



CK Reporter of the Week
Margaux Dempsey, Arvada

Second 'Beasts' a pleasant letdown

The first movie in the Fantastic Beasts series was, well, fantastic!

The new sequel, "Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald," did not disappoint ... too much.

The wonderful characters return, including Newt Scamander (*Eddie Redmayne*), Tina Goldstein (*Katherine Waterston*), Jacob Kowalski (*Dan Fogler*), and Queenie Goldstein (*Alison Sudol*).

We also learn more about Newt's life. We're introduced to his brother -- they have a complicated relationship -- and get to see his unique home in London where his creatures live in the basement.

Several characters from the original Harry Potter series show up, including Nicolas Flamel (*Brontis Jodorowsky*), Minerva McGonagall (*Fiona Glascott*), Albus Dumbledore (*Jude Law*), and even Nagini (*Claudia Kim*).

There were still comedic moments ... (b)ut sometimes the darker moments tended to overpower them.

I love how they tie the new stories to the original ones.

The Fantastic Beasts series, although written last, takes place before all of the Harry Potter books, but they've still managed to intertwine the two.

The setting is in the 1920s and I love the vintage cars, clothes, and scenery.

The movie takes place in London and Paris, and they even travel to Hogwarts!

Although Newt's creatures occasionally save the day, in this movie they have less focus and Grindelwald has more.

I think this makes the second movie darker than the first. I missed some of the humor and warmth.

There were still comedic moments, Newt's quirky personality draws most of the laughs along with Jacob's playful moments of trust and loyalty.



But sometimes the darker moments tended to overpower them.

Occasionally it was difficult to follow the plot because it was a little confusing and moved too fast.

I like this sequel, but I definitely prefer the first movie.

In the first film you had more time to get to know the characters, the setting, and the plot. The second one feels rushed.

I also wish the sequel were less focused on Good versus Evil rather than magic and fantasy.

However, the acting is fantastic and the special effects are stunning.

This is a good movie to see at a theater because the sound effects are powerful when they're that loud.

Kids eight and up will enjoy this film. There is a fair amount of violence, but nothing very gruesome.

I would recommend seeing "Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them" before you watch this one, so that everything will make more sense.

You'll definitely appreciate it more if you've read or watched Harry Potter.

Overall this is a very good movie. It's hard to predict what will happen next and I was often truly on the edge of my seat.

Although it is dreary, I love the funny moments.

I think it's worth a trip to the movie theater.



By Maya Fahy,
13, a CK Reporter
from Longmont

'Instant Family' realistic and wonderful



"Wow" is the first word I said after seeing this movie.

"Instant Family" is about a house-flipping couple who have nothing to do with kids.

After a relative's visit, an off-hand remark and a visit to an adoption website, however, they are hooked.

Pete (*Mark Wahlberg*) and Ellie (*Rose Byrne*) take an adoption class, and then they are ready to get kids.

The movie is two hours long, but you'll wish it were ten.

After going to an adoption fair, they settle on three kids: A teenaged girl named Lizzy (*Isabela Moner*), her brother Juan (*Gustavo Quiroz*), and her sister Lita (*Julianna Gamiz*).

The first week goes very well, but when the kids start showing their true personalities, troubles arise.

Lita is wild, Juan is emotional, and Lizzy is fiery and disobeying.

At first, only Lizzy can control Juan and Lita, but relationships change.

It all involves some stressful court sessions, over-

protective parents, and the evolving of relationships.

My favorite part about this movie is that it shows everything.

Instead of just showing the happy times and the major stuff, they give context in between, and make a relatable story for kids and adults alike.

The writer/director (*Sean Anders*) uses comedy and empathy in such a way that the film is always tugging your heart in different directions, changing your emotions throughout the movie.

The movie is two hours long, but you'll wish it were ten.

It does have some swearing and so is rated PG-13, but I think that everybody old enough to deal with that should see this film.

It can show every emotion in a 5-minute span and make you feel as if you are in the story, something I have only found before in books.

I could, and probably will, watch it again, and will still experience the same awe, happiness, and other emotions that contribute to the movie.



By Jack Vanourek,
13, a CK Reporter
from Littleton

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THE DENVER POST

Pancho adds to Denver’s Cape Buffalo herd

Poncho is a two-month-old baby Cape Buffalo at the Denver Zoo.

