

Beat: Entertainment

## **HIGH-RISE, 2015 British science fiction thriller film directed by Ben Wheatley**

**Based on 1975 Novel by J.G. Ballard**

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**USPA NEWS** - British producer Jeremy Thomas had wanted to make a film adaptation of J.G. Ballard's High-Rise since the 1970s. In the 2000s, Thomas began developing the project with screenwriter Richard Stanley and director Vincenzo Natali, with the film intended as a loose adaptation of the novel..

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In 2013, Ben Wheatley started looking into who held the rights to the book, which led him to Jeremy Thomas. Screenwriter Amy Jump, who is also Wheatley's wife, adapted the book.

High-Rise is a 2015 British science fiction thriller film :

Directed by : Ben Wheatley

Produced by : Jeremy Thomas

Written by : Amy Jump

Based on : 1975 novel 'High-Rise' by J.G. Ballard

Starring : Tom Hiddleston, Jeremy Irons, Sienna Miller, Luke Evans, Elisabeth Moss, James Purefoy, Keeley Hawes

Release dates :13 September 2015 (Toronto International Film Festival), 18 March 2016 (United Kingdom), 06 April 2016 (France)

Running time : 119 minutes

### **SUMMARY :**

Dr. Robert Laing (Tom Hiddleston) moves into a 25th floor apartment within the new high-rise, a luxurious apartment complex built by esteemed and enigmatic architect Anthony Royal (Jeremy Irons). After having an encounter with Royal's aide and a bohemian single mother, Charlotte Melville (Sienna Miller), Laing attends a party being held on Charlotte's apartment directly above his. The next morning, Laing is invited to meet Royal, who invites him to attend a party held by his wife, Ann (Keeley Hawes).

After a squash court with Royal, with him explaining that the problems emerging in the building are merely teething problems, Laing is given a brain scan of a trainee, Munrow (Augustus Prew), who fainted during a schizophrenic's head autopsy. After, Munrow, in a seemingly drunken escapade, falls off the high rise & crashes into a car. Later on, Laing attends a children's birthday party on the second floor, with charismatic documentarian Richard Wilder (Luke Evans) & his pregnant wife Helen (Elisabeth Moss), 2 people he met at Charlotte's party. After Helen mentions that the children were turned away from the pool for being too noisy, Wilder brings the children to the pool, interrupting a party held by actress Ann Sheridan (Sienna Guillory).

Parties are held in the corridors, litter starts to emerge throughout and around the building, and the supermarket is near empty. Laing starts to become less connected with his office in London, becoming more violent while returning to the high rise and sleeping in his office. Pangbourne (James Purefoy) suggests that they should beat up Wilder and collect supplies from the supermarket, in order to have a better party....

### **OUR REVIEW :**

We could summarize the film as : violence, disturbing images, strong sexual content/graphic nudity, language and some drug use. Beginning like paradise to the solitude-seeking Robert Laing, High-Rise changes, as power outages become more frequent and building flaws emerge, particularly on the lower floor.

The building becomes a battlefield in a literal class war. Robert Laing, an erstwhile respectable doctor who finds himself increasingly drawn to acts of profanity. Written in 1975 by J.G. Ballard's 'High Rise' is a luxury apartment block in a future London, it charts the building's descent into a state of physical ruination and moral depravity.

Really worth to be seen as the actors/actresses are brilliant in their performances !

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