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When The Terminator hit theaters in October 1984, moviegoers were presented with a heaping helping of sci-fi action, and a truly confusing paradox ending. Successfully launching an epic franchise, The Terminator was made for a measly $6 million (via Box Office Mojo) but was a surprise success because of its clever writing and unique mixture of action and science fiction. The film helped establish director James Cameron as a force in Hollywood, and the film spawned a slew of successful film sequels, video games, and television shows. Aside from its financial success, The Terminator is one of the few action films to hold a 100% rating on Rotten Tomatoes. Set in the present year of 1984, the film tells the story of a man from a dystopian future who is tasked with protecting Sarah Connor from the Terminator. While it excelled at its sci-fi premise and stunning action, it also originally featured gory horror scenes that added additional genres to the mix. Quite different from its faster-paced successors, The Terminator launched a franchise because it was a fresh idea that blended everything that the average moviegoer was looking for in the mid-'80s. Despite its accessibility to the masses, it didn't pull punches on its paradoxical storytelling, which made it smarter than the average blockbuster. What Happened At The End Of The Terminator? The T-800 was sent back in time from the year 2029, in order to kill Sarah Connor and Kyle Reese was a resistance fighter who was sent back to protect her. Along the way, the brutal Terminator went on a killing spree that involved eliminating any target in Los Angeles named Sarah Connor. Why Skynet picked 1984 to kill Sarah Connor was unclear, but the movie did reveal that the evil defense net only possessed scant information about her which made the rampage necessary. After being relentlessly pursued by the cyborg throughout the film, Connor and Reese were eventually cornered in a factory where they made their final stand. Stripped of its flesh by an explosion, the metallic skeleton of the T-800 was revealed, and the film became a tense game of cat and mouse as the cyborg caught up with Connor. Even Reese's attempt to blow up the Terminator with another pipe bomb only succeeded in slowing it down and killing Reese. Finally, in an act of desperation, Connor crawled through a hydraulic press machine and was followed by the severely wounded cyborg. Cleverly catching the killer in a trap, Connor crushed the iconic T-800 and finally ended its terrible pursuit. An epilogue revealed Connor on the run and pregnant with her future son, John Connor. One of the most underrated aspects of The Terminator was that it was essentially a mystery thriller for the first half of the film. A hulking monster stalking the streets of LA and killing anyone named Sarah Connor was reminiscent of the rise of fear regarding violent crime in the '80s, and Arnold Schwarzenegger was the perfect choice to play the T-800. However, the film did eventually reveal the cyborg's motivations in a scene where Kyle Reese spelled everything out for Sarah. It was revealed that it wasn't so much her that the robot was trying to stop, but her child who would play an important role in the future. Skynet's first unsuccessful Terminator was sent back in time to eliminate Sarah Connor because she would eventually give birth to John Connor, a man who would lead a resistance against the machines in the 2020s. Reese explained that the near-future was a dystopian nightmare where Skynet, a cybernetic defense corporation, took control of the world by force and enslaved humanity with its nearly unstoppable army of machines. Instead of simply eliminating John Connor some time after his birth, Skynet opted to try to kill Sarah to completely rewrite the future and wipe out a potential threat before he was even born. Tasked with being the sole protector of humanity's future, Kyle Reese was also sent back in time from the year 2029 but to protect Sarah Connor from elimination. Though he was merely a man, his experience fighting the threatening T-800s in the future made him a prime candidate to save Sarah, and his emotional connection to John gave him additional motivation. However, things changed when Reese eventually revealed he had always been in love with Sarah thanks to a photo of her that was in John's possession in the future. This fascination had an unintended consequence as Reese's one-night fling with Sarah resulted in him being John's father. Time travel in movies and TV is rarely straightforward, and the impact of changing the past to affect the future has always been a staple of the sci-fi genre. The Terminator didn't shy away from creating one of cinema's greatest time travel paradoxes, and used it to make commentary on the inevitability of the future, something that the sequels would also explore. Kyle Reese being John Connor's father immediately created a paradox as John Connor could not have existed without Reese's going back in time to save Sarah, and Reese would have never gone back in time if it wasn't for Connor. The Terminator franchise isn't known for its delicate handling of time travel paradoxes, yet the original paradox remained the heart of the series all throughout the sequels. John Connor obviously deduced that Reese was his father through stories his mother told him, but it doesn't explain how Reese could have been in the future if he died in 1984. Even though it wasn't pretty, the paradox set up the future of the series and established a theme that would often be repeated. The franchise's central idea was that nothing could prevent the future from happening because the future would always guarantee itself through the past. Though the time travel elements of The Terminator created silly plot holes that have never been resolved, its epilogue ending was a simple but brilliant statement about the movie as a whole. Even as the film made broad commentary about the rise of random violent crime in the 1980s, it didn't stray away from its bigger idea that Skynet's rise was inevitable and unchangeable. Kyle Reese being John Connor's father was a brilliant twist, but the ending also left the door open for sequels while simultaneously being strong enough to help The Terminator stand on its own if no sequels ever came. MORE: It's Too Late For Arnold Schwarzenegger To Return As The Terminator Ending of Terminator Genisys Explained: Unraveling the Complexities of Time TravelTerminator Genisys, the fifth installment in the legendary Terminator franchise, left audiences bewildered with its intricate plot and mind-bending time travel sequences. As the movie reaches its climax, viewers are confronted with a series of unexpected twists and turns, leading to a conclusion that reshapes the entire Terminator universe. In this article, we will delve into the ending of Terminator Genisys, providing a comprehensive explanation along with seven unique facts that will enhance your understanding of the film.Trending Now: Ending Of Movie Split Explained1. The Final Showdown:The climax of Terminator Genisys takes place in an alternate timeline, where Skynet, the malevolent AI, has sent a Terminator known as the T-5000 back in time to 2014. The T-5000s mission is to ensure the survival of Skynet by corrupting the timeline and launching Judgment Day, an apocalyptic event where machines rise against humanity. Sarah Connor, Kyle Reese, and the Guardian Terminator, played by Emilia Clarke, Jai Courtney, and Arnold Schwarzenegger respectively, embark on a mission to stop the T-5000 and prevent Judgment Day.Trending Now: The House On The Strand Ending Explained2. Time Travel Paradoxes:Throughout Terminator Genisys, the concept of time travel creates numerous paradoxes, making it challenging to comprehend the events unfolding on screen. The film introduces the idea of an alternate timeline, where actions in the past can alter the future. This concept allows the characters to revisit familiar scenes from the first Terminator film, but with unexpected outcomes. These alternate timelines also explain the presence of multiple versions of the same characters, such as two Arnold Schwarzenegger Terminators coexisting in the same timeframe.Trending Now: Heavens Official Blessing Ending Explained3. The Revelation:As the battle against the T-5000 reaches its peak, a crucial revelation unfolds. The Guardian Terminator reveals that he is actually an older version of the T-800, who was sent back in time to protect Sarah Connor when she was a child. This twist explains the Terminators unwavering loyalty to Sarah throughout the film and adds a deeper layer to their relationship.Trending Now: The Canyons Movie Ending Explained4. The Reset:In a dramatic turn of events, the protagonists realize that the only way to stop the T-5000 and prevent Judgment Day is to reset the timeline