His caretaker, Matt Ardaiole (*who has a degree in biology*), said that the most difficult part of caring for the buffalo is getting them inside, because Cape Buffalo are extremely dangerous.

They are one of the top ten most dangerous animals in Africa.

Ardaiole and the other caretakers have to lure the buffalo inside with food.

In the morning, with all the buffalo inside, Ardaiole and the other caretakers enter the outside enclosure and clean up after the messy buffalo.

The buffalo each eat one-and-a-half bales of hay everyday – that is 70 to 80 pounds of hay!

The buffalo also eat all day every day, munching on hay and corn, a grain that is full of buffalo nutrients.

Of course, the babies like Poncho or his friend Mabel, who was born May 1st, are still nursing, but Mabel is at an age where she can both nurse and eat hay.

The wild Cape Buffalo population is strong. There are over 1,000,000 of these buffalo in Africa!

The main cause of a population decline in Cape Buffalo, though, is habitat loss.

Unlike water buffalo, Cape Buffalo cannot be tamed.

Surprisingly, however, the Cape Buffalo get along with the other animals at the zoo and play with toys.

The buffalo do sometimes have little fights for dominance, but these do not last too long.

The father of Mabel, Poncho, and Puddle, a two-and-a-half-year-old “teenager,” moved to a different zoo in October of last year for breeding purposes.

Cape Buffalo are very interesting creatures that are fun to look at and observe.



Story and photo by
Chloe Whiteside, 12,
a CK Reporter
from Broomfield

‘Ralph’ returns with laughs and adventure



“Ralph Wrecks the Internet” is a good movie. It isn’t very suspenseful but it is super funny and takes place inside the Internet, literally.

This second Wreck-It Ralph movie is nothing like a spy or a superhero movie.

Instead it is more like a “Nut Job” or a “Moana.”

One reason why is because it is animated but, also it is funnier and less realistic (*Yes, super heroes aren’t realistic, either*).

The main characters, Wreck-It Ralph (*voiced by John C. Reilly*), a misunderstood bad guy who destroys things, and Vanellope set out on a quest to save Vanellope’s job.

Vanellope (*Sarah Silverman*) is a car racer who is bored with her job and wants some new car racing tracks.

They do some stupid, dumb, sometimes smart and funny things to try to fix her job.

One thing that is cool about this movie is that it uses iconic scenes from other films.

For example a huge monster is holding a little girl on top of a skyscraper. Sound anything like King-Kong?

I would rate the one hour, 56 minute film an 8 out of 10.

This is definitely a kids’ movie as almost everyone in the audience when I saw it was a child.

But, when I walked into the theatre, I kind of expected the same thing that I received so, I was happy.

Fans of the first movie might have different thoughts on this sequel, but, for me, this was great fun. I hadn’t seen the first one, but I probably will watch it now.

Some of the jokes are based on Internet companies so, if you do not go on the series of tubes often, you may not get them.

The movie is never sad or emotional except for one part when the two main characters parted.

(*I felt that the trailer was a bit misleading because what the characters said in the trailer was different than what they said in the actual movie.*)

All in all I would recommend this movie to anyone who would like a funny Disney animated movie.



By Wesley Schlachter,
11, a CK Reporter
from Boulder

Big Nate



China backs off on trading in endangered species parts



Wildlife experts breathed a sigh of relief last week as China decided against a change in their laws about buying and selling rhinoceros and tiger body parts.

The government had announced that it would begin to permit this trade for those who practice traditional medicines, in which the parts of animals are said to have healing powers.

This use of animal parts has been a major reason for the poaching not just of rhinos and tigers, but also of bears, pangolins and other animals, many of them deeply endangered.

However, the Chinese government then announced that it was “postponing” the change after having examined the matter more closely.

In fact, the government said, it is planning to enforce the laws against buying, selling or importing rhino and tiger body parts even more strictly than it has been.

“The Chinese government has not changed its stance on wildlife protection and will not ease the crackdown on illegal trafficking and trade of rhinos, tigers and their by-products and other criminal activities,” a government official said.

