

Though not devoid of praise, the *Bulletin's* 1962 review of *A Wrinkle in Time* certainly did not predict the novel's eventual Newbery Medal win, its enduring status as a classic of children's science fantasy, or its lasting popularity. Taking exception to the admittedly unconventional, meandering, episodic plotline, the unnamed reviewer proposed that readers would find a unified story more absorbing. Yet generations of readers since have found themselves entranced by the cross-time, cross-universe adventures of Meg Murray, her brother Charles Wallace, and their compatriot Calvin O'Keefe. Proof of its longevity can be seen not just in its readership but in its myriad adaptations, including a recent graphic novel and big budget motion picture, as those who grew up with the novel find new ways to engage with it. The film's decision to cast with a diversity the original novel lacked, meanwhile, speaks to the universality of the characters: a trio of young people undervalued and underestimated by teachers (Meg), parents (Calvin), and other adults (Charles Wallace), who remind readers that everyone has unique gifts to contribute. With its bevy of memorable fantastic creatures and assortment of strange other worlds, the story remains imaginatively compelling. And while it educates the reader with obscure scientific theories, it never draws a clear line between science and fantasy, giving readers the space to employ their imaginations across a broad spectrum. Whimsical supportive characters never cease to charm and lurking villains like IT never cease to terrify, while themes of anti-conformity and the value of love continue to resonate. Indeed, it is these elements—the characterization, the imaginativeness, and the writing—that the initial reviewer found worthy of praise. And it is these elements, as well as that strange yet absorbing plot, that will likely keep *A Wrinkle in Time* on bookshelves, in libraries, and in the hands of readers in years to come.

- *Alaine Martaus, Reviewer*

