

The Perks Of Being A Wallflower

Author: Stephen Chbosky

Book Review By: Esperanza Gonzalez

So what's this about?

The perks of being a wallflower is a unique and very interesting story. This story is very unique due to the fact that it's written as a letter format to whom Charlie writes is completely anonymous. The perks of being a wallflower is a story about the main character Charlie and he's experience with life as a high school student. Charlie is a sixteen year old kid who experiences and learns from; breakups, family, love, diversity, friendship, alcohol, drugs, sex and maturity. Charlie's letters to this anonymous friend of his, take the reader to he's personal experience and the world he shares. Through thick and thin, Charlie keeps writing to his anonymous friend and shares his life, in a way that only he can express.

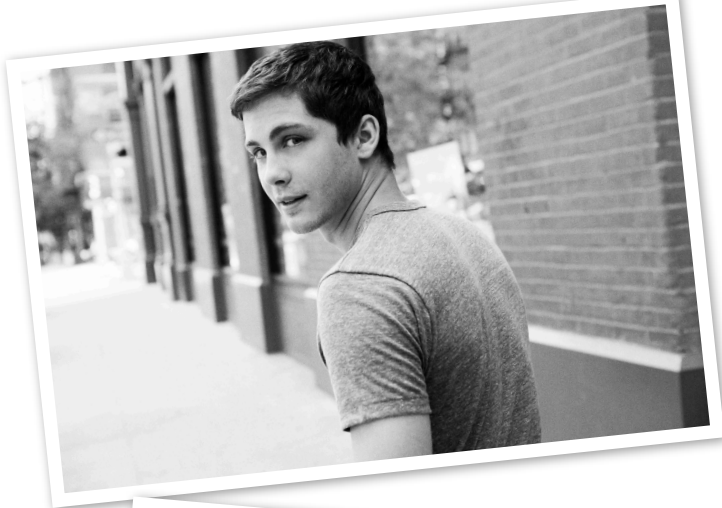


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Summary;

Charlie is sixteen year old who in his first year of high school experiences ups and downs. When he starts off his high school year, things go terrible due to the death of his only best friend, Michael. Charlie has 3 family members; his mom, dad, and sister. Charlie doesn't always share what he wants with his family, therefore he finds a way to express himself through writing, which is why he writes to his "friend". Charlie is a weird, young, and nice kid who in his high school year meets his new best friends; Patrick and Sam. Patrick and Sam are brother and sister. Patrick is gay, and encounters a difficult life due to his sexuality. Sam in the other hand is the love of Charlie's life. Although she can never correspond to his love in that way, he loves her. At any cost, he wants to see her happy; with, or without him. Charlie also finds a great friend, mentor, and teacher Bill. Bill is comprehensive, thoughtful and cares about Charlie. Since Charlie loves reading, he provides him with awesome and amazing books throughout the school year. Charlie's life is difficult. He is affected by mental problems. He can't never speak his mind, nor make his own opinion. When he says the wrong thing or makes a wrong move, he constantly thinks about the consequences and torments himself too much. His family thinks it's normal. Although sometimes things get too far and send Charlie to the hospital. Charlie is marked with a troubled past; a childhood abuse. He was molested by his aunt Helen. Helen passed away, but he loves and misses her. A strange connection. Throughout his life, he encounters breakups, relationships, friendships, sex, drugs, and more. Charlie finds relief throughout literature and music and is able to find his way through life. He finds confidence and finds the way to express what he carries inside him. Charlie's life is something so interesting that can be understood through a teenager's view. Since it's written in a first person of view, it's a unique story that can be lived and experienced from the reader.





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Favorite character?

My favorite character is Charlie. When I read this book I automatically found myself in some of the situations he was in. I also liked the way he expressed himself through writing. Not until I wrote my memoir about decisions, I found myself. I never knew that writing could be such a powerful tool that I could use to express myself. Writing is not something I use to like doing. Now, I love writing.



Personal Connection?

Throughout this book I've found a personal connection with Charlie. Charlie's depression makes me think of me sometimes. Although I really don't have depression I sometimes stress myself. When I say something that I don't mean, I kinda think about it too much. The difference between me and Charlie is that he's awkward! During some of the parts of the book I feel as though he acts like a 13-year-old and does dumb decisions. I think he needs to stop being so preserved and say what he needs to say!

Would I change something in the story?

Honestly I would! Charlie's love toward Sam is very strong and dedicated, that it needs to be corresponded to. I would make Sam fall in love with Charlie. I think that they would make a cute couple!

Recommend?

I would encourage the reader to read, the Perks Of Being A Wallflower! I loved this book. I felt like I was reading a personal diary, which made me experience the "real" Charlie. I thought that the first person point of view perspective gave an extra touch to this amazing story. If it were taught in a different point of view, I think the story would of had a different outcome. I really enjoyed reading about the life a teenager, which I can relate to. While reading this book, I found a great interest on 3 writing letters, just like Charlie did to his "friend".