

## WONDER by R.J. PALACIO

### THE STORY

**WONDER** is the story of Auggie Pullman, a 10-year-old boy who longs to be ordinary. He does ordinary things – eating ice cream, playing on his Xbox. He feels ordinary – inside. But ordinary kids don't make other ordinary kids run away screaming in playgrounds. Ordinary kids aren't stared at wherever they go.

Born with a facial anomaly, Auggie has been home-schooled by his parents his whole life. Now, for the first time, he's being sent to a real school – and he's dreading it. All he wants is to be accepted – but can he convince his new classmates that he's just like them, underneath it all?

**WONDER** is a funny, frank, astonishingly moving debut to read in one sitting, pass on to others, and remember long after the final page.

### THE AUTHOR

R. J. PALACIO lives in New York City with her husband, two sons, and two dogs. For more than twenty years, she was an art director and graphic designer, designing book jackets for other people, while waiting for the perfect time to start writing her own novel – until a chance encounter with an extraordinary child in front of an ice cream store inspired her to write **WONDER**. Since publication it has sold over 2.5 million copies worldwide. Among others, it has won the Independent Booksellers' Book of the Year Award, the Northern Ireland Book Award, the West Australian Young Readers' Book Award, and was shortlisted for the Carnegie Medal, the UKLA Award and the Specsavers National Book Award. Film rights to **WONDER** have been sold to Lionsgate and a film adaptation is due for release in 2016.

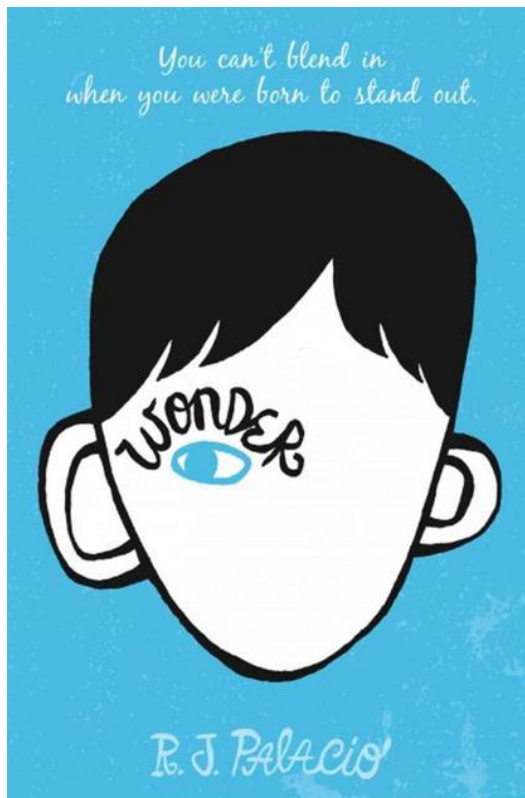


**R.J. Palacio:** *'I have been bowled over by readers' reactions to **WONDER**. Auggie's story has been life-changing, not only for me but for millions of readers around the world who understand this really isn't just a book about a kid with a facial anomaly: it's a celebration of kindness. I am thrilled to see that schools across the globe have really taken **WONDER** to their hearts'*

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#choosekind

The front cover of the book looks like this:

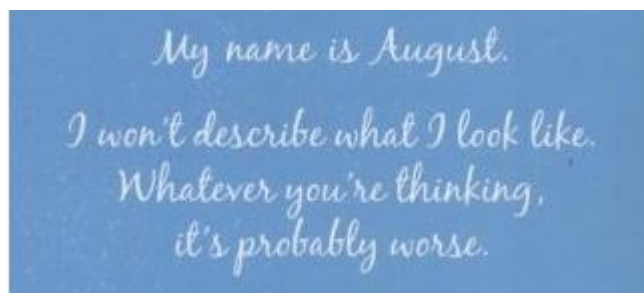


The tagline at the top of the cover says,

'You can't blend in when you were born to stand out.'

- What do you think this means?
- Who is this line about?
- What do you think beauty is? Try to be honest.
- What do you do to feel attractive?
- How would you feel if you had a facial disfigurement that you couldn't hide? Do you know anyone like this?

This is the blurb on the back cover:



- What does this make you think/feel about the main character, August?

I would now like you to begin to make notes about some of the characters we have come across so far. Just a few words or sentence to remind you who the character is, and what they are like. You can use the 'character log' sheet if this helps.