

# WandaVision

By: Jacob Shaffer @JacobShaffer\_18

WandaVision is the first of the Marvel shows to hit Disney+, and for being the groundbreaker for the new medium of entertainment, it made a strong impression. The first of the MCU (Marvel Cinematic Universe) shows, it's a new direction for Marvel, and it seemed as though they were going for something entirely different in the first few episodes. The first three episodes were arguably the best of the entire show, as it subverted all expectations of typical Marvel content. Unfortunately, it slowly slipped back into a safer, more comfortable format and lost a lot of its appeal.

There's nothing wrong with a titular superhero story, especially if it's Marvel since they are the best at making an engaging and well thought out superhero movie. A lot of movie snobs get on their high horse when it comes to superhero movies, claiming the movies are bad with lame reasoning like "the good guys always win and the villain always loses." Yes, the good guy wins and bad guy loses, like 95% of every other movie. It's a movie about superheroes; it doesn't need to



A promotional poster for the new Disney+ series WandaVision.

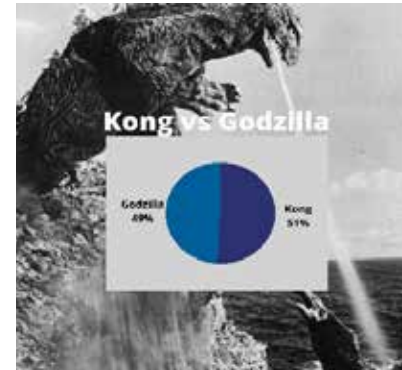
reinvent the wheel to be enjoyable. However, when WandaVision came out, it seemed like that's exactly what the show was trying to do, reinvent the genre by doing something new.

The show is structured as a mockumentary of American sitcoms throughout the decades, starting first with the 1950's era of sitcoms, even being completely in black and white. The decades would progress with each episode, with episode two being 1960's themed, episode three being 1970's themed, so on and so forth. Spliced between the satirical laugh tracks from a nonexistent audience is something more sinister, hidden beneath the veil of typical sitcom drama. Every so often, the sitcom would be interrupted, with out of character actions and eerie silence that used to be filled with laugh tracks and corny jokes. This is when the show was at its absolute peak. A psychological horror hidden in the guise of a superhero sitcom through the decades. As the decades progressed, the sitcom would slowly break down, with more psychological horror elements added with each passing episode and decade. This would lead the viewer to make some assumptions, seeing that the sitcom is not normal and is simply a simulation of some kind. As that simulation breaks down, the horror creeps in, very unlike any other superhero movie or show.

Unfortunately the psychological horror stops at around episode four, slipping into the safer formula of clearly cut villains and heroes. There's nothing wrong with the remaining episodes, in fact they're pretty good, standard Marvel stuff. That's exactly why this show is so disappointing, it contents itself with just being another superhero MCU show. It could've elevated itself from just being good to something truly exceptional if it only dared to be different and break the traditional superhero archetypes. While it's good, it could've been so much better if only it stuck to its guns and kept the gripping formula it had in the first few episodes.

# Godzilla vs. King Kong

By: Jaquan Matthews @22jamatt



Out of a convenience poll of 51 students, 51% thought Kong was the better monster.

For many years now we've had movies about the big monkey "King Kong" and the infamous lizard titan, "Godzilla." With the latest movie "Godzilla: King of Monsters," the kaiju was battling other ferocious monstrosities. With movies dating back as far as 1933, they have been pop icons that people have loved for a very long time. We've had many movies of the kaiju and the monkey battling multiple times, but we have the latest coming out on March 31, 2021.

Godzilla is a fictional lizard that was made in Japan. He became an icon in a 1954 movie that came out in the Americanized version. He can breathe both underwater and on land. Not only that but he is powered by nuclear radiation much like the Hulk. He is a huge lizard that has many special abilities. One of his abilities which is world known is the "atomic heat beam." He has a beam of energy/fire that comes out his mouth and does damage to whatever he is shooting at. He is a kaiju that is very territorial, and because humans are everywhere, he has a problem with that. Although he doesn't like humans, he has fought alongside humans to face common threats. He was so popular that he had many crossovers, like Marvel's Avengers and many other games. However,

he won't make an effort to protect human life. He doesn't have human morals, so he can't be held to such a standard. He believes he is the king of monsters, and therefore he will live by that.

Godzilla is not the only monster that has been around for a long time. The other iconic star is King Kong. He is a big monkey with super strength and a huge vertical. They call him the "King of The Apes" or "The King of The Jungle." He originates in the jungle and tends to stay there. In the most recent movie, he lives in a place called Skull Island with other oversized animals. Kong gets in trouble with the other animals on the island, but the humans help him win. In the older movies, there are always humans that end up running into him and they end up fighting. The humans end up winning, and they take him to New York to examine him. Kong then escapes and climbs the Empire State Building but gets shot down eventually. In some cases, the humans have a change of heart and don't end up killing him but instead, they let him go.

On March 31, we have one of the greatest King Kong vs Godzilla movies ever. They have made many of them but none with this type of animation. In the trailer, we see Godzilla and Kong going at it. Kong has an axe, and Godzilla is using his atomic breath. I don't think that Kong is smart enough to actually build himself an axe, and that the humans gave it to him. I think that Godzilla and Kong are fighting because they are primal, they are going to fight then team up to fight something bigger. Godzilla has more hacks. Kong has more agility and speed, but Godzilla is stronger. Not only that, but King Kong wouldn't survive the enemies that Godzilla has fought. I have Godzilla winning, and I don't plan on changing that.

We've had many movies about Godzilla and Kong but this might be the best of the bunch. The movie is called "Godzilla vs Kong," and it comes out on March 31, 2021.