

## Top Pick : The Adjustment Bureau

Written by

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Do we control our destiny, or do unseen forces manipulate us? Matt Damon stars in this thriller -- based on the short story "Adjustment Team" by Philip K. Dick.-- as a man who glimpses the future Fate has planned for him and realizes he wants something else. On the brink of winning a seat in the U.S. Senate, ambitious politician David Norris (Damon) meets beautiful ballet dancer Elise Sellas (Emily Blunt). But just as he realizes he's falling for her, mysterious men conspire to keep the two apart. David learns he is up against the agents of Fate itself -- the men of The Adjustment Bureau -- who will do everything in their considerable power to prevent David and Elise from being together. In the face of overwhelming odds, he must either let her go and accept a predetermined path ... or risk everything to defy Fate and be with her. We've never met a Philip K. Dick story, novel or big-screen adaptation we didn't like -- but if we had to pick one to anchor the bottom of our list of faves, 'The Adjustment Bureau' would be it. Director George Nolfi just can't seem to put any oomph into the proceedings, and the film can't decide if it's a sci-fi thriller, a conspiracy mystery, a love story or a religious tract -- and given the ending that accedes to a higher power, maybe even He (or She) didn't know either. This one sounds better on paper than it plays. Vitals: Director: George Nolfi. Stars: Matt Damon, Emily Blunt, Terence Stamp, Anthony Mackie, John Slattery. 2011, CC, MPAA rating: PG-13, 106 min., Science Fiction, Box office gross: \$60.735 million, Universal. 3 stars