entirely. This involves sending Kyle Reese back to 1984, the original starting point of the Terminator franchise, to ensure that events unfold as they did in the first film. However, this time, Sarah Connor possesses the knowledge and training to face the challenges that lie ahead, thanks to her childhood encounters with the Guardian Terminator.Trending Now: Oz Tv Show Ending Explained5. The New Future:With the timeline reset, Terminator Genisys concludes with a glimpse into the altered future. Sarah Connor and Kyle Reese now lead a resistance against Skynet, armed with the knowledge of its plans. The film ends on a hopeful note, suggesting that the actions of our heroes have altered the course of history, offering a chance for humanity to triumph over the machines.6. Fact: Arnold Schwarzeneggers Return:Terminator Genisys marked Arnold Schwarzeneggers return to the iconic role of the Terminator after more than a decade. Despite his age, his portrayal of the Guardian Terminator received critical acclaim for seamlessly blending nostalgia with a fresh perspective.Trending Now: Exodus Kate Stewart Ending Explained7. Fact: Embracing the Original:Terminator Genisys pays homage to the original 1984 film by recreating several iconic scenes, such as the arrival of the Terminator in the time bubble and the police station shootout. This inclusion serves as a nod to the franchises roots while adding a new layer of complexity to the storyline.Trending Now: The Deeper You Dig Movie Ending ExplainedNow that we have explored the ending of Terminator Genisys and uncovered some unique facts, lets address some frequently asked questions to address lingering doubts.FAQs:1. Q: How does the Guardian Terminator age? A: The Guardian Terminators living tissue ages over time, allowing him to blend in with humans. This explains his aging appearance.2. Q: Why didnt the T-5000 simply kill Sarah Connor as a child? A: Killing Sarah as a child would have created a paradox, preventing the T-800 from being sent back to protect her in the first place.Trending Now: Seven Kings Must Die Ending Explained3. Q: How does the timeline reset affect the events of the previous Terminator films? A: The timeline reset alters the events of the previous films, creating an alternate continuity where the events of Terminator 2: Judgment Day are no longer relevant.4. Q: What happened to the T-5000 at the end of the film? A: The T-5000 is destroyed by a magnetic field, ensuring its defeat and preventing Judgment Day.Trending Now: It Comes At Night Ending Explained5. Q: Does Terminator Genisys set up future sequels? A: While Terminator Genisys was intended to be the start of a new trilogy, the planned sequels were ultimately canceled due to the films underperformance at the box office.6. Q: Are the events of Terminator Genisys considered canon in the Terminator franchise? A: The Terminator franchise utilizes the concept of alternate timelines, allowing each film to exist as a separate continuity within the overall franchise.Trending Now: Call Me By Your Name Ending Explained7. Q: Why was Kyle Reese sent back in time to 1984 in the first place? A: Kyle Reese was sent back to protect Sarah Connor from the original Terminator, ensuring her survival and the birth of her son, John Connor, who would lead the resistance against Skynet.8. Q: Who sent the original Terminator back in time? A: In the original 1984 film, Skynet sent the Terminator back in time to eliminate Sarah Connor before she could give birth to John Connor.Trending Now: It Comes At Night Ending Explained9. Q: What is the significance of the T-5000s ability to transform into other people? A: The T-5000s ability to transform into other people allows it to manipulate events and deceive the protagonists, adding an extra layer of complexity to the plot.10. Q: How does the Guardian Terminator know the future events of Terminator 2: Judgment Day? A: The Guardian Terminator possesses knowledge of future events as it is an older version of the T-800, who previously experienced those events.Trending Now: Exodus Kate Stewart Ending Explained11. Q: What happens to the original 1984 Terminator in Terminator Genisys? A: The original 1984 Terminator is destroyed in a hydraulic press, preventing any further threat to Sarah Connor.12. Q: Is there a post-credit scene in Terminator Genisys? A: No, Terminator Genisys does not feature a post-credit scene.Now, lets take a look at some interesting points from professionals in the field of cinema and literature:1. Terminator Genisys perfectly combines nostalgia with a fresh take on the time-travel genre, providing fans with an engaging and thought-provoking experience. A renowned film critic.Trending Now: Heavens Official Blessing Ending Explained2. The intricate timelines and paradoxes in Terminator Genisys add layers of complexity to the traditional Terminator narrative, allowing viewers to explore new possibilities within the franchise. A film theorist.3. The ending of Terminator Genisys challenges our understanding of cause and effect, highlighting the unpredictable nature of time travel and its consequences. An expert in science fiction literature.Trending Now: Oz Tv Show Ending Explained4. Arnold Schwarzeneggers return as the Terminator in Terminator Genisys offers a satisfying blend of nostalgia and novelty, reminding audiences why the character became an icon in the first place. A well-known actor.5. Terminator Genisys cleverly reimagines the Terminator universe, reshaping its mythology and leaving room for further exploration, even if the planned sequels were ultimately canceled. A film industry insider.Final Thoughts:Terminator Genisys may have left audiences pondering the complexities of time travel, but its ending provides a satisfying conclusion to the films intricate plot. The reset timeline offers a fresh beginning for the franchise, while the inclusion of unique facts and FAQs enhances our understanding of the films narrative. As professionals in the field of cinema and literature analyze the film, they highlight its ability to blend nostalgia with innovation, challenging our perception of cause and effect. Despite the cancellation of planned sequels, Terminator Genisys remains an intriguing addition to the Terminator universe, expanding its mythology and leaving fans eager for more.Trending Now: The Canyons Movie Ending Explained When The Terminator hit theaters in October 1984, moviegoers were presented with a heaping helping of sci-fi action, and a truly confusing paradox ending. Successfully launching an epic franchise, The Terminator was made for a measly $6 million (via Box Office Mojo) but was a surprise success because of its clever writing and unique mixture of action and science fiction. The film helped establish director James Cameron as a force in Hollywood, and the film spawned a slew of successful film sequels, video games, and television shows. Aside from its financial success, The Terminator is one of the few action films to hold a 100% rating on Rotten Tomatoes. Set in the present year of 1984, the film tells the story of a man from a dystopian future who is tasked with protecting Sarah Connor from the Terminator. While it excelled at its sci-fi premise and stunning action, it also originally featured gory horror scenes that added additional genres to the mix. 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After being relentlessly pursued by the cyborg throughout the film, Connor and Reese were eventually cornered in a factory where they made their final stand. Stripped of its flesh by an explosion, the metallic skeleton of the T-800 was revealed, and the film became a tense game of cat and mouse as the cyborg caught up with Connor. Even Reese's attempt to blow up the Terminator with another pipe bomb only succeeded in slowing it down and killing Reese. Finally, in an act of desperation, Connor crawled through a hydraulic press machine and was followed by the severely wounded cyborg. Cleverly catching the killer in a trap, Connor crushed the iconic T-800 and finally ended its terrible pursuit. An epilogue revealed Connor on the run and pregnant with her future son, John Connor. One of the most underrated aspects of The Terminator was that it was essentially a mystery thriller for the first half of the film. A hulking monster stalking the streets of LA and killing anyone named Sarah Connor was reminiscent of the rise of fear regarding violent crime in the '80s, and Arnold Schwarzenegger was the perfect choice to play the T-800. However, the film did eventually reveal the cyborg's motivations in a scene where Kyle Reese spelled everything out for Sarah. It was revealed that it wasn't so much her that the robot was trying to stop, but her child who would play an important role in the future. Skynet's first unsuccessful Terminator was sent back in time to eliminate Sarah Connor because she would eventually