

Coraline

Written by Dave Howard



Some little kids are about to get the Holy Jebebus scared out of them. Ten-year-olds will probably make it through “Coraline” but parents who don’t do their homework will have a crying five year-old on their hands in the middle of the night. Bummer, they have no one to blame but themselves.

A perfect animation antidote to cutesy family fare like “Bolt” or “Wall-E,” this flick will be more enjoyable to the adults than the kids. A surreal, eerie nightmare, “Coraline” plays on the “I’m running away from home” fantasy we all had kids and takes it to an extreme.

Coraline (Dakota Fanning) moves to a creepy little house in the middle of nowhere. Her parents (Teri Hatcher and Jon Hodgman) are struggling horticulture writers currently putting together a book on the thrilling subject of mulch. Neglected by her deadline consumed parents, Coraline explores her creepy new digs and neighbors.

Behind a wallpapered door, she discovers a rabbit hole that leads her to a world in direct contrast to hers. Coraline is treated to a radiant alternate reality, complete with five course dinners, mouse circuses and bawdy vaudevillian performances. All of this is hosted by “Other Mother” and “Other Father” who are look very similar to (and are definitely more fun than) her workaholic, broke parents. Coraline starts sneaking away every night to this wonderland and waking up in her own bed. But be wary of what you wish for! This is really just a trap to steal children’s souls! Her parents are kidnapped by “The Others” and Coraline is on a quest to save them all!

Coraline

Written by Dave Howard

Fans of the “Nightmare before Xmas” will not be disappointed in this first 3-D stop motion adventure. Director Henry Selick has put together another visual stunner and I highly recommend seeing the 3-D version. While the depth of field doesn’t work as well in animation as it does in live action, there are still plenty of “oohs” and “aahs:” throughout the flick.