

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Chbosky, Stephen. 1999. *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*. United States: Pocket Books

Bozana, Blaze O, Emil Roy and Sandra Roy. 1982. *Studies in Fiction*. New York: University Graphics Inc.

Karl and Hamalian. 1967. *The Shape of Fiction: British and American Short Stories*. New York: McGraw-Hills Inc.

Kenney, William. 1996. *How to Analyze Fiction*. New York: Monarch Press

Klaver, Mario. 1999. *An Introduction to Literary Studies*. London: Routledge.

Robert, Edgar and Henry E. Jacobs. 1995. *Literature: An Introduction to Reading and Writing*. New Jersey: Prentice Hall Inc.

Stanford, Judith A. 2003. *Responding to Literature, Poems, Plays, and Essays*. New York: McGraw-Hill Inc.

Taylor, Richard. 1981. *Understanding the Elements of Literature*. London: The Mac Millan Press Ltd.

Wellek, Rene and Austin Warren. 1985. *Theory of Literature*. New York: Penguin Books

Di Yanni, Richard. 1994. *Literature : Reading Fiction, Poetry, Drama and the Essay*. 3rd Edition. USA: McGraw-Hill Inc.

<http://www.enotes.com/homework-help/list-define-five-parts-plot-please-help-88197>

<http://www.gradesaver.com/author/stephen-chbosky>

<http://www.shmoop.com/perks-of-being-a-wallflower/summary.html>

APPENDIX I

Biography of the Author

Stephen Chbosky is an American novelist, screenwriter and film director best known for his 1999 novel *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*. He also wrote the screenplay and directed for the movie adaptation of the novel. His other works include writing the screenplay for the 2005 film *Rent*, and was the co-creator, executive producer, and writer of the CBS television series *Jericho*, which aired from 2006-2008.

Stephen Chbosky was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on January 25, 1972, to Fred, a former CFO consultant, and Lea, a tax preparer. He grew up in Upper St. Clair, graduating from the local high school. He received his Bachelor of the Fine Arts degree from the University of Southern California's film writing program in 1992.

He was raised Catholic, and has a sister, Stacy. As a teenager, Chbosky "enjoyed a good blend of the classics, horror, and fantasy." He was heavily influenced by J. D. Salinger's novel *The Catcher in the Rye* and the writing of F. Scott Fitzgerald and Tennessee Williams.

Chbosky graduated from Upper St. Clair High School in 1988, around which time he met Stewart Stern, screenwriter of the 1955 James Dean film *Rebel Without a Cause*. Stern became Chbosky's a friend and mentor, and proved a major influence on Chbosky's career.

In 1992, Chbosky graduated from the University of Southern California's screenwriting program. He wrote, directed, and acted in the 1995 independent film *The Four Corners of Nowhere*, which got Chbosky his first agent, was accepted by the Sundance Film Festival, and

became one of the first films shown on the Sundance Channel. In the late 1990s, Chbosky wrote several unproduced screenplays, including ones titled *Audrey Hepburn's Neck* and *Schoolhouse Rock*.

In 1994, Chbosky was working on a "very different type of book" than *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* when he wrote the line, "I guess that's just one of the perks of being a wallflower." Chbosky recalled that he "wrote that line. And stopped. And realized that somewhere in that sentence was the kid I was really trying to find." After several years of gestation, Chbosky began researching and writing *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*, an epistolary novel that follows the intellectual and emotional maturation of a teenager who uses the alias Charlie over the course of his freshman year of high school. The book is semi-autobiographical; Chbosky has said that he relates to Charlie, his main character in *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* "But my life in high school was in many ways different."

The book, Chbosky's first novel, was published by MTV Books in 1999, and was an immediate popular success with teenage readers; by 2000, the novel was MTV Books' best-selling title, and The New York Times noted in 2007 that it had sold more than 700,000 copies and "is passed from adolescent to adolescent like a hot potato". *Wallflower* also stirred up controversy due to Chbosky's portrayal of teen sexuality and drug use. The book has been banned in several schools and appeared on the American Library Association's 2006 and 2008 lists of the 10 most frequently challenged books.

In 2000, Chbosky edited *Pieces*, an anthology of short stories. The same year, he worked with director Jon Sherman on a film adaptation of Michael Chabon's novel *The Mysteries of Pittsburgh*, though the project fell apart by August 2000. Chbosky wrote the screenplay for the

2005 film adaptation of the Broadway rock musical *Rent*, which received mixed reviews. In late 2005, Chbosky said that he was writing a film adaptation of *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*.

In the mid-2000s, Chbosky decided, on the advice of his agent, to begin looking for work in television in addition to film. Finding he "enjoyed the people he met who were working in television", Chbosky agreed to serve as co-creator, executive producer, and writer of the CBS serial television drama *Jericho*, which premiered in September 2006. The series revolves around the inhabitants of the fictional small town of Jericho, Kansas in the aftermath of several nuclear attacks. Chbosky has said the relationship between Jake Green, the main character, and his mother, reflected "me and my mother in a lot of ways". The first season of *Jericho* received lackluster ratings, and CBS canceled the show in May 2007. A grassroots campaign to revive the series convinced CBS to renew the series for a second season, which premiered on February 12, 2008, before being canceled once more in March 2008.

It has been announced that Chbosky has written the screenplay for the movie *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* and will also direct it. Production of the film adaptation took place in Spring 2011, and is now completed. The film stars Logan Lerman and Emma Watson and is released in 2012.

APPENDIX II

SUMMARY

The novel begins in August 1991 with a teenager going by the alias of Charlie, writing to an anonymous "friend" whom he heard someone at school talking about, and decided they sounded like a nice person to write to, on the basis that he or she reportedly did not sleep with someone at a party despite having the opportunity. Charlie states that he does not want the anonymous friend to try to figure out who he is or to find him. Charlie has just begun his freshman year of high school, his brother is at Pennsylvania State University on a football scholarship, and his sister is a senior in high school. We learn that his best — and only — friend, Michael committed suicide prior to the beginning of the book — leaving Charlie to face high school alone. Charlie often refers to his late Aunt Helen and how she was his "favorite person in the whole world" and states frequently that something bad happened with Aunt Helen, which causes Charlie to be unable to talk about her. Soon Charlie makes the acquaintance of Sam, a beautiful senior on whom Charlie develops a crush almost instantly, and her gay stepbrother Patrick, a charismatic student who is friendly to Charlie. Upon disclosing his feelings and sexual confusion to Patrick and Sam, they are not angry with him, but rather advise him how to handle his feelings privately. Sam and Patrick continue their advisory role while introducing Charlie to many people, music artists, and drugs. Meanwhile his English teacher Bill introduces him to books and encourages him to write essays about them that he will grade despite having no bearing on his English class. At the end of the book, Sam and Charlie

almost have a sexual encounter, but do not when Charlie says he is not ready. During this encounter, Charlie has a flashback of his Aunt Helen, who molested him when he was younger. When Sam leaves for school, Charlie has a breakdown. The final letter is written after he is released from the hospital after several months after finally coming to terms with everything and preparing for his sophomore year of high school. At the beginning of the book, Charlie is referred to as a wallflower for his ability to observe and understand things, but over the course of a year's worth of letters, Charlie explains the efforts of the people in his life to get him to "participate" or "do things" and the feelings and experiences he has as a result.