

Alladin: A diamond in the rough

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Alladin. Disney's new animated feature-length film, is full of magic, mystery, love, and outrageous comedy. This classic Arabian Knights tale has been told many different ways, but none quite like this.

As a child, I remember *Alladin* as one of my favorite bedtime stories. At night I would wonder what I would wish if I had my own three wishes. At that time in my life a pony happened to be very important. I also wanted a swimming pool and a kitten. I guess these are pretty normal child wishes. Now that I am past the pony stage in my life, I would wish for my schooling to be paid for, my schooling to be over, and never to feel labor pains while giving birth (a wish every woman hopes will come true when the time comes). *Alladin's* wishes were very different.

As you enter the magical kingdom of Achrabach, you are greeted by a narrator singing on camel back who gives you informational background about this strange land that you have entered. The narrator turns out to be a merchant, who's voice is the fabulous Robin Williams and who gives you a chance to buy a coffee-maker that also makes julian fries. What a bargain! He then proceeds to tell you the beginning of the tale of *Alladin*.

Alladin is a "street rat" who's "gotta cat to live, gotta steal to eat" and who, along with his monkey-sidekick Abu escape

from one dangerous situation only to land in the middle of another. *Alladin* dreams of escaping from the street-rat life he's trapped in and aspires to be one of the royalty in the Sultan's palace.

Meanwhile in the Sultan's palace... The Sultan's most trusted aide, Jafar, is forming an evil plot to take the Sultan's place in the throne. All he needs to carry out his dastardly plans is

day *Alladin* meets the beautiful princess Jasmine (who feels trapped in the royal palace and dreams of escaping into the normal city). To make a long story short, they fall for each other.

As far as supporting characters go...first we'll talk about Jafar's parrot, Iago, whose voice is none other than Gilbert Gottfried. Iago cracks some terribly hilarious jokes almost as many as the

would think that a Disney movie is a childish film that would be tedious to watch at best. If any of those people have that same attitude after viewing this film, they should be dragged into the street and flogged. Williams, as the Genie, cracks so many jokes and one-liners that adults will love, I was truly surprised. The celebrity impersonations (such as Jack Nicholson, Ed Sullivan, and Peter Lorre to name a few) he

as thrilling as *Die Hard* and *Raiders of the Lost Ark*.

Mere words can not even begin to describe the animation in *Alladin*.. Styles of regular and computer animation were utilized to create the intricate visual spectrum seen in this Disney classic.

This classic Arabian Knights tale had great potential from the beginning. In the hands of 600 Disney animators, technicians, story writers, and generated animation is fabulous. Another example of such animation is the ballroom scene in *Beauty and the Beast* also by Disney. The ray of colors that pass on the screen dazzle and delight the mind with a stupendous spectacle of amazement and wonderment.

To compliment the wonderful animation seen in *Alladin*, Alan Menkin (whose work was heard in *The Little Mermaid* and *Beauty and the Beast*) creates a musical score that will thrill the ears and leave you humming the tunes and singing the songs you hear in the movie theater for days.

Let the child in you takeover. Become a kid again and go see *Alladin*. The movie is surely to become an instant classic. The best way to see it is in a movie theater surrounded by children. I guarantee even the hardest heart will melt at *Alladin*.



"You ain't never had a friend like me!"...Robin Williams plays the outrageous Genie of the lamp in Disney's *Alladin*.

a magic lamp. However, the only one who can get the lamp is a "diamond in the rough", meaning *Alladin*.

In the marketplace, one fateful

film's true star, the Genie, whose voice is Robin Williams. I heard somewhere that Williams lines were 25% script and 75% ad-lib. Most people in today's society

does kept me in stitches throughout the entire picture.

As if comedy wasn't enough to make one go see the movie, the action sequences in this film are



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<p>Today I was getting something out of the cupboard when a can of beans fell on my head.</p>	<p>It hurt really bad, and I went to the mirror to see if there was a mark or anything.</p>	<p>I couldn't see anything.</p>	<p>But I felt like there was a bump as big as a corn cob sticking out of my head.</p>
<p>Today I was adding something up on my calculator.</p>	<p>I could barely see the numbers on the display.</p>	<p>So I held it under the light and the numbers showed up perfectly.</p>	<p>(I guess my calculator is the solar-powered kind.)</p>
<p>Today I was sitting down for a long time and my leg fell asleep.</p>	<p>I could barely make use of the leg, and walked around awkwardly.</p>	<p>Mr. Peterson looked at me with her eyes wide, like I was going to stomp on her.</p>	<p>The feeling eventually went away and I was able to walk just fine.</p>