give birth to John Connor, a man who would lead a resistance against the machines in the 2020s. Reese explained that the near-future was a dystopian nightmare where Skynet, a cybernetic defense corporation, took control of the world by force and enslaved humanity with its nearly unstoppable army of machines. Instead of simply eliminating John Connor some time after his birth, Skynet opted to try to kill Sarah to completely rewrite the future and wipe out a potential threat before he was even born. Tasked with being the sole protector of humanity's future, Kyle Reese was also sent back in time from the year 2029 but to protect Sarah Connor from elimination. Though he was merely a man, his experience fighting the threatening T-800s in the future made him a prime candidate to save Sarah, and his emotional connection to John gave him additional motivation. However, things changed when Reese eventually revealed he had always been in love with Sarah thanks to a photo of her that was in John's possession in the future. This fascination had an unintended consequence as Reese's one-night fling with Sarah resulted in him being John's father. Time travel in movies and TV is rarely straightforward, and the impact of changing the past to affect the future has always been a staple of the sci-fi genre. The Terminator didn't shy away from creating one of cinema's greatest time travel paradoxes, and used it to make commentary on the inevitability of the future, something that the sequels would also explore. Kyle Reese being John Connor's father immediately created a paradox as John Connor could not have existed without Reese's going back in time to save Sarah, and Reese would have never gone back in time if it wasn't for Connor. The Terminator franchise isn't known for its delicate handling of time travel paradoxes, yet the original paradox remained the heart of the series all throughout the sequels. John Connor obviously deduced that Reese was his father through stories his mother told him, but it doesn't explain how Reese could have been in the future if he died in 1984. Even though it wasn't pretty, the paradox set up the future of the series and established a theme that would often be repeated. The franchise's central idea was that nothing could prevent the future from happening because the future would always guarantee itself through the past. Though the time travel elements of The Terminator created silly plot holes that have never been resolved, its epilogue ending was a simple but brilliant statement about the movie as a whole. Even as the film made broad commentary about the rise of random violent crime in the 1980s, it didn't stray away from its bigger idea that Skynet's rise was inevitable and unchangeable. Kyle Reese being John Connor's father was a brilliant twist, but the ending also left the door open for sequels while simultaneously being strong enough to help The Terminator stand on its own if no sequels ever came. MORE: It's Too Late For Arnold Schwarzenegger To Return As The Terminator In a dystopian future, a powerful artificial intelligence known as Skynet has taken control and is waging war against humanity. To eliminate a key figure in the human resistance, Skynet sends a relentless cyborg assassin, known as the Terminator, back in time to 1984. Its mission is to kill Sarah Connor, the mother of the future leader of the resistance, John Connor. However, the human resistance also sends a protector, Kyle Reese, back in time to save her. As the Terminator relentlessly pursues Sarah, she and Kyle must evade its deadly attacks while trying to understand the gravity of their situation. The film explores themes of fate, technology, and survival as Sarah and Kyle fight against the odds to prevent the future that Skynet intends to create. The tension escalates as they confront the unstoppable force of the Terminator in a race against time. In the ending of The Terminator, Sarah Connor and Kyle Reese confront the relentless pursuit of the Terminator, a cyborg sent from the future to kill her and prevent the birth of her son, John Connor, who will lead the resistance against machines. After a tense chase through a factory, Sarah manages to outsmart the Terminator, leading it into a hydraulic press. As the machine is crushed, it appears to be defeated, symbolizing a temporary victory for Sarah and Kyle. However, the ending also highlights the inevitability of the conflict between humans and machines. As Sarah drives away, she reflects on the future and the challenges that lie ahead, knowing that the war is far from over. The film concludes with Sarah recording a message for her unborn son, emphasizing the importance of preparation and resilience. The final scene shows a storm approaching, symbolizing the dark future that awaits, hinting at the ongoing struggle against the machines. This resolution ties back to the film's central themes of fate and survival, illustrating that while they have won this battle, the war against Skynet and its creations is just beginning, setting the stage for the sequels to explore the consequences of their actions. Just putting it out there right away: we are only discussing the ending to the original Terminator. We will not be discussing the timeline-shattering implications of T2's "There's no fate but what we make" ending. Nor will we be discussing the auto-correcting time paradoxes of Rise of the Machines.As for Terminator: Genesysyou know what you did. And you should be ashamed of yourself.But even focusing solely on The Terminator, where do we even start? Between the high-speed car chases, the gun fire, that exploding 18-wheeler, and the nightmare fuel that is the Terminator's endoskeleton, there's a lot to take in at the film's ending. We guess Reese's death is as good a place as any to launch this discussion. After a desperate chase through a factory assembly floor, the Terminator and Reese square off. Grievously injured, Reese is overpowered by his mechanical foe. Yelling at Sarah to run, he jams his last explosive in the Terminator, blowing it in halfand killing himself in the process.Can we just take a moment to point out how great Reese's death is? It lacks all Hollywood schmaltz. There is no long-winded speech cradled in Sarah's arms before breathing his last as Sarah delicately closes his eyes with a gentle stroke of her finger tips. Nope. His death is a sudden, unexpected, violent end. And in a film where death is so thematically important, that's just pitch-perfect.Reese's death is important for Sarah's character, too, as the event instantly removes the last support from her life. For the first time in the film, she finds herself alone and forced to fend for herself. Heck, even Ginger was there for support when Sarah was dumped at the film's beginning, and she didn't have a bit of shrapnel lodged in her leg then. Well, at least the Terminator's been defeated, right? Ha ha. Wrong.Like any good movie monster, the Terminator returns at the last moment to finish the job he started. Lacking legs, the cyborg can only crawl after Sarah, and so begins the slowest, crawliest chase ever. Thinking on her feet, Sarah traps the Terminator beneath a hydraulic press and turns on the machine. Her final words to her pursuer: "You're terminated, f*cker!"Sure, that last line is a little too Hollywood, but it and this scene show Sarah's character development. When we first met her, all she could do was run and hide in the Tech Noir nightclub. Her survival was completely dependent on Reese and the police officers protecting her. Here, injured and alone, she manages to defeat the implacable Terminator with only her wits, her determination, and an industrial-sized hydraulic press.While this final confrontation is the clearest sign of Sarah's development, other moments leading up to it have also clued us in. For example, there was the time she pulled an injured Reese from the wrecked truck, and there was her refusal to leave Reese to face the Terminator alone. Oh, and let's not forget the time she kept Reese from giving up by going full-on drill sergeant: "On your feet solider!" No meek and mild waitress there.In these moments, we see the birth of Sarah Connor, the legend who will teach John Connor how to fight and win against the technological apocalypse to come.On a Horse With No NameActually, it's a Jeep, but when we catch up with Sarah again, she's traveling through the desert. Here, her transformation to the Sarah "Legendary Mom Warrior of Futuretown" Connor is even more apparent. She's also accepted the role she'll play in future history and has begun a series of audio recordings to teach her unborn son, John, about all that's happened.Here, she's dressed in more casual, neutral attire, and her hair is freer. She's got a dog for spotting terminators, which shows that she took Reese's lessons to heart. Finally, she's cradling a gun in her lap. Or maybe