

# WONDER



by  
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Jennifer and Jona**



Episode II (Valencia, Spain, 2-6 March 2020) of the Erasmus+ strategic partnership „May ICT be with you“

## By Jennifer



The film *Wonder* is a comedy-drama directed by Stephen Chbosky and written by Jack Thorne, Steven Conrad and Stephen Chbosky. It is based on the R.J. Palacio novel *Wonder*. It first appeared in American movie theatres in 2017 and is now available on DVD. The main actors are Julia Roberts, Owen Wilson, Jacob Tremblay and Izabela Vidovic, who represent the Pullman family around whom the story evolves.

The film introduces us to August Pullman, who suffers from a genetic abnormality called ‘Treacher Collins Syndrome’ which is characterized by deformities of the face. He has been homeschooled by his mom for a long time because of his health condition and his numerous operations. Now for the first time in his young life he has to go to an “actual” school where we see him struggling to fit in.

What I liked best about this film is the fact that we see the plot developing through the eyes of different characters (Auggie, Miranda, Via, ...). It helps us understand what is going on and learn about the characters’ feelings and thoughts. As for instance, we experience Auggie’s first day of school both from Auggie’s and from Via’s perspective. I like this narrative technique because it makes you understand how the two characters live the same day differently and realize that there are always two sides to a story. I was also impressed by the precepts Mr. Browne gives the pupils during the story. One of the precepts says: “When given the choice between being right or being kind, choose kind.” In my opinion this is a very substantial way of making decisions in life.

The music/soundtrack has also been chosen very well because it underlines the characters’ feelings in the different scenes. Moreover, the acting is so powerful and natural that the audience gets the impression of actually being part of the story.

I would really recommend watching the film *Wonder* because of the topics it exposes, like bullying and having to cope with being different. It’s really a film for people of all ages. Don’t miss it!

**By Aaliyah**



The film *Wonder* is based on the 2012 novel of the same name by R.J. Palacio. The main characters are Julia Roberts, Owen Wilson, Jacob Tremblay and Izabela Vidovic. The film is a comedy-drama and was released in 2017. It was directed by Stephen Chbosky and written by Jack Thorne, Steven Conrad and Stephen Chbosky. The film tells the story of a little boy who has a disfigured face and the way other people deal with it.

Auggie Pullman has always been homeschooled by his mother because he hasn't been able to go to school because of his operations, but now finally gets to go to school with other children his age. At first he is very disappointed by the way the other pupils treat him and laugh at him, but in the end he makes some good friends.

I love the film because it has a very important message. I also love the film because it's about both love and hate at the same time and is full of emotional moments and drama. The actors, especially Julia Roberts, play their roles very convincingly and that's why you don't want the film to end.

People who like laughing and crying at the same time are absolutely advised to watch *Wonder*. It's a film for the whole family and you shouldn't miss it.

## By H el ene

*Wonder is a captivating comedy-drama, which was released in 2017 and is based on the wonderful novel of the same name by R.C. Palacio. The film was directed by Stephen Chbosky, written by Jack Thorne, Steven Conrad and Stephen Chbosky and stars Julia Roberts, Owen Wilson, Jacob Tremblay and many others. The director even won an award for this film.*

*Auggie Pullman, a 10 year old boy, lives with his family in New York. Because of his disease, the 'Treacher Collins Syndrome' - a genetical disorder characterized by facial deformities, he has always been homeschooled by his mother. But now he has to enter school. Supported by his parents and his older sister Via, he manages quite well. He quickly finds a nice, kind and funny friend called Jack who distracts him from this one boy Julian who makes his school life complicated.*

*The film is very emotional especially because of Auggie's disease and the resulting consequences for him and his family. It is touching to see how a 10 year old boy keeps going forward and strengthens his self-confidence despite the way other people look at him. The fact that the director tells the story from different points of view makes the film even more interesting, because we can see various characters live the same situations differently. As for example, when the whole Pullman family accompany Auggie to his first day of school, we see it from both Auggie's and Via's perspective.*

