

2020年

4.23 世界閱讀日

創作比賽

4.23 World Book Day
Creative Competition in 2020

閱讀，
伴我成長
Growing up
with Reading

香港 Hong Kong

初中組 中一 (S1) ▶ 中三 (S3)
Junior Secondary

WONG Kary

Po Leung Kok Choi Kai Yau School

Topic “Wonder” -

The Story That Touched My Heart

“My name is August. I won't describe what I look like. Whatever you're thinking, it's probably worse.” “Wonder” by R. J. Palacio tells the story of a ten-year-old boy named August. August is a boy who was born with a face that horrifies most who look upon it and had countless surgeries since then. He was home schooled and with all his courage he entered the fifth grade in a regular school. This story is told from various perspectives, including August, his sister, Olivia, Olivia's boyfriend and August's friends.

August is no different with a normal 10-year old kid, he likes ice cream, riding his bike, playing ball and Xbox. Despite his 27 surgeries, he will never become normal. However, this unlucky child's face was diagnosed with double dose of a mutant gene. Yet this was blessed by misfortune, his not ordinary family was able to come together and got through a lot of tough challenges.

It's hard to face the world when the world won't face you, August is in that exact situation. He was bullied by many kids, who all looked down on him because of his appearance. There's a kid named Julian who taunted August about his looks, he always joked he had been in a fire. Julian had also insulted August by addressing him as Dark Sidious who fell into lava and melted his face. This had seriously offended this little innocent boy and might cause him to go on to the wrong track.

This introduces and brings many people who are just like August back to today's society, this book demonstrates the frankly brutal reality of August, the boy who can't be hushed into silence in his world, simply because of his appearance.

I was touched when I read the book “Wonder”, it must have been hard to be for August to go through all these discrimination and gossips behind his back. I love the characters' personalities, but personally, I admire Olivia, August's sister. She viewed the world in a unique way and considered August all the time. She was not scared about the consequences that would lead her to after she stood up for August. Olivia is like a street light that leads August to find his confidence and encourages him to overcome the difficulties occurred. August must be delighted to have a sister like Olivia who doesn't care about her reputation and protects August at any time. I was moved by the love of August's family, who didn't give up on August and let him live his own life.

I knew living with a face like this wasn't easy and if I were him, I would just hide behind the pillow and run away from reality. This book creates a sense of deeply rooted love and kindness that certainly made me infused with admiration for August. After reading this book about August, I have taken inspiration from him and learnt that I shouldn't walk away from the sad truths. This book really oozes reality and raw emotion, managing to bring out the awareness to the world, giving the people that are abandoned from society a chance to come out from the dark and show their true light.

“Wonder” is an absolute excellent book that tells a moving and inspiring story. With the different perspectives of characters, it demonstrates how August lives in his own world, while others would never truly know how he feels. These perspectives converge in a portrait of one community's struggle with empathy, compassion, and acceptance. I encourage others to read this book because this book mimics how August feels and brings it to us, normal people that we can once experience from the eyes of these wondrous people and embolden more people to start treating them equally.

Book Read

Book title : Wonder
Author : R. J. Palacio
Publisher : London: Puffin Books, 2017.

Comments

- The message of 'there is always hope' is encouraging for everyone of us.
- Ideas are expressed clearly. Original. Good organization.