

# A model review: *Wonder*

*Wonder* is a 2017 American comedy-drama film based on the 2012 novel of the same name by R. J. Palacio. Its director is Stephen Chbosky, and it stars Julia Roberts, Owen Wilson, Jacob Tremblay, and Izabela Vidovic. Despite having a slightly cheesy and crowd-pleasing end, this cordial family film benefits from brilliant ensemble performances and richly layered storytelling.

*Wonder* tells a heartwarming story about Auggie, a 10-year-old boy with Treacher Collins Syndrome, and several other people related to him. While Auggie is trying to fit in at a proper school for the first time in his life, his older sister Via will have to come to terms with a lack of parental approval. Both of them feel let down by their best friends. However, those friends are suffering from their shortcomings, too. In the words of the author R. J. Palacio, *Wonder* teaches us "how to look to see what people truly are".

The characters of the film create strong synergy together. For example, the Pullmans are utterly convincing because all four actors master the art of acting and undoubtedly like one another. The main characters' interaction and spontaneous facial expressions are also nicely caught thanks to masterful close-up shots. The supporting characters, fervently playing their roles, give this film a realistic touch to make it even more plausible.

*Wonder* lets different characters tell their own stories. So, we learn about Auggie's viewpoint, but we also realize that Via would love her parents to notice her much more than they do. Moreover, Jack Will would like to be friends with everyone, but he needs some time before he learns to tell right from wrong. Finally, Miranda feels very unhappy deep down, for she can only dream of the life Via has, and pretending to be somebody else will not help, either.

In conclusion, *Wonder* is a heart-warming film, which will make the audience understand and respond more adequately when encountering people with a physical deformity. It is a perfect film for families. Also, it suits those who need more than entertainment when going to the cinema.