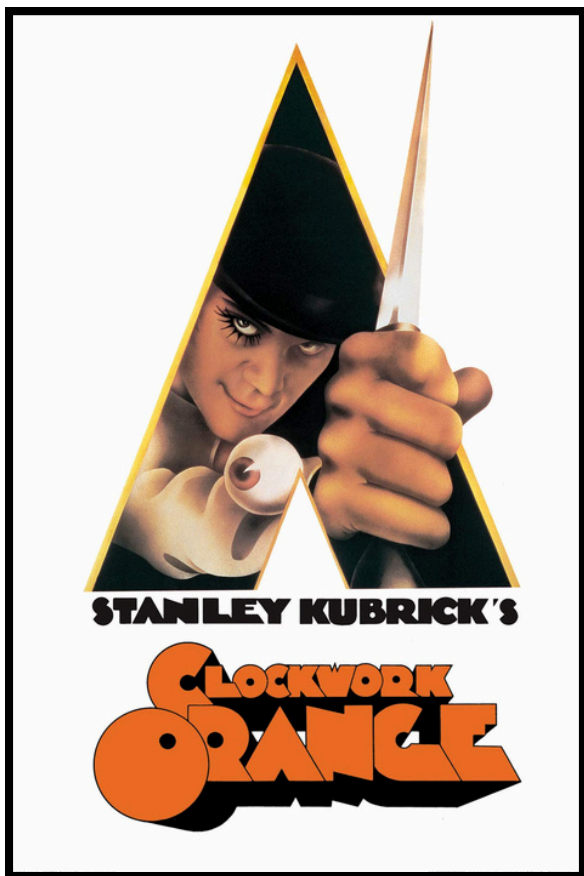




Clockwork Orange

Directed by Stanley Kubrick

Review by Miles



Dystopian thriller/crime

Rated R

What originally made you interested in reading/watching/playing this media? How did you hear about it or come across it?

I originally heard about this movie by looking at Stanley Kubrick's filmography (I enjoyed watching 2001: A Space Odyssey and Barry Lyndon). Upon reading the premise, I was intrigued, as I enjoy dystopian works and works that deal with morality.

Is it part of a series? If so, what series is it?

No

What is this media about? Make sure to give enough interesting details without spoiling too much!

This movie takes place in Britain in the future, where violence has become far more rampant. The film is narrated by and follows Alex DeLarge, the leader of a gang that goes around beating and raping helpless citizens. Alex is inevitably caught and is sent to prison where he is subjected to the Ludovico Technique, which is meant to remove the "evil" parts of him, so that he may rejoin society. This raises many interesting dilemmas regarding the morality of psychologically limiting someone's choices and abilities. Struggles ensue in response to this and the role of the government is brought into question.

Who are the main characters? What makes them interesting or unique?

The main character, Alex, is very interesting, as he begins by being an ultra-violent criminal who has to confront his actions after being arrested. His psyche is forcibly altered, programmed even, to be disgusted at the ideas of sex or violence, which takes a large toll on him. He is then used as a figure for political dissident to cite as evidence of governmental wrongdoing, making him play an interesting role in his society.

Does this media remind you of anything else you've read/watched/played?

This film works exceptionally well as a thematic sequel to *No Country For Old Men*, a Coen Brothers' film and Cormac McCarthy novel that depicts the ever-increasing violence of the modern world. The violence in *No Country For Old Men* consists of countless murders for the sake of the local drug trade, and the face of this violence is Anton Chigurh, a stoic and ruthless killer who cares little for his victims.

A Clockwork Orange presents a continuation of this through even less purposeful violence. Gangs of young men (even younger than Chigurh and any other offenders in *No Country For Old Men*) seek out defenseless citizens to beat, rape and murder, all for the sake of sport. As opposed to Chigurh, Alex and his gang show much more emotion and much less decisiveness during their acts of violence. They can be seen singing and dancing while torturing people, rather than simply killing them. This progression aligns with the overarching idea in *No Country For Old Men* that, as society matures, instances of violence become more and more senseless.

Also, Alex's hair bears some resemblance to Chigurh's; case closed.

What type of person might enjoy this media? For example, this book is for someone who likes Percy Jackson, someone who enjoys getting scared, someone who likes a challenge, etc.

I would recommend this movie to those who appreciate great films, those who enjoy dystopian settings, and those who are fascinated by moral/ethical dilemmas.

Did you like this media? Would you recommend it to others? Why or why not?

I certainly enjoyed this movie; particularly the acting and atmosphere. Alex's character was incredibly well portrayed by Malcolm McDowell, and Kubrick created some beautiful setting and backgrounds for the events of the film. I would recommend it to those that I listed above.

Do you like the cover? Does it convey what the media is about?

I really like the cover art for this movie. It conveys the violence in the film through the knife and eyeball attached to Alex's wrist, and it conveys the surreal atmosphere through the statue of the woman. This art is paired with the title (in orange, of course) in a futuristic font.

Do you have any last thoughts about this media that you would like to include in your review?