

Ruby Rhod: A Deep Dive into the Outlandish Character from 'The Fifth Element'



In the realm of science fiction cinema, few characters have left an imprint as indelible as Ruby Rhod, the flamboyant and eccentric radio host from Luc Besson's cult classic 'The Fifth Element' (1997). With his outrageous outfits, infectious enthusiasm, and unwavering belief in his own grandeur, Ruby Rhod has become an iconic figure in popular culture, inspiring countless memes, tributes, and imitators.

This article delves into the enigmatic world of Ruby Rhod, exploring the character's origins, motivations, and enduring legacy. We will examine his role within the narrative of 'The Fifth Element,' analyze his unique personality traits, and consider the cultural impact he has had on the world of entertainment.



Wild Cards VIII: One-Eyed Jacks: Book One of the Rox

Triad by George R. R. Martin

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

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Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
X-Ray	: Enabled
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Print length	: 456 pages



Origins and Inspiration

The character of Ruby Rhod was conceived by Luc Besson as a satirical commentary on the excesses of the entertainment industry. Besson drew inspiration from various sources, including the flamboyant personalities of American televangelists and the over-the-top antics of professional wrestling commentators.

The name "Ruby Rhod" was chosen for its alliterative qualities and its evocation of glamour and excess. The character's signature red hair and flamboyant wardrobe were designed to further emphasize his eccentric nature and to differentiate him from the other characters in the film.

Personality and Motivations

Ruby Rhod is a complex and multifaceted character. He is a charismatic and entertaining figure, but he is also deeply self-absorbed and delusional. He believes himself to be the greatest radio host in the galaxy and constantly seeks attention and validation.

Despite his flaws, Ruby Rhod has a good heart and genuinely cares about his audience. He is fiercely loyal to his friends and willing to risk his own life to protect them. This duality of character makes Ruby Rhod both endearing and frustrating, creating a sense of both sympathy and exasperation in the viewer.

Role in 'The Fifth Element'

In 'The Fifth Element,' Ruby Rhod plays a pivotal role in the film's narrative. He is the one who first broadcasts news of the impending arrival of the Great Evil and helps to rally the planet Earth to fight against it. He also serves as a mentor and guide to the film's protagonist, Korben Dallas (played by Bruce Willis).

Although Ruby Rhod's flamboyant nature often provides comic relief, his character also serves to highlight the film's themes of unity and self-sacrifice. In the face of impending doom, Ruby Rhod puts aside his own ego and works together with others to save the day.

Cultural Impact

Since its release in 1997, 'The Fifth Element' has become a cult classic, and Ruby Rhod has emerged as one of its most iconic characters. The character's unique blend of humor, eccentricity, and pathos has resonated with audiences worldwide, and he has become a beloved figure in popular culture.

Ruby Rhod has been parodied and imitated in numerous films, television shows, and music videos. He has also been the subject of countless fan art, cosplay, and merchandise. The character's enduring legacy is a testament to his enduring appeal and his status as a true pop culture icon.

Ruby Rhod is a character that defies easy categorization. He is flamboyant, eccentric, and self-absorbed, but he is also loyal, compassionate, and willing to sacrifice himself for others. This duality of character makes him both endearing and frustrating, and it is this complexity that has made him so enduringly popular with audiences worldwide.

As a satirical commentary on the excesses of the entertainment industry, Ruby Rhod serves as a reminder of the importance of staying grounded and true to oneself. However, the character's ultimate message is one of hope and unity. In the face of adversity, it is through working together and putting aside our differences that we can achieve anything.

Whether you love him or hate him, there is no denying the impact that Ruby Rhod has had on popular culture. He is a character that will continue to be debated and imitated for years to come.



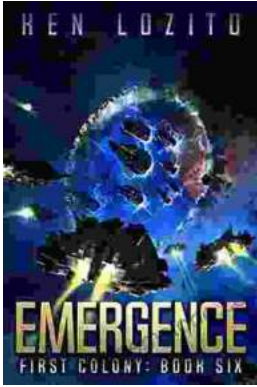
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