*The language in the film is very easy to understand even if English isn't your mother tongue. Another thing I appreciated were Mr. Browne's monthly precepts because they give us a hint of what Auggie is feeling in these situations.*

*All those special camera shots help the audience see the characters' emotions. I liked the close-up shots because they allow you to focus on the character's facial expression, for instance when Auggie overhears the other boys of his class speaking evil of him. The acting is very convincing, especially in the case of Jacob Tremblay who had to embody a disabled boy. As for the music used in the film, I think the producers did a good job. They always put in the right music at the right moment, so it makes the audience sympathize emotionally with the characters, as for example in the scene where Miranda is standing outside the window watching the Pullman family celebrate Christmas.*

*The movie is absolutely worth watching because it touches your heart to see a little boy defending himself like a big boy. It's a film for the whole family and I highly recommend it!*

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## By Jona



The film “Wonder” is based on the novel of the same name by R. J. Palacio. The comedy-drama was released on November 17, 2017, in the United States. It was directed by Stephen Chobsky and written by Steven Conrad. Many popular actors like the Oscar winner Julia Roberts, Owen Wilson, and Jacob Tremblay play the lead roles. The wonderful story of Auggie Pullman, a child who wants to be accepted, is touching, moving and worth seeing.

Jacob Tremblay as August “Auggie” Pullman is a 10-year-old boy. He suffers from the Treacher Collins syndrome (TCS). It is a genetic disorder characterized by deformities of the ears, eyes, cheekbones, and chin. After 27 operations he was able to hear, see and breathe independently. Auggie lives with his parents Isabel and Nate, his sister Olivia, called Via, and his dog Daisy in Brooklyn, New York. Isabel home-schooled him until the fifth grade, then his parents decide that he should go to a private middle school. First, the other students stare at him and annoy him, but soon he gets to know Jack Will and he becomes his first friend at school. This friendship will prove during the film. But the story is not only told from Auggie’s point of view. Some chapters are told by Jack Will, Auggie’s friend, by Via or by Miranda, Via’s friend. It makes the film even more interesting.

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The actors make the film authentic and realistic. They play their roles very well. Although there are not much music in the film, the camera shots make the film more exciting, because the different shots, like the medium shot in the scene when Auggie get to know the first children in his school or close-up shot in the moment where Auggie is born and the mother realized that something is wrong, are selected in the perfect moments to feel with. The costumes are the correct choice, and I think the mask of Jacob Tremblay looks so real that nobody expects that it is a mask. The film was nominated for many awards and won 3: The Truly Moving Picture Award, the Hochi Film Award and the Saturn Award for the Best Independent Film.

“Wonder” is a must! The film shows the life of a child who is not “normal” in our eyes, but it shows not only the problems of people like Auggie, it shows the views and emotions of those who surround him, too. The story has the aim to change the opinion and attitude of intolerant humans because we are all humans. It will change the way you see other people disfigured by disease or birth. I highly recommend the film.

## By Clémentine

Wonder is a 2017 fascinating comedy-drama, directed by Stephen Chbosky, and written by Jack Thorne, Steven Conrad, and Stephen Chbosky. This film originates from the novel of the same name by R.J. Palacio. It stars Jacob Tremblay, Julia Roberts, Owen Wilson, Izabela Vidovic and many other actors. The story takes mainly place in New York. An emotional movie that is well worth seeing...



The plot focuses on a boy with Treacher Collins syndrome who tries to fit in. Because of his facial appearance, Auggie has been home-schooled until he was 10. Supported by his family, he starts his middle school at Beecher Prep, a private school in NY. As he expected, some kids aren't nice to him and throw him disgusted and frightened looks. However, he becomes friend with Jack, and that helps Auggie feeling better and happier. But some other kids start bullying him and he feels lonelier than ever.