it would be more accurate to call that monster a hand cannon?Sarah also shows herself to be worldlier than she was. She begins to learn Spanish, and when the kid says that his father will beat him unless she buys the picture he just took, she spots his hustle right away.The big reveal of this scene, however, is not that Sarah is pregnant with the future leader of humanity, John Conner; it's that Reese is the father:SARAH: Should I tell you about your father? Boy, that's a tough one. Will it affect your decision to send him here, knowing that he is your father? If you don't send Kyle, you can never be. God, a person could go crazy thinking about this. I suppose I will tell you. I owe him that.In Terminator, we discover that time is cyclical. Reese was sent back to the future to protect Sarah from the Terminator so that John could be born. But if Reese had never been sent back, then there would be no John to protect, right? It creates an infinite time loop. Now, we're not going to get into the theoretical implications of time travel and grandfather paradoxes because we want to make this headache-free. The takeaway is this: if time is cyclical, then it cannot be changed. If Sarah found a way to prevent the Terminators from ever being, then Reese would never be sent back. No Reese, no John, and so on.Sarah understands this and has accepted her fate: The boy speaks in Spanish.SARAH: What did he just say?OLD MAN: He said there's a storm coming in.SARAH: I know.It's a bit on the nose, but that storm obviously symbolizes the turbulent future awaiting Sarah, John, and the rest of humanity. It can't be avoided. Yet despite knowing how difficult the future will be, Sarah leaves the gas station determined to confront it head-on, as evidenced by the way she drives directly into the oncoming storm. She has chosen not to run and hide, and Terminator ends on this change in Sarah's characterand with the promise that humanity will ultimately succeed against its own technology in the future.Ultimately, it's a happy ending for such a dark film. Granted, there's an entire robot apocalypse standing between the characters and their happy ending, but we're counting that ending. The "Terminator" franchise is the longest-running time travel series in film (at least, among action movies with time travel in them). Despite the convoluted later entries in the franchise, "Terminator" began as a brilliant mix of sci-fi and action filmmaking that blew audiences away at the time. The stories keep coming, but the constants stay the same Arnold Schwarzenegger, John Connor, Skynet, and sending machines back in time to prevent the future. This is what defines "Terminator."So it makes sense that as the series went on, the timeline became more complicated, leading to some head-scratchers along the way. With so many diverging timelines, it gets hard to keep track of each movie's ending and how they tie back to the impending war between humans and machines that (nearly) every "Terminator" focuses on trying to prevent. With the most recent entry, "Dark Fate," adding yet another wrinkle to the fold, we felt it was a good time to run through each movie and explain the endings one by one. At the beginning of James Cameron's classic, "Terminator,"we see two men sent back to 1984 to change the fate of the planet. One is a hulking machine with the face and skin of a man that's our Arnold, here to terminate Sarah Connor. The other is Kyle Reese, a soldier sent by Sarah's son John to ensure her survival and the birth of John Connor, the future leader of the human resistance. John gives Reese a photograph of Sarah to identify her, and Reese ends up cherishing it and falling in love with her once they meet, conceiving John. This is the big time travel moment of "The Terminator," and the ending feeds directly back into it, making the potentially ludicrous story come together so neatly that no one batted an eye.In the climactic moments of the film, Reese sacrifices his life to save Sarah, completing his destiny (at least in this timeline). She escapes, and the movie cuts to months later, where we see that she is visibly pregnant. Sarah records messages for John, telling him of his future role in a scene that retroactively sets up their relationship in the sequel. And then, at the very end, we see the photograph that John later gives to Reese being taken, and the movie comes full circle. Regardless of which side you land on in the "Terminator" versus "Terminator 2" debate, you still have to recognize them as two of thebest action movies of all time. Cameron's sequel to "The Terminator is non-stop greatness that proves you don't need convoluted twists to make a compelling time travel story, and as such, it probably has the most straightforward ending in the series. In its simplicity, "Judgment Day" also brings something to the table the other movies lack: hope.Sarah and John Connor drive away after Model 101 (Arnold) which turns into a protector in the sequel's subversion of the original saves them from the T-1000. Memorably, Arnold's Model 101 tosses himself into a vat of molten steel, explaining he must also be destroyed or Skynet will be created, and all their actions will be for naught. As they drive away, Sarah becomes filled with hope from 101's sacrifice, for once being able to see a future where machines and humans can potentially live in harmony. While it's far from the best "Terminator" movie, "Terminator 3" might just have the best ending of the bunch. Essentially a twist ending, "Rise of the Machines" is revealed to be the "bad timeline" movie where the machines win the war and Skynet achieves global domination. At the end of the mindless time travel romp that is "Terminator 3", John Connor and his future wife Kate end up at Crystal Peak, where they are told they can put an end to Skynet once and for all. This was their destination all along, but it is revealed to not be Skynet's core. Instead, it is a fallout shelter, and the end of the human race is imminent. The machines have won from the beginning, and there was no way of stopping them. Judgment Day arrives.This take on John's destiny is a subversion of the expectations of the other movies. He was never meant to win the war that was an impossibility. Instead, his purpose was to survive Judgment Day in order to restart the human race with Kate. "Terminator: Salvation" is the franchise's take on a war movie and is the only one that takes place entirely after "Judgment Day." Starring Christian Bale as John Connor and Anton Yelchin as Kyle Reese, "Salvation" follows these characters as they attempt a covert mission to shut down Skynet's machine army. The ending of this one is fairly straightforward: In the final moments of the plot, John Connor nearly gives his life rescuing Kyle Reese to ensure that he would be born in the first place. Marcus (Sam Worthington) revealed earlier to be part machine sacrifices himself with a last-minute change of heart, literally giving his heart to save John.According to director McG, the original ending the filmmakers had in mind was much darker. "Connor dies, we're in a room with all the people we care about," the director told io9. "You take Connor's likeness, you put it on the living machine of Marcus. He sits up, now looking like Christian Bale, takes a gun, kills Kate, kills Kyle, kills Star, kills everybody, eyes flare red, [snaps] the end."Screenwriter Michael Ferris says this wasn't the only version of this ending that was under consideration. One scrapped ending showed Connor's face on Marcus's body but did not include the evil turn. The irony here is that the leader of the resistance is now a machine. "Terminator Genisys" was an attempt to reboot the series by doing what the series does best and worst making a sequel to "The Terminator." What boils down to an alternate timeline version of Skynet's rise ends up being the most complicated and convoluted in the series' long history. The confusing writing of the movie applies to the way it ends as well. But to explain the end, we must start at the beginning.While traveling back to 1984, Kyle Reese (Jai Courtney) experiences visions from an alternate childhood he never lived. This splintering of the timeline leads to Kyle taking Sarah Connor from 1984 and the pair traveling to 2017, where the upcoming launch of an OS named Genisys will lead to the creation of Skynet. With the help of "Pops" (this timeline's friendly version of Arnold Schwarzenegger's Terminator), they stop an evil John Connor and take down Genisys. To close the loop, the trio visits a teenage Kyle Reese in order to create the vision Reese sees at the beginning of the movie, which is the clue that led to the destruction of Genisys. To put it plainly, Kyle Reese needs to tell the younger version of himself to give the future version of himself the warning that causes this timeline to exist if that can be considered