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Wonder by R.J. Polacio

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Author: Palacio, R.J.

Title: *Wonder*

Year of Publication: 2012

Publisher: Knopf Books for Young Readers

ISBN: 9780375869020

Number of Pages: 320

Rating: Outstanding

Reading/Interest Level: Intermediate; Young Adult

Keywords: Public School; Physical Deformity; Bullies; Hope

Review

Auggie is a ten-year-old boy who is attending public school for the first time. He was born with a severe facial deformity and has had multiple serious surgeries. Wonder is a tale about his experiences, and the experiences of his family and classmates as Auggie impacts their lives.

R.J. Palacio deals with a lot of difficult emotions in a very sensitive way. Writing from Auggie’s perspective, as well as the perspectives of family members and classmates, helps the reader to better understand these complex emotions, and can help younger readers to be more sensitive to differences that may originally make them uncomfortable. *Wonder* manages to be heartbreaking and encouraging at the same time. The lessons about life and love subtly woven in this book are essential for readers in their formative years to learn and carry with them. Although Auggie faces some daunting obstacles, he shows strength and fortitude in spite of the difficulty it is to do so. *Wonder* not only introduces readers to the effects their unkind or thoughtless words can have, but also shows readers how to pass through trials without losing their softness or becoming embittered. This book is highly recommend to readers of all ages who want an uplifting, hope-filled story.

Reviewer’s Name: Nicole Davis

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