



'Wonder' brings new perspective to viewers

Alyssa Dean
News Editor

"When given the choice between being right and being kind, choose kind," Dr. Wayne Dyer said.

These powerful words are spoken in the recently released film "Wonder". The movie is based off of the No. 1 New York Times bestselling book by R.J. Palacio. "Wonder," directed by Stephen Chbosky, is about a boy named August "Auggie" Pullman, who is portrayed by Jacob Tremblay. Auggie was born with Treacher Collins Syndrome, which causes face deformities.

After years of being home schooled, his mother Isabel, played by Julia Roberts, decides it is finally time for him to enroll in Beecher Prep School, where he will be starting the fifth grade. His mother and father Nate, who is played by Owen Wilson, believe that because he is getting older he needs to learn to interact with other kids.

Wilson is mostly known for his comedic roles, so it is rare to see him portray serious characters. Although he does not usually play serious characters, Wilson did a fantastic job with this challenging role. It is easy to forget that he is Wilson for two hours, and to see

him as Nate Pullman.

During his orientation three kids named Jack Will (Noah Jupe), Julian (Bryce Gheisar) and Charlotte (Elle McKinnon) give Auggie a tour of the school. While taking the tour, Julian asks Auggie rude questions. This foreshadows the bullying he receives from him.

As the school year goes on, Auggie becomes friends with Jack Will. Although he was wary at first, Auggie learns to love school and is excited that he finally made a friend.

The movie beautifully explores themes of friendship, love and the discovery of one's true self. The cast does a wonderful job at bringing

the story to life and pulling viewers into the life of Auggie Pullman. The film also explores the theme of bullying and how it can be overcome. Bullying is a prevalent issue in today's society, and many would benefit from viewing this fantastic movie. It shows that people should be proud to stand out.

It is rare for audiences to give a standing ovation at the end of the movie in the theater, but "Wonder" received one, and it was truly well deserved. "Wonder" is a heartwarming movie that will leave anyone in tears. It is the perfect movie for families and friends to watch during the holiday season.



photo/ Wikimedia.com

'Everyday is Christmas' fails to entertain

Makayla Steede
Opinions Editor

Pop singer Sia has released her new contemporary Christmas album, "Everyday is Christmas."

The album is composed of 10 original Christmas songs written by the artist herself.

Each song on the holiday album is characteristic of Sia's previous music. Even with the album's fes-

sive theme, she loses none of her trademark sound.

While it is nice to see Sia staying true to herself, the album is hard to distinguish from any of her other music. The songs are at times unintelligible due to the unvarying, mewling sound of her voice.

That is not to say that the album did not have its silver linings. There were several songs that could be considered enjoyable.

"Candy Cane Lane" is a relatively

cute, catchy song that could encourage the audience to sing along.

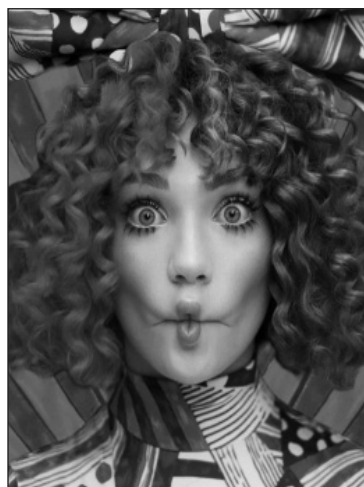
"Snowman" and "Snowflake" are jazz infused melancholy ballads perfect for anyone who is experiencing a short lived holiday romance. However, the monotony of her voice and the lack of upbeat sound makes it hard to concentrate.

The album takes a child-like turn when "Puppies are Forever" comes on. The juvenile song is more fitting for a children's Christmas

album and mainly consists of the artist gushing over puppies.

The last two songs on the album, "Everyday is Christmas" and "Underneath the Christmas Lights" are somewhat unimpressive because of the wailing quality of her voice and the way the verses all run incomprehensibly together.

The songs themes were filled with overdone holiday clichés. Overall, the album is remarkably underwhelming and tedious.



photo/ Amazon.com

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