

I would like to examine the play "The Picture of Dorian Gray".

There was an 80-minute performance of the play in our school on Friday 10th January 2020.

First I would like to write about the performance of the actors and actresses. There were two actors and two actresses. Each person played more than one different character.

The main actor was Dorian Gray. Although he was the protagonist of the story, his character was evil and mean. He dominated the stage. I focused my eyes on him because he used plenty of facial expressions and vigorous body language. Furthermore his voice was expressive and vibrant and he used his voice in an exaggerated way. He was the oldest actor and it seems that he was the most experienced one although the only one who did not attend drama school. It stuck me how awesome and superb his facial expressions were. He guided my sympathy because of his distorted and amusing grimaces and his loud and convincing voice.

Another point that I would like to mention is that I found the plot of the play and the character of Dorian Gray in general really stunning and gorgeous.

The play had a serious tone and it dealt with genuine issues e.g. how far would you go to reach your ideals and is it worth selling your soul for staying young.

It was not a typical play with a fabulous and positive protagonist and a negative and creepy antagonist.

Surprisingly the protagonist was a malicious and vile character.

Although his character was unsightly I was stunned how Dorian Gray acted loathsomely and awfully. He interacted scarily and cruelly with the other characters.

However, the four people had a minimalistic and simple set. They used plenty of sound-effects like clock bells or rain-sounds and between two different scenes they played music. In my opinion the music was a bit too loud and I had problems to understand the actors and actresses while the music played.

They spoke clearly and in a simple English that young people can easily understand. They used a formal language and avoided slang. They acted their roles in an exaggerated but superb way.

I was impressed with the fact that they succeeded in learning a lot of monologue and dialogue by heart and it struck me that nobody had a black-out.

The play ended on a serious note and it held my attention throughout. In my opinion the actress who played the wife of Dorian Gray could interact with the other characters more because there was only an onstage tension between Dorian and her.

My impression of the play as a whole was marvelous.

I really enjoyed the play and I think that "The Picture of Dorian Gray" is a brilliant and unique play.

I can recommend it to everyone.

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