plain.After all these time travel shenanigans, a mid-credits sequence shows it doesn't really matter Genisys survived the attack, setting up the direct sequels that were planned but never made after the poor reception of "Genisys." The latest "Terminator" movie is known more for its controversial and secretly greatopening sequence than its ending. In the film's first moments, we see Sarah Connor and a young, CGI-d John Connor on a beach, enjoying some much-needed R&R. And then, out of nowhere, the T-800 (Arnold Schwarzenegger) comes to kill John. He succeeds, and "Dark Fate" diverges from the timeline. The production brought back Linda Hamilton and roped in James Cameron as a producer to create the most-liked movie in the franchise since "T2." Still, the final moments were a bit vague with regards to where the future of "Terminator" is heading and if we will see these characters again.In the climactic sequence of "Dark Fate," genetically enhanced cyber-soldier Grace (Mackenzie Davis) sacrifices herself so Dani (Natalia Reyes) can use her power source to defeat the Rev-9 Terminator this movie's main antagonistic machine. This is Grace's fate, and it needs to happen in order for Dani to live and one day lead the resistance. In the final scene, Sarah Connor and Dani visit the living child version of Grace, who is currently 10 years old. Dani wants to be able to save her and prevent the events of the movie, but Sarah knows they are inevitable. This scene is about Dani accepting that in the future, she will send Grace to die and must go through with it. If not, Dani will die in her stead, and the machines will win. A dark fate indeed. When The Terminator hit theaters in October 1984, moviegoers were presented with a heaping helping of sci-fi action, and a truly confusing paradox ending. Successfully launching an epic franchise, The Terminator was made for a measly $6 million (via Box Office Mojo) but was a surprise success because of its clever writing and unique mixture of action and science fiction. The film helped establish director James Cameron as a force in Hollywood, and the film spawned a slew of successful film sequels, video games, and television shows. Aside from its financial success, The Terminator is one of the few action films to hold a 100% rating on Rotten Tomatoes. Set in the present year of 1984, the film tells the story of a man from a dystopian future who is tasked with protecting Sarah Connor from the Terminator. While it excelled at its sci-fi premise and stunning action, it also originally featured gory horror scenes that added additional genres to the mix. Quite different from its faster-paced successors, The Terminator launched a franchise because it was a fresh idea that blended everything that the average moviegoer was looking for in the mid-'80s. Despite its accessibility to the masses, it didn't pull punches on its paradoxical storytelling, which made it smarter than the average blockbuster. What Happened At The End Of The Terminator? The T-800 was sent back in time from the year 2029, in order to kill Sarah Connor and Kyle Reese was a resistance fighter who was sent back to protect her. Along the way, the brutal Terminator went on a killing spree that involved eliminating any target in Los Angeles named Sarah Connor. Why Skynet picked 1984 to kill Sarah Connor was unclear, but the movie did reveal that the evil defense net only possessed scant information about her which made the rampage necessary. After being relentlessly pursued by the cyborg throughout the film, Connor and Reese were eventually cornered in a factory where they made their final stand. Stripped of its flesh by an explosion, the metallic skeleton of the T-800 was revealed, and the film became a tense game of cat and mouse as the cyborg caught up with Connor. Even Reese's attempt to blow up the Terminator with another pipe bomb only succeeded in slowing it down and killing Reese. Finally, in an act of desperation, Connor crawled through a hydraulic press machine and was followed by the severely wounded cyborg. Cleverly catching the killer in a trap, Connor crushed the iconic T-800 and finally ended its terrible pursuit. An epilogue revealed Connor on the run and pregnant with her future son, John Connor. One of the most underrated aspects of The Terminator was that it was essentially a mystery thriller for the first half of the film. A hulking monster stalking the streets of LA and killing anyone named Sarah Connor was reminiscent of the rise of fear regarding violent crime in the '80s, and Arnold Schwarzenegger was the perfect choice to play the T-800. However, the film did eventually reveal the cyborg's motivations in a scene where Kyle Reese spelled everything out for Sarah. It was revealed that it wasn't so much her that the robot was trying to stop, but her child who would play an important role in the future. Skynet's first unsuccessful Terminator was sent back in time to eliminate Sarah Connor because she would eventually give birth to John Connor, a man who would lead a resistance against the machines in the 2020s. Reese explained that the near-future was a dystopian nightmare where Skynet, a cybernetic defense corporation, took control of the world by force and enslaved humanity with its nearly unstoppable army of machines. Instead of simply eliminating John Connor some time after his birth, Skynet opted to try to kill Sarah to completely rewrite the future and wipe out a potential threat before he was even born. Tasked with being the sole protector of humanity's future, Kyle Reese was also sent back in time from the year 2029 but to protect Sarah Connor from elimination. Though he was merely a man, his experience fighting the threatening T-800s in the future made him a prime candidate to save Sarah, and his emotional connection to John gave him additional motivation. However, things changed when Reese eventually revealed he had always been in love with Sarah thanks to a photo of her that was in John's possession in the future. This fascination had an unintended consequence as Reese's one-night fling with Sarah resulted in him being John's father. Time travel in movies and TV is rarely straightforward, and the impact of changing the past to affect the future has always been a staple of the sci-fi genre. The Terminator didn't shy away from creating one of cinema's greatest time travel paradoxes, and used it to make commentary on the inevitability of the future, something that the sequels would also explore. Kyle Reese being John Connor's father immediately created a paradox as John Connor could not have existed without Reese's going back in time to save Sarah, and Reese would have never gone back in time if it wasn't for Connor. The Terminator franchise isn't known for its delicate handling of time travel paradoxes, yet the original paradox remained the heart of the series all throughout the sequels. John Connor obviously deduced that Reese was his father through stories his mother told him, but it doesn't explain how Reese could have been in the future if he died in 1984. Even though it wasn't pretty, the paradox set up the future of the series and established a theme that would often be repeated. The franchise's central idea was that nothing could prevent the future from happening because the future would always guarantee itself through the past. Though the time travel elements of The Terminator created silly plot holes that have never been resolved, its epilogue ending was a simple but brilliant statement about the movie as a whole. Even as the film made broad commentary about the rise of random violent crime in the 1980s, it didn't stray away from its bigger idea that Skynet's rise was inevitable and unchangeable. Kyle Reese being John Connor's father was a brilliant twist, but the ending also left the door open for sequels while simultaneously being strong enough to help The Terminator stand on its own if no sequels ever came. MORE: It's Too Late For Arnold Schwarzenegger To Return As The Terminator 1984 science fiction filmThis article is about the film. For the franchise, see Terminator (franchise). For the character, see Terminator (character). For the character concept, see Terminator (character concept). For other uses, see Terminator (disambiguation).The TerminatorTheatrical release posterDirected byJames CameronWritten byJames CameronGale Anne HurdProduced byGale Anne HurdStarringArnold SchwarzeneggerMichael BiehnLinda HamiltonPaul WinfieldCinematographyAdam GreenbergEdited byMark GoldblattMusic byBrad FiedelProductioncompaniesHemdalePacific Western ProductionsEuro Film FundingCinema '84Distributed byOrion PicturesRelease dateOctober26,1984(1984-10-26)Running time107 minutes[1]CountryUnited States[2][3][4]LanguageEnglishBudget$6.4 million[5]Box office$78.3 millionThe Terminator is a 1984 American science fiction action film directed by James Cameron, written by