

Film Title: *The Gift* (2015)
Length of Film in Minutes: 12 minutes
Film Genre: Short Film

Reviewer Name and Grade: Corey F., 8th Grade

Date Reviewed: March 21, 2021

In the short film, *The Gift*, which takes place around the mid 1900's, there is a boy and his mother who go to a hardware store to pick out the boy's birthday gift. The boy had wanted a bicycle that was in the window. He had been saving his money up for the bicycle. When the boy got into the store the boy sees a rifle on display, and instead of saying he wants the bicycle, he instead wants the gun. The boy is a big fan of the wild west, cowboys, and guns. When the boy says he wants the gun, his mother is very disappointed in him and says that he cannot get it. The boy is sad and his mother told him to go wait outside. Then the store owner and the mother converse, they are talking about how the boy had run up to the window looking at that bicycle every day. The store owner goes outside to talk to the boy. He brings a guitar with him. He goes to talk to the boy and in the process teaches him a lesson. The man says that he had gotten a shotgun when he was a boy from his father, but not long after he realized that a gun was just a tool as any other tool. He brings out the guitar, and asks the boy how many bullets his toy Six Shooter has. The boy replied, 6 bullets. The man said that the guitar also has six strings, and never runs out of ammo. The boy gives it a try. When they go back inside, the boy changes his mind and he now wants the guitar. The mother is happy to buy the guitar for him. On the way home he starts getting used to and attached to the guitar. After they get home we see the boy's six shooter and cowboy hat on the floor, and his guitar in hand. He was playing the guitar and he was happy. Later his mother calls him for dinner, and that is when we see a nameplate on the door, the plate read PRESLEY. The little boy was Elvis Presley. This movie was the story of how he began and got into his music career. In my opinion this movie was exceptional. The surprise ending was a great touch and the message that the plot got across to the audience was a good message. Although short, this movie is a perfect, quick, and fun movie to watch with your family. On the other hand, I can see how this movie can be just the contrary for other people. This movie may be too short for some people, and it may be too childish for some people, but overall I think that the movie was great.

How did you find the film on Kanopy?

I found this film just by browsing around.

Did the plot keep you interested?

Yes, the plot of this film did keep me interested.

What was the pace of the film?

The pace of this film was just right for the style of movie that this is, which is a short film.

What grade levels is this film appropriate for?

This film is appropriate for grade levels, 3 and up.

Rating:

I give this film a rating of 4 Stars (I enjoyed this film and found it worthwhile to watch). This film was very good to me because of the message it sent to the audience, and the surprise ending. I also liked how they didn't spoil that he was Elvis Presely, until the very end.