

“Ant-Man and the Wasp”

By Helen Lutz

It can truthfully be said that I hate bugs. Actually, I don't much like snakes, geckos, lizards, wasps or anything that crawls, slithers, climbs or flies (with the possible exception of Southwest Airlines). Twenty-five years in the Girl Scouting program did teach me that we must get along with the creepier creatures of the planet, so when I'm in the great outdoors I try to be respectful of their home (except for mosquitoes, they're dead meat wherever they show up). However, when these critters enter my house, they will be welcomed with poison, heavy shoes and large fly swatters – don't mess with me. As a side note I will mention that wasp spray just ticks snakes off.



Super hero movies are fun as far as I'm concerned, but I would be worried that the heroes from the new comic book movie “Ant-Man and the Wasp” might be short-lived in my neck of the woods. Paul Rudd reprises his role as Ant-Man (aka Scott Lang). After a few mishaps occurring in his participation in “Captain America: Civil War”, Scott is on house arrest and wearing an ankle bracelet finishing out his parole. One condition of his parole is no more Ant-Man or hero antics. This is very hard for Scott as kitties still need to be rescued from trees and little old ladies need protection from purse snatchers. Instead he plays with his daughter and plays the drums and counts the minutes until he finishes his time and is no longer under the thumb of the authorities.

Scott lost all contact with the inventor of the size changing technology Hank Pym (Michael Douglas). Pym and his daughter Hope, aka The Wasp (Evangeline Lilly) have continued their work making it better than ever all in hope of entering the subatomic realm which sucked in Hank's wife, Hope's mom (Michelle Pfeiffer). The only person to ever visit the subatomic realm and return is none other than Scott Lang. So just how can Scott help rescue mom without getting caught by the authorities?

“Ant-Man and the Wasp” provides us with a fun-filled cat and mouse game as Scott eludes the ever-watchful eye of Agent Woo (Randall Park) while donning his Ant-Man suit and once again joining the ranks of the “good guys.” Pym has come a long way with his technology. Everything he needs is contained in his lab – always hidden in plain sight. With the touch of a button the entire several story building shrinks down to the size of a briefcase. All he needs is a vacant lot and – presto – the lab appears; talk about being mobile.

The Pym's aren't the only ones interested in Hank's technology as we meet Ghost (Hannah John-Kamen) who particle shifts and walks through walls as well as a really bad guy Sonny Burch (Walter Groggins) who wants to sell it to the highest bidder. So the chase is on, in the streets of San Francisco (you have to love those streets). One of my favorite scenes is when selecting a get-away car, Scott and Hope reach under the car seat and pull out a matchbox car container. Just pick out a neat one and you have one jim-dandy set of wheels.

“Ant-Man and the Wasp” takes us on a wild ride avoiding bad guys and searching for mom all the while size shifting in some of the funniest ways possible. On a scale of one to four Hart Beats I give “Ant-Man and the Wasp” THREE HARTS. This one is fun for the entire family on several levels. It's best seen on the big screen with big sound and a big popcorn especially when Scott's suit malfunctions making him the size of a toddler – whoops!