

Lethal Weapon ★★★½

Year of Release: 1987

Review by Randy Parker

Country: USA

Verdict: See It

Lethal Weapon is the finest action movie I've seen since *Witness*. The film completely took me by surprise. I was expecting a mindless action cartoon, but what I got was an intelligent crime thriller that thwarted my expectations. The characters in *Lethal Weapon* are surprisingly complex and extremely well-acted. Mel Gibson, as a semi-psychotic and deadly cop, gives one of his strongest performances to date. Danny Glover is also

excellent as the aging detective who's assigned to serve as Gibson's partner. To the film's credit, it is not merely a barrage of nonstop action. *Lethal Weapon* slowly builds momentum and tension as it unfolds until it reaches a rousing and suspenseful climax. *Lethal Weapon* stands out in my mind as one of the most intelligent and exciting action-thrillers of the '80s

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