

Abstract: The film 400 Blows has been directed by French director Francois Truffaut who belongs to the New Wave, a movement in French cinematography in 1950s. This thesis examines not only the wider context of the author and the New Wave, the creation of the film and its great success at Cannes Film Festival in 1959 (best director). The main focus of the thesis is the analysis of the film's content, focusing on the autobiographical aspects and on the elements of the New Wave in the film as well as on more specific topics, namely childhood, one of the most important topics in Truffaut's creation, and the character of Antoine Doinel, portrayed by Jean-Pierre Léaud, who is the hero of four other movies about other phases of his life.