

THE INVISIBLES: 3 ½ STARS. “ASKS FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS ABOUT LIFE.”



SYNOPSIS: In “The Invisibles,” a new fantasy family drama starring Tim Blake Nelson and Gretchen Mol, and now playing in theatres, Charlie is feeling invisible. Ignored at work and having trouble at home, he leads a life of quiet desperation. As his troubles mount, he slowly disappears; literally unseen by everyone except those in a parallel universe who have also vanished from real life.

CAST: Tim Blake Nelson, Gretchen Mol, Bruce Greenwood, Simon Webster, Rachel Wilson, Tennille Read, Laura de Carteret, Juno Rinaldi, Courtenay J. Stevens, Rob Ramsay, Vinson Tran, Golden Madison, Jean-Michel Le Gal, Tal

Gottfried, Elina Miyake Jackson, Nathan Alexis, Philip Van Martin, Grace Loewen. Written and directed by Andrew Currie.

REVIEW: Charlie's (Nelson) trip into a new dimension isn't so much an exploration of the hereafter as it is a journey of self-discovery. Charlie isn't dead, he is simply absent from his life, watching his old reality from another point of view. It's a little bit “It's a Wonderful Life,” (with a charming Nathan Alexis subbing in for Clarence), and part low-key “Interstellar” rumination on human agency and what it means to be alive.


At the heart of it all is Nelson who gives Charlie a world weariness born of trauma, disappointment and apathy. He's a “don't know what you have till it's gone guy,” forced to fight for his place in the world, and to accept that disappointment, frustration and loss are equal threads in the great human tapestry alongside love and joy.

The secret to the performance is in his eyes, as we see him processing whether to return to the unpredictable real world or stay in the relative emotional stasis of the invisible world. It's lovely work, vulnerable but determined, imbued with both bliss and the blues.

As otherworld bartender Carl, Bruce Greenwood makes a convincing argument for sidestepping the pains of real life, but writer/director Andrew Currie chooses to dive deep, examining how and why emotional tumult shapes us.

“The Invisibles” is thoughtful, provocative filmmaking that asks fundamental questions about life, love and trauma is an entertaining, and often funny, way.

Film Review

 Andrew Currie Bruce Greenwood Courtenay J. Stevens Elina Miyake Jackson Golden Madison Grace Loewen Gretchen Mol Jean-Michel Le Gal Juno Rinaldi Laura de Carteret Nathan Alexis Philip Van Martin Rachel Wilson Rob Ramsay science fiction film Simon Webster Tal Gottfried Tennille Read The Invisibles Tim Blake Nelson Vinson Tran

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