

Film Title and Release Date: *Alice Through the Looking Glass*
(1987)

Length of Film in Minutes: 73 minutes

Film Genre: Adventure/Family

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

Date Reviewed: August 5, 2020

Alice Through the Looking Glass is a very well-known and phenomenal children's film which starts off with a bored Alice trapped in her house by a snow storm. This movie follows Alice, the main character from *Alice in Wonderland* as she experiences another adventure. Much of the film consists of Alice and a jester named Tom Fool journeying through Wonderland. Ultimately, the film is more about Alice finding an imaginary friend in Tom Fool than the novel's themes of logic, illogic, and reversal. During her adventure in Wonderland, Alice encounters Heffalumps, rock-throwing cavemen, Ed Sullivan, The Marx Brothers and Humpty Dumpty, all characters that play into the craziness of Wonderland and introduce Alice to new things. All these characters play pivotal roles in their own way and contribute to the story greatly. When Alice wakes up, her father plays a game of chess with her, which is what her dream journey was based on. In Alice's dream in Wonderland, she was walking from square to square on a large chessboard. An overturned chessboard and an enchanted mirror lead Alice through a series of strange adventures. After slipping through a mirror, Alice finds herself back in Underland with the White Queen, the Cheshire Cat, the White Rabbit, Tweedledee and Tweedledum, all characters from the beloved original novel. Hoping to save her loved ones, Alice steals the Chronosphere from Tom Fool in order to travel into the past. While there, she encounters the younger Mad Hatter and the evil Red Queen. In the end of the film, Alice is able to defeat the Red Queen and restore freedom.

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 plot of this film kept me very interested because it shows us how Alice ventures into Wonderland and other magical places when she falls asleep while playing chess with her father.

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

The pace of this film was just right and strongly continued to tell the classic story of Alice and her imagination.

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

I believe this film is great for grades three and up due to its very childish tone and overall story as well. This is a great follow up movie after watching the original *Alice in Wonderland* because it brings back the lovable and iconic characters in a different plot.

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

I believe this film deserves 5 stars because it very successfully conveys to the audience that a timeless children's classic from 1987 can be read and have the same effect as if the reader was reading it for the first time. I would highly recommend this film because it brings the same joy as the first movie in this series while building on its characters.

Reviewer Name and Grade: Dhikshika C., 8th Grade

Date Reviewed: April 3, 2021

A bored Alice becomes stuck in her house due to a snowstorm and has a strange dream. Alice and a jester named Tom Fool meet a variety of odd characters, including Heffalumps, rock-throwing cavemen, and Humpty Dumpty, for the majority of the film. In the end, the movie is more about Alice making an imaginary friend in Tom Fool than it is about the novel's themes of logic, illogic, and reversal. Alice meets Heffalumps, rock-throwing cavemen, on her journey through Wonderland. Each of these characters has a significant role to play in the plot. A man made entirely of newspaper, a talking horse, and a talking goat are also included. Ed Sullivan, The Marx Brothers, and Humpty Dumpty are all characters that contribute to Wonderland's craziness by introducing Alice to new experiences. When Alice wakes up, her father is playing chess with her, the game that inspired her dream journey of walking from square to square on a huge chessboard. Alice finds herself back in Underland with the White Queen, the Cheshire Cat, the White Rabbit, Tweedledee, and Tweedledum, all characters from the original book, after slipping through a mirror. The Red Queen is defeated, and Alice is able to reclaim her freedom.

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

I found this film by casually browsing the kids section on Kanopy.

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

No, the plot of this movie was like every other remake of this movie. This is a classic fairytale, I have seen many movies that were like this but the animations in this were really bad.

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

The pace of this film was ok, it wasn't too slow or too fast.

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

I think this movie is perfect for any kids that are older than 5 because it is a classic fairy tale and most of them have probably already heard of Alice Through the Looking Glass.

Rating:

2 stars: I did not like this film but somebody else might.

I gave this movie 2 stars because the storyline is incredibly nostalgic, and it reminds of your childhood but this film was really bad. The animations were trash and it's one of those cheaply made spinoff films that seemingly struggled to obtain the rights to certain elements of the Alice story and simply had to make do with whatever was left over.