

'Coraline' a wonderful experience in 3-D

"You'll never look at dolls with buttons for eyes the same way again."

by Dabney Farmer
Staff Writer

In this animated 3-D film, the main character stumbles into a magic parallel world similar to "Alice in Wonderland."

At first the thought of a world where everyone has buttons for eyes may not seem that scary. That's certainly what Coraline (not Caroline) thinks when she finds this door that leads to a seemingly better version of her house. Before she found the door her life was dull and boring and her parents paid little attention to her, as they are too busy writing a garden magazine to actually start a garden.

On the other side of the door is a much more interesting and funnier version of her mother and father who pay plenty of attention to her. There are also much more playful versions of her crazy neighbors, an old man who puts on shows with jumping mice and two old ladies who put on an acrobat show. Yet the longer Coraline stays in this world the more this world shows its true colors, until it's no longer a dream world but a nightmare. It seems the "Other Mother" as she's called wants her to stay forever, but only if she's replaces her eyes with black buttons like all the other children she's kept there. Obviously, Coraline is not willing to do that.

This movie is from the director of 'Nightmare Before Christmas' and "Corpse Bride". It is based on the book by the same name and stays pretty close to the plot line. One character that wasn't in the book is a neighbor's boy named Wybourn ("Wybie") Lovat or "why were you born?" as Coraline puts it. He was added so the movie would not just have a girl talking to her self sometimes. She finds Wybourn annoying at first after he scares her with his skull mask, but he seems to just want to be her friends.

It takes a while for the scary parts to come up, but when they do, you'll be glad you didn't take your five year old with you, particularly the very end where Coraline fights with the evil "other mother" who looks



scarier in every scene, especially in 3D.

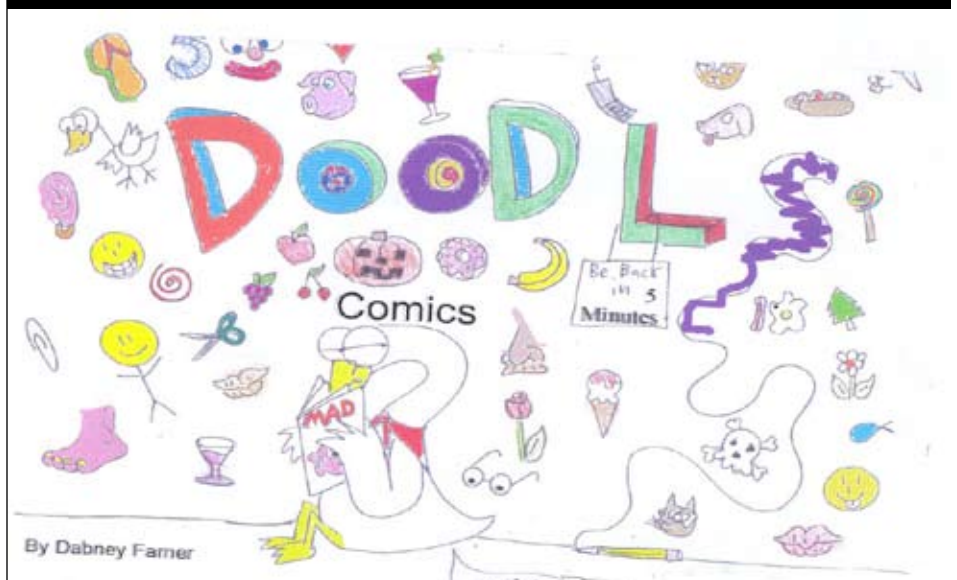
This is also the first animated movie in 3D that isn't just digitized but stop-motion. The 3D is amazing it really feels like something about to fall on you or poke you in the eye. By the end of this movie I guarantee you'll

never look at buttons or old dolls the same way again.

The movie is a nice blend of colorful visuals, creepy characters, and an unpredictable plot made more fun by having to wear 3D glasses.

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