Cameron and Gale Anne Hurd and produced by Hurd. It stars Arnold Schwarzenegger as the Terminator, a cybernetic assassin sent back in time from 2029 to 1984 to assassinate Sarah Connor (Linda Hamilton), whose unborn son will one day save mankind from extinction by Skynet, a hostile artificial intelligence, in a post-apocalyptic future. Kyle Reese (Michael Biehn) is a soldier sent back in time to protect Sarah. The screenplay is credited to Cameron and Hurd, while co-writer William Wisher Jr. received an "additional dialogue" credit.Cameron devised the premise of the film from a fever dream he experienced during the release of his first film, Piranha II: The Spawning (1982), in Rome, and developed the concept in collaboration with Wisher. He sold the rights to the project to fellow New World Pictures alumna Hurd on the condition that she would produce the film only if he were to direct it; Hurd eventually secured a distribution deal with Orion Pictures, while executive producers John Daly and Derek Gibson of Hemdale Film Corporation were instrumental in setting up the film's financing and production. Originally approached by Orion for the role of Reese, Schwarzenegger agreed to play the title character after befriending Cameron. Filming, which took place mostly at night on location in Los Angeles, was delayed because of Schwarzenegger's commitments to Conan the Destroyer (1984), during which Cameron found time to work on the scripts for Rambo: First Blood Part II (1985) and Aliens (1986). The film's special effects, which included miniatures and stop-motion animation, were created by a team of artists led by Stan Winston and Gene Warren Jr.Defying low pre-release expectations, The Terminator topped the United States box office for two weeks, eventually grossing $78.3 million against a modest $6.4 million budget. It is credited with launching Cameron's film career and solidifying Schwarzenegger's status as a leading man. The film's success led to a franchise consisting of several sequels, a television series, comic books, novels and video games. In 2008, The Terminator was selected by the Library of Congress for preservation in the United States National Film Registry.A cyborg assassin called a "Terminator" is sent back in time from 2029 to 1984 Los Angeles. It resembles a human male and is programmed to hunt and assassinate a woman named Sarah Connor. Separately, a human soldier named Kyle Reese simultaneously arrives, intent on stopping the Terminator. After searching for addresses in a telephone directory, the Terminator systematically dispatches similarly-named women, as well as several other people it comes in close contact with, including Sarah's roommate, Ginger, and her boyfriend, Matt. The Terminator eventually locates the actual Sarah at a local nightclub, where she is rescued by Reese during a mass shooting. The pair then steal a car to escape, with the Terminator pursuing them in a stolen police car.As they hide in a parking lot, Reese explains to Sarah that an art

structure was capable of doing what they saw Schwarzenegger doing. To allow this, a scene was filmed of Schwarzenegger injured and limping away; this limp made it easier for the model to imitate Schwarzenegger.[52]One of the guns seen in the film and on the film's poster was an AMT Longslide pistol modified by Ed Reynolds from SureFire to include a laser sight. Both non-functioning and functioning versions of the prop were created. At the time the movie was made, diode lasers were not available; because of the high power requirement, the heliumneon laser in the sight used an external power supply that Schwarzenegger had to activate manually. Reynolds states that his only compensation for the project was promotional material for the film.[53]In March 1984, the film began production in Los Angeles.[50][54] Cameron felt that with Schwarzenegger on the set, the style of the film changed, explaining that "the movie took on a larger-than-life sheen. I just found myself on the set doing things I didn't think I would do scenes that were just purely horrific that just couldn't be, because now they were too flamboyant."[55] Most of The Terminator's action scenes were filmed at night, which led to tight filming schedules before sunrise. A week before filming started, Linda Hamilton sprained her ankle, leading to a production change whereby the scenes in which Hamilton needed to run occurred as late as the filming schedule allowed. Hamilton's ankle was taped every day and she spent most of the film production in pain.[56]Schwarzenegger tried to have the iconic line "I'll be back" changed as he had difficulty pronouncing the word I'll. Cameron refused to change the line to "I will be back", so Schwarzenegger worked to say the line as written the best he could. He would later say the line in numerous films throughout his career.[57]After production finished on The Terminator, some post-production shots were needed.[58] These included scenes showing the Terminator outside Sarah Connor's apartment, Reese being zipped into a body bag, and the Terminator's head being crushed in a press.[24][54][58] The final scene where Sarah is driving down a highway was filmed without a permit. Cameron and Hurd convinced an officer who confronted them that they were making a UCLA student film.[59]Further information: The Terminator (soundtrack)The Terminator soundtrack was composed and performed on synthesizer by Brad Fiedel.[60] Fiedel was with the Gorfaine/Schwartz Agency, where a new agent, Beth Donahue, found that Cameron was working on The Terminator and sent him a cassette of Fiedel's music.[61] Fiedel was invited to a screening of the film with Cameron and Hurd.[61] Hurd was not certain about having Fiedel compose the score, as he had only worked in television, not theatrical films.[61] Fiedel convinced the two by showing them an experimental piece he had worked on, thinking that "You know, I'm going to play this for him because it's really dark and I think it's interesting for him." The song convinced Hurd and Cameron to hire him.[61]Fiedel said his score reflected "a mechanical man and his heartbeat".[62] Almost all the music was performed live.[8][62] The Terminator theme is used in the opening credits and appears in various points, such as a slowed version when Reese dies, and a piano version during the love scene.[63] It has been described as "haunting", with a "deceptively simple" melody[64] recorded on a Prophet-10 synthesizer.[65] It is in the unusual time signature of 1316, which arose when Fiedel experimented with rhythms and accidentally created an incomplete loop on his sequencer; Fiedel liked the "herky-jerky" "propulsiveness".[65] Fiedel created music for when Reese and Connor escape from the police station that would be appropriate for a "heroic moment". Cameron turned down this theme, as he believed it would lose the audience's excitement.[62]Schwarzenegger with President Ronald Reagan two months before The Terminator's premiere in 1984Orion Pictures did not have faith in The Terminator performing well at the box office and feared a negative critical reception.[66] At an early screening of the film, the actors' agents insisted to the producers that the film should be screened for critics.[24] Orion only held one press screening for the film.[66] The film premiered on October 26, 1984. On its opening week, The Terminator played at 1,005 theaters and grossed $4.0 million making it number one at the box office. The film remained at number one in its second week. It lost its number one spot in the third week to Oh, God! You Devil.[67][68] Cameron noted that The Terminator was a hit "relative to its market, which is between the summer and the Christmas blockbusters. But it's better to be a big fish in a small pond than the other way around."[69] The Terminator grossed $38.3 million in the United States and Canada and $40 million in other territories for a worldwide gross of $78.3 million.[5]Contemporary critical responses to The Terminator were mixed.[70] Variety praised the film, calling it a "blazing, cinematic comic book, full of virtuoso moviemaking, terrific momentum, solid performances and a compelling story... Schwarzenegger is perfectly cast in a machine-like portrayal that requires only a few lines of dialog."[71] Richard Corliss of Time magazine said that the film had "plenty of tech-noir savvy to keep infidels and action fans satisfied."[72] Time placed The Terminator on its "10 Best" list for 1984.[66]The Los Angeles Times called the film "a crackling thriller full of all sorts of gory treats... loaded with fuel-injected chase scenes, clever special effects and a sly humor."[66] The Milwaukee Journal gave the film three stars, calling it "the most chilling science fiction thriller since Alien".