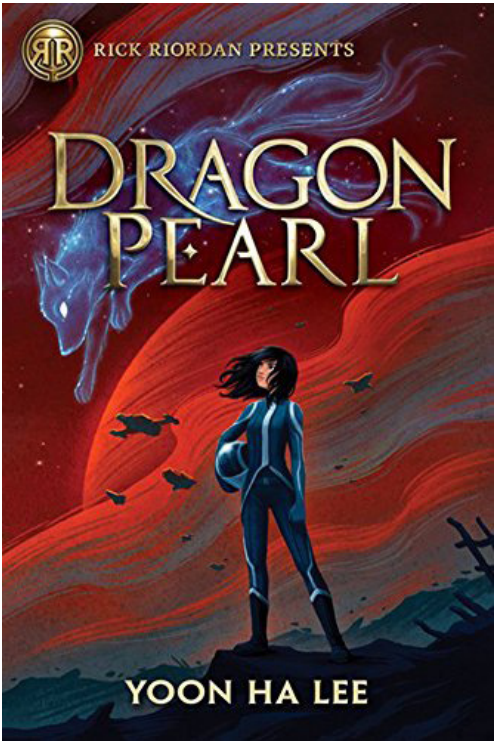
AP photo/ Ng Han Guan

Korean mythology makes for great sci-fi

“Dragon Pearl,” by Yoon Ha Lee, is a thoughtful book mixing the thrill of science fiction and the mystery and richness of Korean mythology. Min is a fox, though she takes human form most of the time. She can shape-shift and use charm magic to change what others see and feel, but her mother is strict about using magic. Foxes are distrusted, so her family hides their identities whenever they can. Min’s world is shaken when Min’s brother Jun is reported missing from the spaceship he was posted on.

Yoon Ha Lee’s unique blend of riveting action and cultural depth makes Min’s journey meaningful and compelling.

She knows her brother isn’t the type of soldier to desert, so she sets out in search of her brother—and the mystic Dragon Pearl Jun supposedly jumped ship for. Min hops between ships, looking for any signs Jun might have left behind. Rules are thrown to the curb as she wields her magic with new purpose, impersonates officers, and stows away on a battleship all to find her brother. I absolutely loved “Dragon Pearl.” Yoon Ha Lee’s unique blend of riveting action and cultural depth makes Min’s journey meaningful and compelling. No, you wouldn’t expect a Star Wars-esque universe with blasters and spaceships to have creatures brought to life out of Korean myth, but that’s exactly what this novel is about, and the combination is enthralling.



The characters were very relatable, and experience a lot of emotions that the audience can relate to. The plot is a satisfying mix of revelation and mystery, and keeps you guessing and hooked at the same time. It took off right away, while still managing to explain characters, motives, and beliefs well. Every detail, every intricacy is explored in this world. Imagery is constantly played with to amplify Min’s perspective, which can be confusing but ends up adding to the story. The generic “good guy” idea was played with, and throughout the story there is a constant question: Am I doing the right thing? Though what Min is doing goes against everything she’s been taught, following her heart eventually leads her to what she has been searching for, but some truths are too much to bear. Sci-fi and fantasy lovers over age ten will definitely enjoy this novel. There is a character that can be viewed as slightly controversial, because they are nonbinary, but it’s not really a big deal in the book. This is one of 14 novels Yoon Ha Lee has wrote, and I really hope a sequel is on its way.



By Sylvia Goodman, 13, a CK Reporter from Centennial

More proof we’ve known astronomy forever

We’ve long known that, while ancient people may not have had automobiles and airplanes and even modern clothing, they knew a lot about the stars. For instance, we know that Inuit used the sweeping turns of the constellation we call “Bootes” as a clock when they were out hunting. And thousands of years before that, ancient people had created structures that required real knowledge of longer measures of time. For example, the huge stones of Stonehenge are lined up to help predict the start of the seasons, and there are many Stone Age caves and shelters throughout Britain and Ireland that were built so that the first sunrise of a new spring would come through a tiny window in the wall. Now researchers at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland are taking a closer look at cave paintings that go back even farther than those Stone Age structures. We’ve thought these paintings, some of them 40,000 years old, were simply pictures of animals, perhaps a sort of diary of successful hunting or just artists painting pictures of their daily lives. However, the researchers have taken the age of various paintings around Europe,



