

# ‘J. Edgar’ is not Hoover’s legacy

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personal and professional life.

Within the first 10 minutes, the audience’s attention is caught by an explosion of Hoover’s boss’s house, but that was the highpoint of the movie. As the film went on you could predict the gradual

degradation of Hoover’s morals and sanity as well as the movie’s unforeseen plot. It was difficult to understand who the actual villain was. Hoover’s character was frustrating and hypocritical on all levels. He claimed to be in the fight against radicals and communists, but would blacklist anyone he had a conflict with.

At the same time, Hoover himself was a radical when it came to convicting criminals. He started out as a hopeful hero, but was portrayed as a very dangerous villain.

The unorthodox timeline also made it difficult to follow the progression of the story. This film was truly a twisted love story with strong

political overtones woven into the fabric, which detracted from the actual plot.

Clint Eastwood’s fans have always admired his work as a director and as an actor. However, this movie tainted his credibility in my eyes and ranked him in with other directors, such as Oliver Stone, who sensationalize and embellish historical films by transforming them into works of fiction.

One redeeming factor was Leonardo DiCaprio’s performance. DiCaprio’s immersion into the character was uncanny and at times made him almost unrecognizable. He completely went the extra mile in maintaining the integrity and energy of the real-life controversial figure.

“J. Edgar” is a good attempt at shining light into a seemingly dark and mysterious character, but not enough to motivate the audience into joining the FBI. It’s definitely not a film for the family and certainly not one I would take my parents to. Sitting through “Immortals” again would have been a better waste of money than this film.