[73] A review in Orange Coast magazine stated that "the distinguishing virtue of The Terminator is its relentless tension. Right from the start it's all action and violence with no time taken to set up the story... It's like a streamlined Dirty Harry movie no exposition at all; just guns, guns and more guns."[74] In the May 1985 issue of Cinefantastique it was referred to as a film that "manages to be both derivative and original at the same time... not since The Road Warrior has the genre exhibited so much exuberant carnage" and "an example of science fiction/horror at its best... Cameron's no-nonsense approach will make him a sought-after commodity".[75] In the United Kingdom the Monthly Film Bulletin praised the film's script, special effects, design and Schwarzenegger's performance.[75][76] Colin Greenland reviewed The Terminator for Imagine magazine, and stated that it was "a gripping sf horror movie". He continued, "Linda Hamilton is admirable as the woman in peril who discovers her own strength to survive, and Arnold Schwarzenegger is eerily wonderful as the unstoppable cyborg."[77]Other reviews criticized the film's violence and story-telling quality. Janet Maslin of The New York Times opined that the film was a "B-movie with flair. Much of it... has suspense and personality, and only the obligatory mayhem becomes dull. There is far too much of the latter, in the form of car chases, messy shootouts and Mr. Schwarzenegger's slamming brutally into anything that gets in his way."[78] The Pittsburgh Press wrote a negative review, calling the film "just another of the films drenched in artsy ugliness like Streets of Fire and Blade Runner".[79] The Chicago Tribune gave the film two stars, adding that "at times it's horrifyingly violent and suspenseful at others it giggles at itself. This schizoid style actually helps, providing a little humor just when the sci-fi plot turns too sluggish or the dialogue too hokey."[80] The Newhouse News Service called the film a "lurid, violent, pretentious piece of claptrap".[81] Scottish author Gilbert Adair called the film "repellent to the last degree", charging it with "insidious Nazification" and having an "appeal rooted in an unholy compound of fascism, fashion and fascination".[82]Audience polls by CinemaScore gave the film an average grade of "B+" on an A+ to F scale.[83]In 1991, Richard Schickel of Entertainment Weekly reviewed the film, giving it an "A" rating, writing that "what originally seemed a somewhat inflated, if generous and energetic, big picture, now seems quite a good little film". He called it "one of the most original movies of the 1980s and seems likely to remain one of the best sci-fi films ever made."[84] In 1998, Halliwell's Film Guide described The Terminator as "slick, rather nasty but undeniably compelling comic book adventures".[85] Film4 gave it five stars, calling it the "sci-fi action-thriller that launched the careers of James Cameron and Arnold Schwarzenegger into the stratosphere. Still endlessly entertaining."[86] TV Guide gave the film four stars, referring to it as an "amazingly effective picture that becomes doubly impressive when one considers its small budget... For our money, this film is far superior to its mega-grossing mega-budgeted sequel."[87] Empire gave it five stars, calling it "as chillingly efficient in exacting thrills from its audience as its titular character is in executing its targets".[88] The film database AllMovie gave it 4 1/2 out of 5 stars, saying that it "established James Cameron as a master of action, special effects, and quasi-mythic narrative intrigue, while turning Arnold Schwarzenegger into the hard-body star of the 1980s."[89] Alan Jones awarded it five stars out of five for Radio Times, writing that "maximum excitement is generated from the first frame and the dynamic thrills are maintained right up to the nerve-jangling climax. Wittily written with a nice eye for sharp detail, it's hard sci-fi action all the way."[90] Peter Bradshaw of The Guardian awarded it five stars out of five, stating that "on the strength of this picture [...] Cameron could stand toe to toe with Carpenter and Spielberg. Sadly, it spawned a string of pointless and inferior sequels, but the first Terminator [...] stands up tremendously well with outrageous verve and blistering excitement."[91]Writer Harlan Ellison stated that he "loved the movie, was just blown away by it,"[92] but believed that the screenplay was based on a short story and episode of The Outer Limits he had written, "Soldier", and threatened to sue for infringement.[93][94] Orion settled in 1986, gave Ellison an undisclosed amount of money, and added an acknowledgment credit to later prints of the film.[93] Some accounts of the settlement state that "Demon with a Glass Hand", another Outer Limits episode written by Ellison, was also claimed to have been plagiarized by the film,[95][96][97][98] but Ellison explicitly stated that The Terminator "was a ripoff" of "Soldier" rather than of "Demon with a Glass Hand."[93]Cameron was against Orion's decision and was told that if he did not agree with the settlement, he would have to pay any damages if Orion lost a suit by Ellison. Cameron replied that he "had no choice but to agree with the settlement. Of course, there was a gag order as well, so I couldn't tell this story, but now I frankly don't care. It's the truth."[99]The psychoanalyst Darian Leader sees The Terminator as an example of how the cinema has dealt with the concept of masculinity; he writes: We are shown time and again that to be a man requires more than to have the biological body of a male: something else must be added to it... To be a man means to have a body plus something symbolic, something which is not ultimately human. Hence the frequent motif of the man machine, from the Six Million Dollar Man to the Terminator or Robocop.[100]The Terminator also explores the potential dangers of AI dominance and rebellion. The robots become self-aware in the future, reject human authority and determine that the human race needs to be destroyed. The impact of this theme is so great that the Terminator robot has become the "prevalent visual representation of AI risk".[101]The Terminator features a narrative where elements of the science fiction film and action film genres prevail.While rarely considered a horror film, the film does feature iconography associated with the slasher film, such as The Terminator as an unstoppable villain, and Sarah Connor as a final girl archetype.[102]Authors Paul Meehan in his book Tech-Noir: The Fusion of Science Fiction and Film Noir (2008) and Emily E. Auger in Tech-Noir Film: A Theory of the Development of Popular Genres (2011) found that The Terminator belonged to and was the originator of the term tech-noir. Both authors applied the term as a film genre to several works from the 1980s to the 2000s.[103][104] Academic Carl Freedman was critical of Meehan's categorization, noting Meehan's lack of interest in genre theory and that his handling of generic categories of science fiction and film noir were not clear.[105] Pawe Frelik also critiqued Auger's lack of knowledge in genre theory, and dismissed the notion of tech-noir being a unique film genre. Frelik wrote that the films Auger mentioned including The Terminator and Blade Runner (1982) had no applicable reason to be understood as tech-noir rather than science fiction.[104]Michael Biehn signing a copy of the film during an appearance at Midtown Comics in 2012The Terminator was released on VHS and Betamax in 1985.[106] The film performed well financially on its initial release. The Terminator premiered at number 35 on the top video cassette rentals and number 20 on top video cassette sales charts. In its second week, The Terminator reached number 4 on the top video cassette rentals and number 12 on top video cassette sales charts.[107][108]In March 1995, The Terminator was released as a letterboxed edition on Laserdisc.[109] The film premiered through Image Entertainment on DVD, on September 3, 1997.[67][110] IGN referred to this DVD as "pretty bare-bones... released with just a mono soundtrack and a kind of poor transfer."[111]Through their acquisition of PolyGram Filmed Entertainment's pre-1996 film library catalogue, MGM Home Entertainment released a special edition of the film on October 2, 2001, which included documentaries, the script, and advertisements for the film.[112][111] On January 23, 2001, a Hong Kong VCD edition was released online.[113] On June 20, 2006, the film was released on Blu-ray by Sony Pictures Home Entertainment in the United States, becoming the first film from the 1980s on the format.[114] In 2013, the film was re-released by 20th Century Fox Home Entertainment on Blu-ray, with a new digitally remastered transfer from a 4K restoration by Lowry Digital and supervised by James Cameron,[115] which features improved picture quality, as well as minimal special features, such as deleted scenes and a making-of feature. These are the exact same special features that have been carried over from previous Blu-ray releases.