

In Tim Burton's film "The Nightmare Before Christmas" **(1)** the special personal love he has for the story is deeply shown and because of that it becomes an easy to love story. His twisted characters and sets describe the feel of the movie within the first five minutes. His dark and twisted storytelling brings goose bumps running up and down your arms **(6)**. The way stop motion is used is so the movie becomes strong but not stiff. Danny Elfman's **(1)** ingenious use of soundtrack ties the movie together perfectly matching the storyline perfectly **(5) (7)**.

The storyline is a sad tale of Jack Skellington a lonely skeleton in Halloween Town. He becomes almost depressed as yet another Halloween passes when he comes across Christmas Town, a town full of happiness and joy. This is something amazing to him for he has lived all his life within the 'walls' of Halloween town a dark a grim place. Whilst in Christmas town he see's "Sandy Claws" and learns of Christmas. He promptly decides to give "Sandy" a break and run Christmas that year. But things go terribly wrong and with the help of Sally a girl who closely resembles a rag-doll they fix the mess Jack created **(4)**.

Tim Burton's use of stop motion works wonderfully in this film giving it an extra sense of depth. He gives the inanimate puppets personalities and emotions. You can't easily tell the years and effort it took to make this film but the careful steps are visible in the fact of it being claymation **(6)**. In traditional stop motion it is very pivot like however by comparison the film flows very nicely. It helps the Halloween Town residents become creepier and scarier **(2)**.

Danny Elfman's timeless music is shown brilliantly in this film when the characters all sing beautifully catchy tunes. Though Elfman did sing Jack's parts the film was tied together by the music. Though some may argue that there was too much music it all comes down to personal taste. His music is generally easy to determine with his wacky style the way the music flows and the characters seem to actually be singing is almost perfect for stop motion **(2)**.

Overall, I thought the film was well executed and though directed at a younger audience it was comical and enjoyable throughout **(3)**. The way Elfman structured the music fitted perfect to theme and storyline of the films. In my opinion the film was intriguing and magical **(5)**.