

The Mitchells vs. The Machines 2021: the war between human and technology



By: Ngoc Vo

Quietly launched in the first days of May, *The Mitchells vs. The Machines* created a wave of success due to its wittiness and humor. From the creator of *Into the Spider-Verse*, the storyline is about a human family that stands up against a world full of machines. Robots have never been an out-of-date topic for movie lovers; in this animation, the robots bring a sense of familiarity and reality, but they also covered the experience of a blockbuster movie in the aspect of action and fictional science way which the audience enjoy. In the center of the hilarious animation,

there is an implicit warmth message about the distance of generation in a modern family – amid the time when technology is tearing us apart.

Although the revolution of technology is an old topic, the creator has a different viewpoint.

The story about rebellious technology has no longer a strange topic to movie lovers. *The Mitchells vs. The Machines* creates a difference when using the old motif of technology and weave it tightly into the storyline.

The Mitchells vs. The Machines is about the Mitchell family. In the animation, Katie is the oldest daughter in the household. She dreams of being a movie director. Katie dreads the day when she has to depart for college, blend into the society where there are friends who can understand her, and leave behind the old-fashioned parents who do not support her dream. Katie does not hate her parents, but she believes that her parents do not understand her like her friend in college. In a “healing” trip with her family to college, a powerful force of robot revolts and the Mitchells reluctantly bearing the hope of saving the world.

Initially, the story of *The Mitchells vs. The Machines* does not provide any specialty in the first part of the animation. However, the storyline becomes interesting as the audience dives into the unexpected content. In addition, the drawing style of *The Mitchells vs. The Machines* left behind lots of impression in the audience in an era when the 3D movies gradually become saturated and less impressive.

A storyline full of imperfect characters yet adorable in a modern family

The Mitchell family is created differently than the “overprotective” Disney family. In the Mitchells, the audience can see that there are flaws and a touch of reality in a modern family, which brings up compassion and easier to comprehend the true meaning of family.

Katie loves her family, but she is also fascinated by her new friends with the same hobby of technology, which is difficult for her parents to follow youth trends. Rick, indeed, loves his daughter a lot, but he does not know how to display his affection accurately. The conflict between Rick and Katie does not come from prohibition or quarrels; they do not know how to overcome their different viewpoints in lifestyle and diverge personalities to get closer to each other. Many of us surely know a father who hates smartphones, does not know how to use Youtube, or constantly complaining about technology, but instead, he knows more about life than the kids who are focusing on their phones.

The Mitchells vs. the Machines was initially about to go for a theater premiere by the name *Connected* from Sony Pictures Animation. Due to the pandemic, Sony sold the animation to Netflix at the price of 110 million dollars. With a new name, *The Mitchells vs. The Machines* has a chance to shine.

“The Mitchells vs. the Machines.” *Wikipedia*, Wikimedia Foundation, 15 May 2021, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Mitchells_vs._the_Machines#:~:text=On%20January%2021%2C%202021%2C%20Netflix,retaining%20distribution%20rights%20in%20China.