

**Film Title and Release Date:** *The Babadook* (2014)

**Film Length in Minutes:** 94 Minutes

**Film Genre:** Horror

**Reviewer Name and Grade:** Thomas K., 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Date Reviewed:** June 15, 2022

The Babadook starts with a slow motion car crash which sets up the events of the film as Amelia lost her husband in the crash and became a widow. This was in a drive to the hospital to have their son born named Samuel. He's about 6 when we catch up to them and he is still afraid of monsters and is a general outcast. At night when Sam gets nightmares he is read a book by his mother though one night he is read a book called Mr. Babadook that appeared in the room. It was a disturbing book that caused even more nightmares so Amelia rips up and throws away the book. Sam starts being mischievous at school and he blames the Babadook for all of his mischievousness. The book comes back all glued back together and with new pages showing the Babadook taking over Amelia and Amelia killing her son and dog under the control of the Babadook. She burns the new book but is afraid to sleep due to stranger things happening. After two sleepless nights she starts to become more aggressive and angry and she catches Sam trying to call their neighbor as he became afraid of her. Amelia eventually becomes very aggressive and kills the dog and chases her son around the house though she is knocked out by one of his makeshift weapons and she wakes in the basement tied to the ground as her son doesn't want to leave her. This kind heartedness drives away the Babadook which materializes and takes Sam away and so Amelia drives the Babadook away by standing her ground and so things seem to return to normal. On Sam's 7th birthday Amelia collects dirt and worms and feeds them to something in the basement, presumably the Babadook.

*How did I find the Film on Kanopy?*

I found the film by browsing the horror section of Kanopy.

*Did the plot keep me interested and was the plot too fast too slow or just right?*

The plot was interesting enough to keep me interested though the plot is too slow and can lose my interest at points.

*Age rating?*

This movie has cursing and is a psychological horror and there's some gore so I would only let a 6th grader or higher watch this film.

I would give this film *4 stars*. It was pretty enjoyable but there are too many slow parts such as after seeing the Babadook book for the first time to get 5 stars. Though the story book elements looked great and the Babadook was a good horror movie.