My favourite thing about this movie is that we experience all this through the eyes of different characters. It is very touching to learn about the feelings of each character because they live the same situations very differently. For example, we experience the dinner after Auggie's first day of school from Via's and Auggie's perspective. The director excels at showing how people around a "sick" boy feel. For example, his sister feels very lonely, his mother is always worried about him... The dialogues are very easy to understand but still full of emotions. The acting is powerful although most of the actors are very young. The music in "Wonder" is perfectly chosen because it is innocent but touching at the same time. The different camera shots sometimes cause feelings too. For example, the close-up shot of Auggie's face at the start, which makes us understand that he feels ugly. Another reason why I absolutely loved this movie was the evolution of Auggie's self-confidence. At the beginning, he always denigrates himself. He even wears an astronaut helm to hide his face and to avoid being judged. As the film progresses, his new friends help him to feel accepted. August develops his self-confidence and by the end of "Wonder", he finally accepts himself.

I highly recommend it because the themes in the movie, like tolerance, bullying and differences are worth taking them up in our today's society. The director got the "Humanitarian Award" for this movie in 2018. This movie is a must for the entire family. Adults could learn as much as children from it. Don't miss it!

## By Jasmin

The film “Wonder” originates from the novel of the same name by R.J. Palacio, which was published in 2012. It’s a 2017 American comedy drama with a cast of about 7 actors. It stars Julia Roberts, Jacob Trembley, Owen Wilson and a lot more in a very emotional film. It was directed by Stephen Chbosky and written by Jack Thorne, Steven Conrad and also Stephen Chbosky. It’s a beautiful and honest film about a boy with the Treacher Collins syndrome, which can deform your face or just parts of your face, who just tries to be a normal kid. I like the story because it shows the reality of how people react if you’re not “normal” in their eyes.

Jacob Tremblay as August Pullman suffers from a medical condition which deforms his face. He lives with his parents and his sister Via in New York, was homeschooled by his mother up to 5<sup>th</sup> grade. He now goes to a private school. He struggles to fit in the class, but he meets Jack which made it easier for him. As time passes by, he discovers that there are people who are just mean, whereas others are trying to be his friend. His friendship with Jack is proved when Auggie discovered that Jack was asked to be his friend. A year with a lot of happiness but also sadness leads to an emotional end.

The acting is true to life because the actors play their roles very well. Even the story is very good, as it has a great message that everyone should know. Owen Wilson who plays Nate Pullman, Auggie’s father, is mostly famous for his roles in comedies but he also did great in this sentimental movie! The Oscar-winning Julia Roberts as the best main actress in the movie “Erin Brockovich“, plays Isabel Pullman, Auggie’s mother. She also did a fantastic job as a mother who loves her kid just like it is. The costumes are well made. Jacob Trembley wears a mask to play his role as “Auggie”. You don’t see that it’s not his real face and it’s still acceptable to look at him. The camera work was also good, there were a lot of different camera perspectives. There wasn’t a lot of music in the film. Auggie was always treated in a special way by his parents and also at school. When he goes to school and people are bullying him because of the way he looks, he sees that people can be mean and not everyone takes care of him because of his special appearance. Via has a great way to explain to him that there will always be people who bully him, and he just has to accept it, as that’s just how life works.

His friendship with Jack didn’t start on good terms. A teacher asked him to be friends with Auggie so that he wouldn’t be alone. Later Auggie finds out and is mad at Jack. Will they become friends again?

Auggie imagines himself as an astronaut and in his imagination, everyone is cheering him as he enters school. He has an astronaut helm he wears a lot, so people can’t see his face. It protects him from other people’s judgement. But when he is at school and meets Jack and other children, who just accept him like he is, he doesn’t need the helmet anymore.

I liked it because he finally accepts himself.

In 2018 Stephen Chbosky got the “Humanitarian Award” for his film. It just shows the truth about people who suffer from different medical problems and can’t live a normal life. It’s a truthful, very emotional, sad and well-told movie. It will definitely change the way you see those people after watching this film. This motion picture is well worth seeing it. I’m sure it will touch you and I highly recommend it. Don’t miss it!

