

## **Walk The Line (12)**

On Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March, 9 members watched the biopic of Johnny Cash – Walk The Line. Starring Joaquin Phoenix as Cash and Reese Witherspoon as June Carter, the film follows Cash's early life, his romance with the singer June Carter, his ascent in the country music scene, and his drug addiction. It also stars Ginnifer Goodwin as Cash's first wife Vivian Liberto, and Robert Patrick as Cash's father, Ray.

Phoenix and Witherspoon are both very good in their roles, with Witherspoon deservedly winning the Oscar for Best Actress. They both performed their own vocals for the film, which gave it authenticity whilst not being quite up to the standard of the original stars. The film didn't pull any punches about Cash's self destructive (and self deluding) lifestyle, nor did it hide the problems of being at the start of the rock and roll revolution, especially his troubled relationship with his first wife. The early backstory about the death of his brother Jack, and his father's reaction, clearly demonstrated the mental issues that Cash suffered but did so in a way that didn't demand sympathy from the viewer.

The sound track was very enjoyable, with actors performing the roles of the other early rock and roll trailblazers also being very good (Elvis Presley, Roy Orbison, Waylon Jennings).

Overall feeling: young men had too much money and not enough sensible advice/supervision, so they got into some serious trouble. Nothing much changes!