photo/ French Ministry of Culture,

which they calculate by testing flecks of paint, and compared them to where the stars were at the time those paintings were created. The stars move very slowly in our sense of history, but they do move, and the Earth’s axis shifts as well. This means that the constellations you see in the sky are somewhat different than the constellations a Stone Age person, or even a Roman, would have seen. It is possible for astronomers to calculate what the skies looked like a thousand, or 10 thousand, or 40 thousand years ago. The University of Edinburgh researchers compared the different cave paintings to the night sky of the periods in which each was painted. They found that these paintings, in fact, may be sky maps, much as today’s astrologers divide the sky into astrological signs based on constellations. The paintings also may have been historic markers to keep track of particularly important moments. For instance, the Lascaux cave paintings (*part of which are seen here*) may have been a document marking a comet strike from 15,200 years ago that caused great damage. Ancient people had few modern tools, but that apparently didn’t keep them from looking at the sky, and from using their brains as efficiently as modern people do.

Sudoku

			3	1	
4					
				5	1
	4		6		
			5	3	
	6	3			

Rules: Every row across, every column down and each of the six smaller boxes must contain numerals 1,2,3,4,5 and 6, one time and one time only. The solution to this week’s puzzle is on Page 4.



Brainteaser

- The first Burger King opened on this date in 1954, so our answers this week will begin with “W” for the burger that made it famous.**
- Called “Little Brother of the Bear,” this largest of weasels is the mascot of the University of Michigan.
 - Either of the two Bronco defensive ends whose last names start with W.
 - The Netherlands are famous for these buildings that use the breeze to grind flour.
 - Grand County town 66 miles from Denver on Route 40, known for its ski area.
 - The president said to have been “First in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen.”
 - She has a degree in English, has designed clothing for People Tree and played the role of Belle in the live version of “Beauty and the Beast.” Also acted in other movies.
 - The Shawnee/Cree name for elk, it means “white rump.”
 - First African-American mayor of Denver, he served three terms from 1991 to 2003.
 - Popular on-line role-playing game that takes place in Azeroth.
 - This London suburb hosts the most famous professional tennis tournament.

(answers on Page Four)

Wildlife finds ways to survive the wildfires

Anyone familiar with the classic Walt Disney movie “Bambi” remembers the terror of the forest fire. The US Forest Service also made a beloved mascot of a little bear that they named “Smoky,” who had been orphaned in a wildfire. But wildlife experts are now asking California residents not to be too soft-hearted and not to put out food and water for wild animals who have been left homeless by the deadly wildfires in that state. Just as baby animals found alone very rarely need to be “rescued” because their parents are actually watching from nearby, the same advice applies to animals that have been displaced by the wildfires: Leave them alone. They’ll work it out themselves.

While wildfires that threaten human homes need to be controlled, fire is a part of nature, and nature is able to handle it within “the circle of life.” For swift animals like deer or birds, that means they can outrun the fire, particularly because their keen senses often give them much more warning of an approaching fire than humans may have. Slower, ground-dwelling creatures will burrow into the ground or otherwise find shelter while the fire passes overhead. After the danger has passed, they’ll find new places to live with plenty of food and water, where it is much safer for them than it would be to hang around in people’s backyards.

AP photo/Noah Berger



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To read the sources for these stories

China's Endangered Species Laws

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Wildlife and Wildfires

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Sudoku Solution

6	5	2	3	1	4
4	3	1	2	6	5
3	2	6	4	5	1
1	4	5	6	2	3
2	1	4	5	3	6
5	6	3	1	4	2

Brainteaser Solution



(see Page Three)

10 right - Wow!

7 right - Great!

5 right - Good

3 right - See you next time!

1. wolverine 2. DeMarcus Walker, Derek Wolfe 3. windmills
4. Winter Park 5. (George) Washington 6. (Emma) Watson 7. wapiti
8. (Wellington) Webb 9. World of Warcraft 10. Wimbledon

Au Pays d'en Haut (To the High Country)

Chapter Three – Farewell to Lachine

(Our story so far: Antoine is at Lachine, where he, and the man who signed up just after him, find a rowdy crowd of voyageurs on the docks outside the North West Company's offices.)

The tall voyageur shifted his bundle and held out a hand. "Marcel Bouchard," he said.

"Antoine Guilbault," Antoine responded. They shook hands and began to work their way through the noisy, teeming crowd, Antoine holding up his bundle and his own cloth sack of belongings, and trying to keep his paddle close to avoid striking anyone as he followed Marcel.

The older man led the way down a side street until they came to the door of an inn.

