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## Walk The Line Movie Review

By Alice Flegel

A real legend is...well, the stuff of legends. But much harder to reproduce on film, because of the depths of human expression that tend to get lost in the business of making it on time, on budget, and on a subject the public will "buy". Which means 2005's "Walk The Line" is that rarest of movies, one that dug deep into the story, put it up as it really unfolded, and managed to bag actors that could carry it off.

"Walk The Line" is the hard fighting/drinking/loving story of country icon, Johnny Cash and his love affair with wife June Carter. It lays the foundation for the movie's focus, and Cash's real life, by detailing his boyhood in Arkansas, the early death of a brother, and impulsive first marriage that ended in disaster. All of that contributes to the way Cash's life was already drifting when he sang for Sam Phillips of Sun Records, where he brushed shoulders with another newcomer, Elvis Presley. Chastised for offering a hymn, Joaquin Phoenix rips off a version of Folsom Prison Blues that snags him the prized contract, and sets his foot on a path that will lead him to depths he never dreamed of, and the woman who would pull him out of then, June Carter.

Both Phoenix, and Reese Witherspoon who plays June Carter, did their own vocals, which added immeasurably to the reality of their performances. Witherspoon at times was perhaps a tad too ebullient, but also managed to reach inside herself to pull out both the feminine side of Carter, and her fury at Cash's moral and physical deterioration as their relationship progressed from an initial backstage meeting to the final, enduring chapter written at the Folsom Prison concert.

Not strictly a love story, "Walk the Line" is nonetheless a sometimes moving, infuriating, and emotionally charged tale of two people both struggling towards the same goal- to be with each other.

Director: James Mangold Producers: Alan C. Blomquist, James Keach, Cathy Konrad Starring: Joaquin Phoenix, Reese Witherspoon, Ginnifer Goodwin, Robert Patrick, Ginnifer Goodwin

Alice Flegel is a self-confessed movie fanatic that reveals exactly which movies are living up to they hype and which are better left for the DVD. Check out her movie and DVD reviews at

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<http://www.MoviesByAlice.com>

before you lay down cold-hard cash at the movie theatre or video store.

### **Review Of Must Have Dogs**

**By Donna Rivera-Loudon**

**Plot:** A forty-something preschool teacher looks to the personals for a change of pace and a relationship, with hilarious results.

**Cast:** Diane Lane, John Cusack, Elizabeth Perkins, Christopher Plummer, Dermot Mulroney, Stockard Channing, and more.

**Rating:** Rated PG-13 for sexual content.

**My Thoughts:** The movie was a very different type of love story. It was definitely entertaining, but there were times when I thought it was predictable. However, if you are looking for a movie that doesn't require too much thought to enjoy, this is a good movie to see. It is a comedy so the movie often makes fun of situations that you or someone you know could be facing. However, sometimes this is exactly what is needed to get someone out of their slump and moving forward.

Parts parents might want to know about:

1. The search for a condom: Safe sex vs. casual sex
2. Multiple partners: The father in this movie has several at the same time
3. Online dating sites: Are they safe? Who might you meet on these sites? How truthful are the profiles found there?
4. Divorce can be painful, even when no children are involved.
5. The entire movie focuses on dating. Sex is talked about frequently and there are a couple sexual scenes.

**What stood out to me:** The movie shows the world of online dating. Meeting someone online can be dangerous at times and parents may want to watch this movie with their children to help them understand that online dating doesn't always turn out with the perfect partner. It also shows how difficult it can be to move on after a divorce and how one's family needs to be supportive of the individual.

The above review is meant only as a guide. It shows my observations of the movie. The review comes with no warranty whatever."

## Walk The Line Movie Review

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