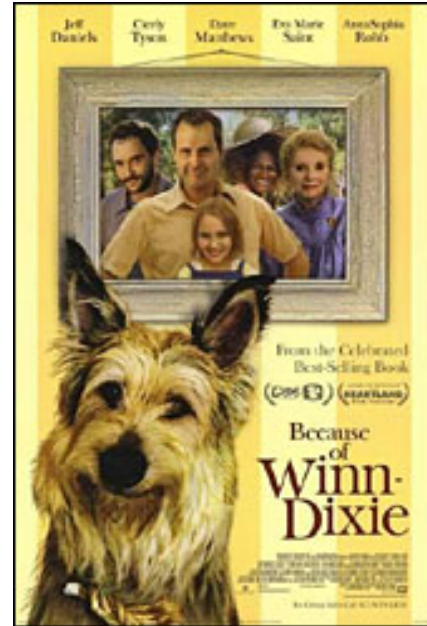


Because of Winn Dixie
Reviewer: Paul Born

Because of Winn Dixie is a story about loneliness, separation, neighbours and community. A stray dog changes the life of a young girl who, in turn, forever changes the community in which she lives. Based on the best selling novel by Kate DiCamillo the movie is memorable, heartfelt, and earns a "worth seeing" rating from my family and I.

Based on a great story, with well-developed characters and surprising cinematography, *Because of Winn Dixie* focuses on the character India Opal Buloni - a preacher's daughter forced to move from town to town with a grieving father. In one of the funniest scenes of the movie she meets and adopts a stray dog.

You might guess how the story evolves - girl finds dog, family objects and dog wins over family's heart. That is the base storyline, but the movie has many twists and turns, and what emerges is a myriad of stories of loneliness, finding hope, friendship and community.



My two favorite scenes are the wonderful friendship with the librarian and the party with the town recluse (I won't spoil it for you by saying anything more).

This is a movie I would highly recommend for the entire family - it will make you feel good and will compel you to reach out! *Because of Winn Dixie* is a great movie about friendship and community.

Related Links:

- Official movie web site: <http://www.becauseofwinndixiemovie.com/>
 - o Be sure to check out the section for educators!
 - o Activity Guide for educators - http://www.walden.com/teach/movies/pdfs/winndixie/educators/BWD_ActivityGuide.pdf
- Movie Mom's Review: <http://movies.yahoo.com/shop?d=hv&id=1808510599&cf=parentsguide>