

Film Title and Release Date: *Gulliver's Travels* (1939)

Length of Film in Minutes: 77 minutes

Film genre: Comedy/Adventure

**Reviewer Name and Grade: Yaseen V., 9th Grade**

**Date Reviewed: July 29, 2020**

Gulliver's Travels is a 1939 American adventure-comedy film. The story begins in Bermuda, where Gulliver rents a boat and travels into the triangle. After falling asleep on his ship, he's caught in a freak storm and the boat is overwhelmed by a waterspout. He ends up washing up unconscious on the shore of Lilliput, where he is immediately confirmed as a "beast" and seen as the "giant on the beach" by the town's tiny people. After the citizens claim him to be dangerous because of his huge size, he is captured and imprisoned in a cave. Here, he meets another prisoner named Horatio who was jailed by General Edward because he loves Princess Mary of Lilliput. After the island across from Lilliput infiltrates commandos to kidnap the Princess, Gulliver manages to break free of the machine he is forced to work and rescues the princess from being kidnapped. Gulliver also saves her father, King Theodore, from a fire. Gulliver is declared a hero by Lilliput's citizens and makes up plenty of lies that make him seem to be a more powerful and successful person than he really is. Edward, however, becomes enraged by the new luxurious accommodations and honor that have been given to Gulliver. The next day, chaos ensues as the Blefusudian Navy lays siege to the city. Edward shuts down its defense system as an act of revenge for Gulliver's treatment. Gulliver defeats the armada, despite numerous cannonballs being fired at him. The Blefusudians invade Lilliput with the help of Edward and make Gulliver admit to the people of his low ranked and unsuccessful reality and how he made up stories. Edward banishes Gulliver to the shores of "the island where we dare not go". There, he is snatched up by a "little" girl who towers over him. In the end of the film, Horatio finds Gulliver after being spurned by Mary. Gulliver ultimately escapes narrowly with him and goes home.

*How did you find the film on Kanopy (by a title search, subject search, casual browsing)?*

I found this film on Kanopy while casually browsing through the many films it offers.

*Did the plot (for a fictional movie) keep you interested?*

Yes, the story of Gulliver kept me interested because it introduces an adventure that I have not seen anywhere else. The idea of a giant human being seen as a threat to smaller humans is a funny idea, but the story is actually very intriguing and kept me entertained.

*Was the pace of the film too fast, too slow, or just right?*

The pace of this film was just right and successfully told the story of how Gulliver overcomes the many problems that came his way as the "giant" and how he ultimately saved the day. The pace allowed the film to organically show how the town's relationship with Gulliver changes.

*What grade level(s) is this film appropriate for?*

I believe this film is great for grades nine and up due to its difficult vocabulary and plot.

*5 stars: I'm really glad I watched this film; it was awesome!*

I believe this film deserves 5 stars because it seamlessly conveys to the audience how despite going through many obstacles and problems, you can still be successful and victorious at the end of the day.

**Reviewer's Name and Grade: Naysa T., 7<sup>th</sup> grade**

**Date Reviewed: September 22, 2020**

This film takes place in the 1700s on an island called Lilliput in an ocean. One Major character is a man named Gulliver. In the beginning of the movie his ship gets capsized and he is stranded on a shore. Further into the island a tiny man less than 7 inches is walking around the area. The tiny man, Gabby is walking around the singing *All's Well*. Gabby is a grumpy man, who is always angry or yelling and is bored and wants something new. Then he stumbles into Gulliver's hand. Gabby runs home to the kingdom of Lilliput to warn the people of a 'Giant' and goes to the palace. Inside the palace, the king of Lilliput, King Little is having the neighboring kingdoms King, King Bombo, sign a wedding contract so that his daughter can marry Bombo's son. King Little is a scared man who is afraid of war and selfish. King Bombo is loud, unintentionally scary, and is quick to anger. The princess and prince sing to each other while the kings eat. Next, the two kings get into a dispute. Bombo wants to play his kingdom's royal song, "Forever" but King Little wants to play his kingdom's song "Faithful". King Bombo wages war on Lilliput and walks out, as Gabby bursts in. The prince and princess are heartbroken as Gabby attempts to tell King Little the news. King Little is too scared about war to listen but Gabby finally gets it across. He tells Gabby to gather the kingdoms men and bring him the giant. As Gabby skips out 3 of King Bombo's spies are listening closely. The Kingdoms men go out and build a platform to carry Gulliver to the King. Gulliver convinces the people that he is safe when he wakes up, and the day is filled with sewing clothes, making shoes, and building furniture. King Bombo's spies get a message that they should kill Gulliver and they will attack at dawn. The spies found Gulliver's gun in a spare room and attempted to shoot him, meanwhile Gabby found their note and warned the palace of Bombo's attack. The battle started and Gulliver tried to stop King Bombo by dragging the boats away. Then King Bombo agreed to listen to Gulliver and he laid out his plan of combining the two songs. Later in the day Gulliver got help fixing his boat and sailed away.

*How did you find the film on Kanopy?*

I found this film by casually scrolling through Kanopy.

*Did the plot or presentation of information keep you interested?*

The plot definitely kept me interested and surprised about if Gulliver was going to get shot.

*Was the pace of the film too fast, too slow, just just right.*

The pace of the film was just right and the twists were at the right time.

*What grade levels is this movie appropriate for.*

This movie is appropriate for Kindergarten and up.

*I give this film 4 stars, I enjoyed this film and found it worthwhile to watch*

I liked how in the movie all the characters interacted with each other to make the story funny. I also enjoyed the great songs to lighten the film and make it fun. It was interesting to see all the little people tie up Gulliver so quickly. The setting of the film was a mystical beach island with magical plants and it was intriguing from the start.