of ending with Joe dumping a body into a furnace like usual, Older Joe from 2072 breaks free, incapacitates Younger Joe from 2042 and so ensues the plot of the movie: a mind frying mix of time travel, with the same guy chasing himself around, avoiding mafia "Gat" men ("Gat" is the slang term for the massive hand cannon these

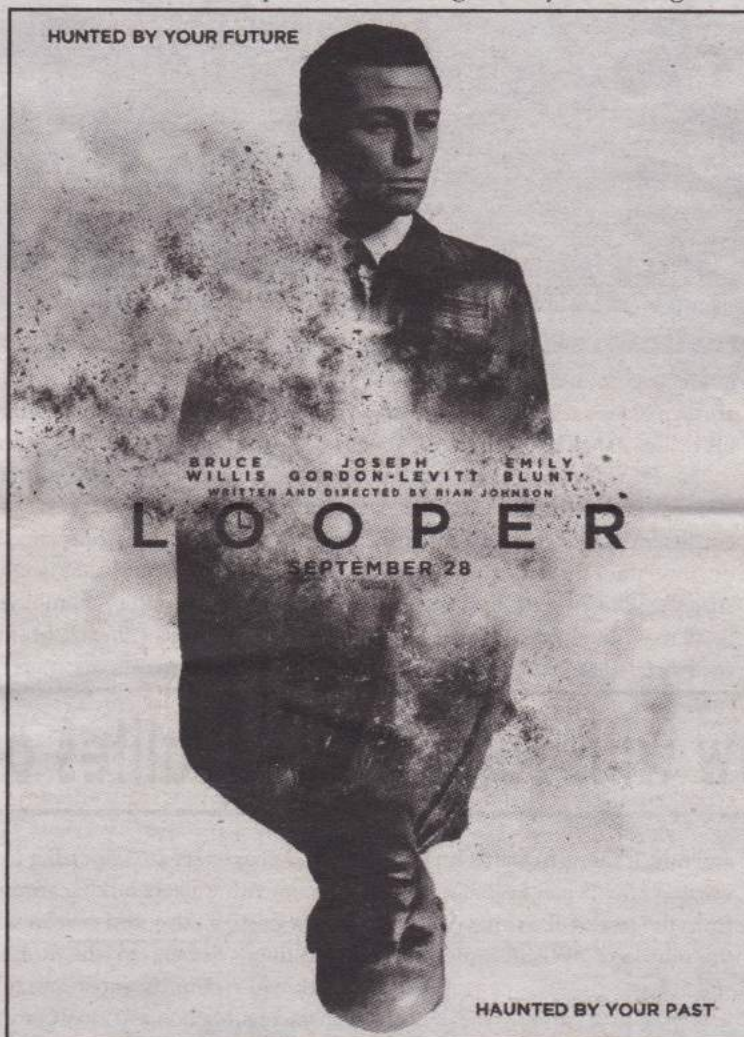
thugs tote around), and trying to prevent the soon to be 'RainMaker' from becoming a mass murdering juggernaut.

The catch is that Levitt was cosmetically tweaked for the movie to have a more similar appearance to Willis, since they're supposed to be the same person. It looks cool I guess, but after a while, you wonder if it detracts from the acting capacity of Levitt's character. With all that makeup on, facial expressions just come out looking factitious and forced. You wonder how his face only conveys the slightest pain after being blasted point blank by a shotgun.

Another quibble: the weapons. In 2042, everyone saddles a gargantuan revolver on their hip like wannabe Sundance Kids. At some point, one

of the cocky "Gat" men brags about how accurate and precise they are. But then, why is it that every time someone cracks a shot with one, their bullets go flying off in random, crazy directions. Literally, no one could hit the broad side of a barn with these master blasters! It's kind of funny to watch.

All in all, minor issues aside, *Looper* is a pretty darn good movie. The story is absolutely bewildering at times, but that's intentional—it makes you think, which is a plus in my book any day. The ending is unexpected and is timed and executed really well, no pun intended. The rolling credits were met with enthusiastic applause from the audience, myself among them. Just be well-braced for blood, F-bombs and nudity—the tell tale signs of any entertaining movie!



COURTESY OF SLASHFILM.COM

TOP Study

Lauren Vau
STAFF WRITER

When it comes to studying, I'm pounding into my ears. Yet, with an unbearable to finish my work. Bel playlist of songs to break out with meant for pure relaxation, other is lagging and a few to inspire your homework seems meaningless. V you could definitely use a collec

1. "This Is How We Do It" by

How can playing this song no song to get ready to, whether it or a night in making cookies and in socks. Play it before you chain yourself away in the library, and better about hitting the books.

2. "Watch Me Shine" by Joan

Yes, this is the song in *Legally* the "costume party" to prove to brain. This song is incredibly em any essay seem epic.

3. "Junk of the Heart" by Th

Carefree and light-hearted, "J pre-study session song, as is much has such a sunny disposition that

4. "Yellow" by Coldplay

It makes sense that their m rock," as it is much more relaxed "Yellow" perfect for studying by heavy instrumentals and hars

5. "What The Water Gave Me"

This song from Welch's most on a gospel/gothic sound with power to the vocals. You can hear throughout the course of the so to push on with my readings.

6. "Owl Waltz" by Seabear

The song begins with owls be ous nod to the title, and ends le mind. Seabear reminds me of s vocals whisper in your ear and r feel rainy and cozy, you will feel burying yourself in bed. Their a *Away*, is one that can easily work their songs do not stray from th

7. "You and Tequila" by Ken

The harmony between Chesn on-point, I always fall under th

Don't back away from *Won't Back Down*