

Harry Potter : Wizard school without the magic

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1 Subject

Write your own review of "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone", using the one you read in class as a starting point. Respond to Elvis Mitchell's criticism by agreeing with or challenging it, using specific examples from the film to support your opinions of it.

IF YOU HAVE NOT SEEN IT, write a review of a film you have seen recently.

2 Essay

During his review, Elvis Mitchell presents his idea in the movie chronological order. I think it is the easiest way to give his idea without any arguments, a wrong method to show that he hates the movie. Therefore this essay will follow the different points of criticism.

2.1 Critics of the writer

In his article, I have released 2 points that Mr Mitchell criticizes : allusion to unfounded myths and the power she had on the movie production. I would like to add to this part the critics of the sorting hat scene, which can easily be attributed to the writer. I have not read the book but I have seen the movie, and all I will say is only based on the Mitchell's review.

Concerning cultural myths, we have to recognize that noone can recognize neither a telling stories nor a childish fables in the story of "Harry Potter". So we can wonder which character I should be. I would compare Harry Potter with Disney production : All Disney movie are based on a cultural stories : Mulan is well-known in Asia, Beauty And The Beast in France, etc... but I've never heard about Harry Potter before the movie. Furthermore, I have found much more morality in Disney movie than Harry Potter.

As for Ms Rowling's behaviour during the production, I think she has not played his role of a writer because she wanted the movie to launch the sell of her book. I think the role of a writer is to write books, and the one of movie producer is to produce movie. So if a producer decides to use a story from a book or adapt a book to the cinema, he has to talk with the writer to understand the spirit

of the book to reveal it to the screen and then produce the movie but in the case of Harry Potter it seems that they have mixed both phases, the producer cannot let his imagination and make Harry Potter his own movie.

2.2 Critics of the director

I don't know personally the director Mr Chris Columbus but I have found 2 ways to explain the fact that he has followed the book :

- The movie was made only to make money and nothing else was important.
- Chris Columbus has no personality and did not manage to say no to Ms Rowling.

I hope none of these is true but I am afraid it should be both : Mr Columbus wanted to make a movie without breaking his head and searching how to personalize Harry Potter story. Ms Rowling wanted to find a producer stupid enough to adapt her book and launch the sell of it.

Moreover, Elvis Mitchell underlined the fact that every old actors of England have been employed for the movie. It remains me a speech of a young boy about Yannick Noah : "He plays tennis very well for a singer". Using such old actors is a commercial effect : parents comes because they know previously good actors and these actors appears as new one to children, so it gives a refreshment to their career in exchange to a probably lower wage.

2.3 Critics of Elvis Mitchell's demonstration

To this essay, I would like to add some reproaches to Elvis Mitchell in addition to the fact that he has followed the movie chronological order. He has made some critics with an ironic tone : "The Sorting Hat, which has more personality than anything else in the movie". Even if I agree with him, he should not reduce the work with this ironic accent, it's very hurting for people in the opposite and not very constructive.