

The Perks of Being a Wallflower by Stephen Chbosky



The novel, *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*, written by Stephen Chbosky, was an amazing experience. The book, *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*, takes place from 1991-1992, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Charlie is a freshman in high school and doesn't really have any friends for the first day of school coming up. Charlie writes letters to a "friend," that is how the whole book is written (in first person). In Charlie's first few letters, he is explaining when he was in middle school, and that he had a friend named Michael. They were best friends until Michael had committed suicide. So far what I have read is what Charlie has lived through for about a month or two, he has met Patrick and Sam (they are step-siblings) Charlie meets them at a football game that he had gone to by himself observing everyone there until he had found Patrick cheering on the football team because he was the only one actually watching it. Charlie went over to sit with them and actually make friends, and he did. He also explained how he had witnessed his sister's boyfriend slap her, and how she told him not to tell their parents about it. He listened to and hadn't told their parents but he had told his literature teacher about it after school, thinking he wouldn't mention it to his parents, but he had called them telling them what Charlie had mentioned. Now because of that, his sister hates him, making him feel guilty, but his parents told him that he had done the right thing. So this shows that Charlie deals with consequences that happen to people in reality, and with Charlie's case it's with different and new relationships between his new friends, new experiences, and family problems. Because of most of the things he witnesses but yet never mentions to anyone and keeps it all to himself, making him a wallflower. Since Sam and Patrick were seniors and so were their friends, Charlie was the youngest one and would follow them. If they would go to parties they would bring him along but he would be just watching the party

instead of being part of it. Charlie isn't too close to his older brother or sister either because there are always small and big problems between them, even in the end, they start to get along. Charlie explains everything to the reader and tells them near the end of his first year of high school was a big emotionally roller coaster.

The Perks of Being a Wallflower is my favorite book of all times. If I had to rate the novel, I would give it a 5 out of 5 stars. This book is my favorite book because Charlie's story is realistic fiction. With realistic fiction novels, the readers would be able to relate to the characters in the book. And with this book, I can relate to most of the book and how I am a wallflower like Charlie. Also, all the consequences that happen to Charlie anyone can relate to at least one of the consequences that Charlie has gone through that happens to everyone and is a part of life. For example, losing a friend, making friends, big fights between siblings or friends, not fitting in, having a crush, fights, being different, and more. I would recommend this book to anyone who enjoys realistic fiction novels, and drama novels. To conclude, The Perks of Being a Wallflower, written by Stephen Chbosky, is my favorite book. "'He's a wallflower'.... 'You see things. You keep quiet about them. And you understand.'" (Chbosky 37).

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