

ROALD DAHL ON FILM

CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

USA/2005/115mins/PG

Dir: Tim Burton

With: Johnny Depp, Freddie
Highmore, David Kelly, Helena
Bonham Carter

**We asked young film fans to
describe their favourite Roald
Dahl adaptations.**



CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY is a great film based on a children's novel written by Roald Dahl. He wrote the book in 1964 in his writing hut next to his house. Roald Dahl wrote 20 books for children, and 8 of them have been made into films.

I think that Roald Dahl's stories are appealing to children because of his tendency to let his imagination loose and create exciting new people, creatures, worlds and adventures.

The main characters in Roald Dahl books are mainly children who have had a hard life but come out well in the end. For example, in the book Matilda, Matilda has horrid parents and a terrifying Head Teacher but ends up living with Mrs. Honey. In James and The Giant Peach, James lives with two wicked aunts but ends up having adventures in a giant peach and living in New York.

In CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY, Charlie is very poor and has a hard life, but finds a golden ticket and ends up owning the chocolate factory.

In the film CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY, there are lots of different characters. The character of Charlie is quite plain, and there's not much to him, but his imagination and his mind is not plain – it is wild and let loose.

CHAPTER



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Augustus Gloop is like a gloopy fat boy wearing tight clothes that make him look fatter and his face is always smeared with chocolate to make him seem greedy. He has a German accent that tells us where he is from.

I think Willy Wonka likes Charlie's enthusiasm about everything, even though he's so poor and also the two characters are a bit alike, like their wild imaginations and their ability to keep cool in scary situations.

The colours that are used in the film change depending on where we are in the story. Charlie and the streets are dark and gloomy and plain - but inside Charlie's house it is more colourful, with a warmth and a glow. Willy Wonka is surrounded by bright, colourful and cheery things but his pale skin and the sound of his voice make him appear quite upsetting, and I felt sad for him.

The sound in the film also changes and creates different moods. The chocolate room has cheerful music, it's a bright and colourful place and it stimulates your imagination, but in the streets there are lots of sad violin sounds to show it's a place that Charlie doesn't like. The inventing room has more exciting and exhilarating music to show the miracle of the chocolate factory – there's sad music of violins and cello when Willy meets his dad and that tells us there's been a long time since they saw each other.

I think the biggest difference between the film and the book is that in the book, at the end, Charlie gets into the Great Glass Elevator, which leads to another adventure. There's also a storyline in the film about Willy Wonka's father that isn't in the book.

For me the best scene in the film is the scene where Verruca Salt wants all the squirrels, because the scene was all blue and white which made it colourful and eye-catching.

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory is a great film, and the moral is that no good comes out of being spoiled, and that big things can be done by the most normal of people. I would recommend the film because it allows you to let your imagination run free and to imagine the impossible.



Caian Allinson Beere
(Aged 10 ½)