"Are you staying here?" Antoine asked Marcel before he pushed open the door.

"No, I'll sleep by the docks tonight," he said. "And I just arrived from Berthier."

They went to a small table in the back and set their bundles and paddles in the corner.

"That was a long walk," Antoine said. "I started from St. Sulpice just after dawn and only got here a short time ago."

"If you walk all night, then sleep on cobblestones, it makes the rest of the trip seem like fun," Marcel said, holding up two fingers to a woman carrying a tray of stew in wooden bowls. "You are just going up and back?"

Antoine shrugged. "We'll see. If the bourgeois will hire me to go north, I'd like to winter over."

"Keep that to yourself," Marcel advised. "The others will make fun of a first-timer who seems eager, and there's no hurry. See if you still feel that way when we get to Grand Portage."

"My father said it's not hard to get hired for the winter."

"Well, it's certainly possible," Marcel agreed, "if you are a hard worker. It depends on the bourgeois. If he likes you, and nobody likes him, you have a very good chance."

Antoine frowned and the older man laughed. "The more people who desert, the more people he must hire to take their places."

"Are you coming right back?"

Marcel shook his head. "I returned last fall because my father is very old and I wanted to see him again. Now I have signed on as an hiverant. In three years, we'll see."

The woman brought their food.

"Eat well, my friend," he said. "You won't have another meal like this for a long time."

The loud, drunken party was still going on when they returned to the docks, but they found an alley next to a warehouse and lay with their bundles under their heads, both as pillows and to guard them from being stolen. Marcel was asleep quickly; Antoine lay awake listening to the singing and shouting before he drifted off.

*

When he awoke, it was still dark, but the celebrations had ended. He could hear men calling to each other as they moved goods from the warehouse to the dockside.

Marcel was sitting up, smoking his pipe. "We could go have a look," he said, tapping his ashes out on the ground. "Though someone said something last night about smoked meat."

It was a good idea. Antoine rummaged through his bag and brought out his uneaten supper. He tore the hunk of meat in two along its grain and handed half to his companion.

"See, you've learned already," Marcel smiled around a mouthful of cold, smoky beef. "Share and share alike!"

They ate, then each combined his company bundle with his own belongings into one pack. They picked up their paddles and walked to the docks.

Marcel looked over the canoes approvingly. There were five huge canots de maîtres, each 36 feet long, to be paddled by eight or ten men and carrying three tonnes of cargo each. The sun had still not risen, but the canoes were nearly loaded, and the clerk was directing where the final bundles of supplies – powder and shot, sugar and flour, goods for trading – should go.

Marcel nodded towards two men standing at the head of the dock. "The bourgeois and his main clerk," he said, and Antoine might have guessed, because, not only were they better dressed than the voyageurs and warehouse men, but one was speaking English to the other, who was nodding and holding papers.

The man with the papers stepped forward and began calling names. The voyageurs and those with them gathered to hear.

As names were called, men with families kissed their wives, parents and children, and went to climb into the first, then second, then third canoe. Single men had already begun to filter out onto the dock, waiting to see which canoe would be their home for the next eight months.

Marcel's name was called, not by the clerk, but by someone on the dock. He looked, then waved and he and Antoine approached the man.

"Jean Baptiste!" he said, and they embraced. "This is my young friend, Antoine."

As they shook hands, Antoine gazed up at Jean Baptiste's six-foot-long paddle.

"Avant or gouvernail?" Marcel asked.

"Gouvernail!" Jean Baptiste announced proudly. He would be in the stern of the canoe, steering the route the avant directed from the bow, while the milieux like Marcel and Antoine paddled in the center.

Then Antoine's name, and, just after it, Marcel's, were called for the number four canoe, and Jean Baptiste and Marcel laughed. "Welcome to my boat!" Jean Baptiste said.

They took seats across from one another, near Jean Baptiste in the stern, and then, when all five canoes were loaded and the bourgeois and his clerks aboard, they pushed off from the dock, raised their paddles and roared a good-bye to the crowd on shore as muskets were fired in the air, a cannon on the dock boomed its farewell, and they began the first song on the trip to Grand Portage.

*C'est l'aviron qui nous mène, qui nous mène
C'est l'aviron qui nous mène en haut!
(It's the rowing that leads us, which leads us,
It's the rowing that leads us on up!)*

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