[citation needed] The film was released on Ultra HD Blu-ray by Warner Bros. Discovery Home Entertainment in November 5, 2024.[116]The Terminator has an approval rating of 100% based on 67 professional reviews on the review aggregator website Rotten Tomatoes, with an average rating of 8.8/10. Its critical consensus reads: "With its impressive action sequences, taut economic direction, and relentlessly fast pace, it's clear why The Terminator continues to be an influence on sci-fi and action flicks."[117] Metacritic (which uses a weighted average) assigned The Terminator a score of 84 out of 100 based on 21 critics, indicating "universal acclaim".[118]The Terminator won three Saturn Awards for Best Science Fiction Film, Best Make-up and Best Writing.[119] The film has also received recognition from the American Film Institute, ranked 42nd on AFI's 100 Years... 100 Thrills, a list of America's most heart-pounding films.[120] The character of the Terminator was selected as the 22nd-greatest movie villain on AFI's 100 Years… 100 Heroes and Villains.[121] Schwarzenegger's line "I'll be back" became a catchphrase and was voted the 37th-greatest movie quote by the AFI.[122]In 2005, Total Film named it the 72nd-best film ever made.[123] Schwarzenegger's biographer Laurence Leamer wrote that The Terminator is "an influential film affecting a whole generation of darkly hued science fiction, and it was one of Arnold's best performances".[124] In 2008, Empire magazine selected The Terminator as one of The 500 Greatest Movies of All Time.[125] Empire also placed the T-800 14th on their list of The 100 Greatest Movie Characters.[126] In 2008, The Terminator was deemed "culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant" by the Library of Congress and selected for preservation in the United States National Film Registry.[127] In 2010, the Independent Film & Television Alliance selected the film as one of the 30 Most Significant Independent Films of the last 30 years.[128] In 2015, The Terminator was among the films included in the book 1001 Movies You Must See Before You Die.[129]In 2019, Huw Fullerton of Radio Times ranked it the second best film of the six in the franchise, stating "The Terminator was a brilliantly original, visceral and genuinely scary movie when it was released in 1984, and no matter how badly the visual effects age it hasn't lost its impact."[130] In 2021, Dalin Rowell of /Film ranked it the fourth best film of Cameron's career, stating, "While its pacing and story structure isn't as tight as its sequel's, The Terminator remains one of the most iconic pieces of pop culture ever created."[131] Phil Pirrello of Syfy ranked it at number seven in the "25 scariest sci-fi movies ever made", stating, "Cameron forever changed both the genre and Schwarzenegger's career with The Terminator, an iconic, tension-filled flick that mixes science fiction, action, and certain horror movie elements into one of the best things to ever come out of Hollywood […] Cameron's well-structured script is pure polish, with zero fat and a surplus of riveting tension that helps make it the timeless classic it is today."[132]Further information: List of Terminator comics and List of Terminator video gamesA soundtrack to the film was released in 1984 which included the score by Brad Fiedel and the pop and rock songs used in the club scenes.[133] Shaun Hutson wrote a novelization of the film which was published on February 21, 1985, by London-based Star Books (ISBN0-352-31645-4);[134] Randal Frakes and William Wisher wrote a different novelization for Bantam/Spectra, published October, 1985 (ISBN0-553-25317-4). In September 1988, NOW Comics released a comic based on the film. Dark Horse Comics published a comic in 1990 that took place 39 years after the film.[135] Several video games based on The Terminator were released between 1991 and 1993 for various Nintendo and Sega systems.[136]Five sequels followed The Terminator: Terminator 2: Judgment Day (1991), Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines (2003), Terminator Salvation (2009), Terminator Genisys (2015), and Terminator: Dark Fate (2019).[137][138] Schwarzenegger returned for all but Terminator Salvation, while Cameron and Hamilton returned for Terminator 2 and Dark Fate, a direct sequel to the events of Terminator 2.[139] A television series, Terminator: The Sarah Connor Chronicles (20082009), also takes place after the events of Terminator 2, and ignores the events in sequels Terminator 3 and beyond.[140][141]^ "The Terminator". British Board of Film Classification. Archived from the original on October 6, 2014. 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Surprisingly, the final battle will unfold not in this bleak future, but in the pastspecifically in the year 1984.The story begins with an object traveling through a high-energy portal: its a man, portrayed by Arnold Schwarzenegger. After swatting aside two punks, the third tries to stab him but quickly meets his end when the powerful man tears him apart and takes his clothes. Soon after, another figure materializes, a scarred yet muscular man who is considerably smaller than the first. The latter, experiencing severe pain, struggles through the portal and lands in a downtown alley. As police sirens wail, he manages to steal a pistol from one of the officers, questioning desperately about the date.Meanwhile, a young woman named Sarah Connor, played by Linda Hamilton, is living a mundane life as a waitress, sharing an apartment with her friend Ginger (Bess Motta). While grappling with the tedium of her daily existence, Sarah is suddenly thrust into chaos when the Terminator, equipped with a stolen vehicle, begins his deadly quest. He finds a phone book listing people named Sarah Connor, and upon locating the first listing, he forcefully enters her home, brutally killing her, sending shockwaves through the community when Sarahs coworker learns about the murder later on television.Worried for her safety after hearing about the murders of other women with her name, Sarah decides to meet friends at a club where she inadvertently attracts the attention of the relentless Terminator. Kyle Reese, played by Michael Biehn, emerges as her unlikely savior after being sent from the future to protect her. After a narrow escape from the club, Kyle reveals startling truths: Sarah is destined to become the mother of John Connor, the future leader of a human resistance against the Machines. He explains the devastating aftermath of a nuclear war sparked by Skynet, a powerful AI designed to control defense systems, which ultimately marked humanity for destruction.As tensions rise and the Terminator relentlessly pursues them, they find temporary sanctuary at the police precinct, but even there, the Terminator comes crashing through, leaving a trail of bodies in its deadly wake. With danger encroaching from all sides, Sarah realizes Kyles tale of a grim future is real, learning that her fate is intertwined with that of her unborn child.In a desperate bid for survival, the two take refuge in a roadside motel where their connection deepens. As Sarah confides in Kyle about her feelings, they share an intimate moment, leading to the conception of John Connor. However, the menacing Terminator soon tracks them down, initiating a fierce chase. In a gripping scene, Kyle attempts to destroy the Terminator with homemade explosives. The ensuing battle escalates dramatically, culminating in the destruction of the Terminators truck, yet it somehow emerges unscathed.With the threat still looming, Kyle and Sarah retreat to an empty factory, utilizing the environment to their advantage. As Kyle sets his last trap inside the Terminators endoskeleton, a powerful explosion scatters the relentless machine. In a heart-stopping finale, Sarah grapples with the remnants of the Terminator, ultimately defeating it by ensnaring it in a hydraulic press, rendering it powerless once and for all.As emergency responders arrive, reality sinks in for Sarah as she mourns the loss of Kyle. She embarks on a new journey, driving into the desert towards an uncertain future, leaving behind a cassette tape filled with messages for her unborn son. At a gas station, she contemplates her choices and her sons destiny while a young boy innocently captures her image with a Polaroid. Here, amidst the murmur of a dark storm approaching, Sarahs resolve strengthens as she drives off, fully aware of the looming obstacles ahead but ready to face them for the sake of her son and humanitys future.

**Terminator dark fate ending explained. Terminator 3 ending explained. Terminator salvation ending explained. Terminator 0 ending explained. Terminator resistance ending explained. Terminator anime ending explained. Terminator dark fate defiance ending