

## Nell has a breathtaking effect on viewer

As I entered Mission Valley Cinema on Avent Ferry Road, I can honestly say that I had no idea of what to expect from the drama *Nell*, nor did I know that I would leave the theater speechless and deep in thought. As the film began with an aerial view of Fontana Lake, I was astounded at the breathtaking scenery that the North Carolina mountains have to offer, and I was immediately drawn into the plot which was about to envelop me.

Jodie Foster could not have portrayed the character of Nell with more style or grace, and her performance is definitely deserving of an Oscar. She allows the audience to immediately fall in love with a woman who has been raised alone in the woods and speaks a strange language of her own.

Liam Neeson and Natasha Richardson play the roles of a doctor and psychiatrist respectively who try

to bring this patient into a world which she has never been in contact with. Fortunately, they are unsuccessful with their attempts, and this is where the main underlying theme of innocence unfolds. Their performances, along with Foster's, are also outstanding as they are unable to hide the emotional attachments which they develop for this naive, yet beautifully enriching character.

I could easily tell you in detail about the destructive world which Nell is brought into and the innocent world in which she returns, but that would be unfair on my part. I would definitely be robbing you of an experience worth

facing on your own. Therefore, I'll let you wander into Nell's world of natural beauty alone and let you draw your own conclusions.

I will tell you, though, that the reviews have given *Nell* four stars, but I wonder if this movie can actually be rated. It is deserving of so much more and is definitely a "must see." Whatever you do, don't wait for *Nell* to come out on video unless you are prepared to miss out on the overwhelming magnificence which Graham County's beauty has to offer on the big screen. I am positive that a 15" television set can not do this natural scenery justice. Also, you will miss out on the

relationship which Nell forms with her audience as your thoughts are interrupted by phone calls and visits from the girls down the hall.

As college students, we sometimes ask ourselves many questions about the world which we once lived in and also about the world which we are about to enter. Nell is given the chance to live in both of these worlds, and through observing her it seems that we, as the audience, are able to not only answer some of these questions, but also realize that sometimes innocence is not such a bad trait after all.

### Ashley Peay movie review

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