

Why do the most powerful themes always resonate from the most impossible choices? I'm not just talking about sacrifice; but sacrifice laced with love, honor, ethical and moral aptitude, and the will to survive. I believe "The Hunger Games" conveys every possible moral dilemma that can weigh on the human condition, and then some. It is also a motion picture of exquisite detail punctuated by beats of unbearable tension. How some of these characters don't die from tension-induced cardiac arrest, I'm not sure. Gary Ross has directed exactly two feature films before "The Hunger Games." Whatever you do, don't disregard this movie based on his relatively short resume. I would wager that few directors would have been able to understand this world as Ross seems to. Consider his "Pleasantville," about a brother and sister transported into the surreal world of a 1950's sitcom.

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