

The Perks of Being a Wallflower

In class, Ms Jahn's GK English11 is currently reading the novel "The Perks of Being a Wallflower" by Stephen Chbosky in which Charlie, a 16-year-old teenager, describes his life as he starts high school. He is a rather sensitive and introverted person who struggles with finding friends, experiencing his first love and the awkward years of adolescence.

Before the novel starts, Michael, Charlie's best friend, killed himself and announced his suicide wish in a poem he had read to Charlie before. Charlie, however, who is also dealing with some mental problems, was not able to understand the poem back then.

The students of the GK English11 had the task to pick one of the headings mentioned in Michael's poem and to write their own poem which did not have to rhyme. Here are two examples.

Absolutely Nothing (Adrian Glück, MSS 11)

Everyone said it
and he believed
that life is wonderful
and full of wonders

And the biologist said:

"Look at the variety of life"

And the chemist said:

"Look at those great connections of life"

And the priest said:

"Look at God's creation: life"

And the teacher said:

"Look that you use your life"

And he believed
but he saw no reason
because from his perspective
every life is just a grave
not closed yet.

Every joy is just a drop
in an ocean of desperation.

Every love is just a grain of sand
in the desert of hate.

And he went on
but he saw no reason
'cause in the end
you're absolutely nothing.

Autumn (Paul Winkler, MSS 11)

He wrote this poem because of the season.
It's the season when everything dies and becomes cold.
The season when leaves are wet on the ground.
It's the season when everything becomes dark.
The season when the days get shorter and the disastrous are coming.
It's the season when he decided to go away and to never look back.
In this season he learned the important things.
It was the season when he became free and infinite.