

The Nargun and the Stars review

February 26, 2009

WAToday.com.au

Twelve-year-old Alexandra Mignogna gives her verdict on a show for kids and big kids alike.

With its realistic creatures and interesting characters, *The Nargun and the Stars* is a fantasy world with meaning that will suit all ages.

The talented cast and crew catch the audience's attention from the very start when gloomy music and the low mysterious voice of the narrator set the scene for the story of orphan Simon (Tom Green).

A wide variety of special effects, amazing sets and gorgeous puppets are used in so many clever ways in bringing this play to life. Lighting, shadows and screens help tell the tale of young Simon, who learns about himself on his journey into a dream world full of culture, mystery and magic.

After losing his parents in a devastating car accident, Simon soon finds himself living in a home. Shortly afterwards, Simon is sent to live with his elderly relatives Charlie (Bill Young) and Edie (Annie Byron).

Not keen to move to the farm, he decides to explore the bushland which surrounds him. He discovers the swamp where a sly potkookok (water creature) - a cross between a lizard and a snake - steals Simon's apple. This magical creature befriends Simon and introduces him to a whole new mythical world which includes turongs (tree creatures) and nyols (cavern creatures).

Not sure whether he is the only one that can see these larger-than-life creatures, Simon decides to help his new friends scare away *The Nargun*, a slow moving rock-like creature, from destroying his home and theirs.

Patricia Wrightson's wonderful novel is surely brought to life by Scott Wright and Wesley Enoch's fantastic adaptation. A must see for children and adults alike.