



FILM: **SPY**

FDG RATING: 3.7



Film Discussion Group (FDG) Scale is 1-5 (5 is best)

Paul Feig: *Director*

Melissa McCarthy: *Actress: Susan Cooper*

Jude Law: *Actor: Bradley Fine*

DATE: July 19, 2015

### DISCUSSION SUMMARY: **SPY**

With easily recognizable James Bond thematic visuals and tone, we knew we were in for a spy thriller turned upside down. SPY's Melissa McCarthy is the polar opposite of stereotypical female actresses who play lithe, ninja, wonder woman super agents. And her character, Susan Cooper, though an extremely skilled CIA analyst, is stuck behind a desk in a bunker, voicing guidance into the ear bud of a suave undercover agent Bradley Fine, (who she has a crush on) warning him of impending dangers as she monitors his every move on her screen. When it appears he has died on an assignment, and another operative's identity is compromised, Cooper volunteers to go undercover and continue the mission to infiltrate the European world of a deadly arms dealer and prevent a global disaster. Thus the silly fun begins.

We enjoyed seeing Cooper almost constantly change undercover identities, into the most mundane middle America quirky personas such as a dowdy older gal who owns 10 cats, wears a cat faced sweater, and, likes decoupage. But she finally gets to wear the sleek, glamorous gowns required for more formal events in her wealthy infiltrated world.

We know we missed many of the clever spoofs on probably all the greatest super agent movies. The gags were funny, fast, and frequent. One of our more serious critics said it was the funniest film he had seen in years. Thankfully, the raunchiness didn't go overboard although a few of us found the swearing tiresome.

Comedy is difficult and we all felt this one succeeded with a plausible plot, entertaining characters, and excellent acting. Our male and female resident film critics applauded the role reversal pulled off with expert acting chops by McCarthy. A clever spy thriller spoof, from start to finish, she is the intelligence behind her male counterparts who don't have the smarts to survive on their own.

A fun summer film, most of us found it mindlessly entertaining, and enjoyed being able to have a lot of good laughs. We awarded Spy a rousing cumulative score of 3.7 including a single 5 which is our highest rating on our scale of 1 to 5.



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See you at the movies!  
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