

# Arts and entertainment

## Monster sequel 'A Quiet Place Part II' delivers the goods, silently

By ADAM GRAHAM  
The Detroit News/TNS

A solid follow-up to the unnervingly tense 2018 original, "A Quiet Place Part II" places viewers back inside the post-apocalyptic world where the rules are simple: make a noise, and you die.

The particulars are a bit more complicated, and we see now how this new world order came to be: a race of alien beings who really don't like noise came crashing to the Earth during an otherwise normal afternoon in an idyllic Connecticut town. Writer-director John Krasinski, back on board after the monster success of the first film, shows the beginnings of the story, pushes things



Jonny Cournoyer/Paramount Pictures/TNS  
**Emily Blunt, left, and Noah Jupe star in "A Quiet Place Part II."**

forward and leaves major questions unanswered, and most definitely leaves the door open for "A Quiet Place Part III: Just Shut Up."

Krasinski, whose character died in the first film, is back in the film's opening, a flashback to Day 1 of the new noise wars. At a small town baseball game, the Abbott fam-

ily — Lee (Krasinski), Evelyn (Emily Blunt) and their daughter Regan (Millicent Simmonds), who is deaf — are in the stands cheering on Marcus (Noah Jupe), who is on the field, playing. Also in the stands is Emmett, a neighbor pal who is played by Cillian Murphy, so you know he's more than just a neighbor pal.

In the skies above, a disturbance sends a fireball through the air, and people start scrambling. (The game is promptly canceled, playoff implications be damned.) Long-limbed, lightning-quick monsters promptly appear and lay wreck to the town, and Krasinski stages the chaos with immediacy and efficiency. The terror and the tension feel real.

Cut to a year and a half later, past the events of the first film, and Evelyn and her children — and her newborn baby, brought into the world in Part I during the most silent birth in history — are making their way to an abandoned factory where they learn Emmett (hello again!) is now holed up.

### 'A Quiet Place Part II'

Rated: PG-13 (for terror, violence and bloody/disturbing images)

Running time: 1 hour, 37 minutes

Playing: Fairchild Cinemas, Lee Theater

He has a series of tricks and traps set up to avoid the monsters, including an old soundproof vault where he can go to wall himself off from the bad-dies.

But they can't stay in the factory forever. Regan follows a pirate radio frequency stuck on Bobby Darin's "Beyond the Sea" to what she believes is a safe haven, while Evelyn hangs back with Marcus, who is nursing a wound from a rather nasty bear trap he stepped in on the factory's perimeter.

The dual storylines unfold concurrently, and Krasinski stages several action sequences simul-

taneously, cutting back and forth between the two settings as the suspense escalates in both. It's more than enough, and sometimes it feels like a little too much at once. He could afford to calm down and take a breath.

The magnificent Simmonds, with her wonderfully expressive face, emerges as the star here, and handles the emotional weight of the film with dignity and grace. The others, Blunt especially, don't have as much to do.

The trade off is viewers see more of the monsters than they did the first time around, and they remain terrifying creatures, ripped straight from your nightmares. There is still plenty to learn about them and their world, and "A Quiet Place Part II" expands the universe that was introduced in the first film. There are nitpicks — some small, some a little bigger — but mostly, "A Quiet Place Part II" does its job by giving viewers more and leaving them wanting even more. That's the modern franchise way.

### June Events

#### Travel Tic-Tac-Toe

AGES: All ages  
DATE: Saturday, June 5  
TIME: 12-2p.m. (or until supplies are exhausted)  
LOCATION: Moses Lake Museum & Art Center, 401 S. Balsam St.

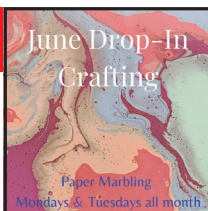
Join us at the Museum to make your very own travel tic-tac-toe game. Just in time for road-trip season, you will be making your very own travel game. We will be using paint, canvas bags, and small stones to create our fun project.

Covid-19 protocol may change the structure of this program. **Registration required: cityofml.com**



#### June Drop-in Crafting

AGES: 5 Years & Older COST: \$5 PER PARTICIPANT  
DATE: Mondays & Tuesdays in June  
TIME: BEGINNING AT 10a.m.  
LOCATION: Museum Classroom, 401 S. Balsam St.



Drop in and craft your own beautifully unique marbled paper Mondays and Tuesdays in June! Your completed project can be used to make a greeting card, invitation, or gift wrap. This fun process yields a great result with virtually no skill required! Drop in crafting is offered all day, but you will need to sign up/register to participate. Museum members eligible for discounts on classes



Moses Lake Museum & Art Center  
MUSEUM STORE 401 S. Balsam | ADMISSION: FREE  
HOURS: 10a.m.-5p.m. Mon-Fri | 10a.m.-4p.m. Saturday

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