

Awake

The Movie Slips Quietly into a Coma: *May It Rest in Peace*

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The movie, *Awake*, that anesthesiologists have anticipated for over two years, opened on the last day of November, the least attended movie-going weekend of the year, with relatively little advance media attention. That simply reflects what a bad movie this is. Reviews by movie critics across the country were uniformly dismissive, and contained numerous joking references to the effect that although the movie's protagonist was "awake," much of the audience wasn't! Indeed, the scenes of the operation, a heart transplant, were so ludicrous, even by Hollywood standards, that it was insulting to expect any intelligent adult audience to take it seriously. Nonetheless, the exaggerated emphasis on awareness under anesthesia and public hysteria, which the makers of this film attempted to exploit, presented potentially damaging results to anesthesiologists and our patients. Instead, through thoughtful and truthful commentary in media interviews by anesthesiologists across America, our colleagues demonstrated that our specialty is concerned about the welfare of our patients, and that we provide safe care at the highest standards in the world. This movie gave us an opportunity to show that to the public, and I believe that we did so, without question.

I want to give students tools to think about their own involvement in sports. ...

- ⊛ *Are you bored by jogging until it becomes a race?*
- ⊛ *Do you only do your best after you work yourself into a rage against your opponent?*
- ⊛ *What does that tell you about yourself?*

The point of this effort at self-knowledge is to turn us into better people, to improve us as human beings.

— from a lecture by Drew Hyland, Professor of Philosophy, Trinity College