

**Film Title and Release Date:** *Galaxy Quest (1999)*

**Length of Film in Minutes:** *120 min.*

**Film Genre:** *Sci-Fi/Adventure*

**Reviewer Name and Grade:** Lily Z., 8th grade

**Date Reviewed:** March 7th, 2021

The movie *Galaxy Quest* starts with a scene from a bad 80's sci-fi show being shown at a convention 17 years after its release. The actors: Jason Nesmith, Gwen DeMarco, Alexander Dane, Fred Kwan, and Tommy Webber are introduced on stage, and meet excited fans shortly after. Jason, the main character, is the only one who still enjoys their attention. There is a group of people which the characters believe are particularly eccentric fans, who say that they are part of an alien race called Thermians. Their leader, Mathesar, asks Jason for his help. Thinking he wants him to make some sort of promotional appearance, Jason accepts. The Thermians teleport Jason to their planet, and he still thinks they're pretending. It is only after he is transported back that Jason realizes the Thermians are actual aliens. He tries to convince his castmates to go back with him to the aliens' ship, but they don't believe him. The Thermians ask the castmates themselves, and they think it's a promotional gig. Mathesar tells them that the Thermians saw their "historical documents" and decided to base their ship's whole structure on them. They clearly don't know what TV shows are. The aliens want the actors to help fight their rival, Sarris.

*How did you find the film on Kanopy?*

I found the movie browsing through the comedy section of Kanopy.

*Did the plot keep you interested?*

Yes. I think it was an interesting concept for a movie. I also liked that even though it was a parody of movies like *Star Trek*, it had a story of its own.

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

I think the pacing of the movie was just right. There weren't many slow parts, and I didn't find that there were parts that moved too fast.

*4 stars: I enjoyed this film and found it worthwhile to watch.*

I think the movie was fun to watch, but not very memorable. In fact, I had to look up the names of most of the characters to write this review. I also think there were some unnecessary parts, like the relationship between Fred and the alien girl.

**Reviewer Name and Grade: James M., 8th Grade**

**Date Reviewed: March 16th, 2021**

Galaxy Quest is a great movie. The guy who plays Sir Alexander Dane in the tv show that they are making is funny. There is a line that he is supposed to say that he hates and it is really funny. I give this movie 5 stars. The captain is a good person. He reminds me of Buzz Lightyear. I double checked and the actor that plays the captain is the same person that plays Buzz Lightyear in Toy Story. The alien babies are weird. There is a rock monster that can control energy. There is a massive minefield that was not a good idea to go through, but in the end there is a surprise with the mines. I thought the mine field was weird because they never say what the reason is for having it. As a bad guy, I found Sarris is a weak leader. He was versing people that had never commanded a ship before, and yet he lost. This movie is very similar to Star Trek with an inexperienced crew. I think people of all ages will enjoy this movie.

*How did you find the film on Kanopy?*

I was looking for a comedy and the movie looked funny because it looked like it was making fun of Star trek.

*Did the plot keep you interested?*

Yes, because it reminded me of Star Trek!

*Was the pace too fast, too slow, or just right?* Just Right. Because I felt like the plot was always continuing along.

*Number of stars?*

★ ★ ★ ★

Because it was a well engineered movie.

**Reviewer Name and Grade: Maya L., 8th Grade**

**Date Reviewed: March 31, 2021**

The film Galaxy Quest is about Jason Nesmith and his fellow co stars who used to be in a popular Sci-Fi show called Galaxy Quest 19 years before the events of the movie occur. In the start of the film they are at a convention where Jason who played the character Commander Peter Quincy Taggart meets a group of fans who ask for his help, he doesn't think much of this but they turn out to be a group of aliens called Thermians. After the convention they come to his house and make him come with them and they end up in an alien spaceship. Their leader Mathesar expresses that they are having trouble with another alien race who is endangering them. Jason then asks to go home where he tells his fellow co stars about the aliens, although skeptical, he gets them to come with him and they all are now on the spaceship. The Thermians believed that the show Galaxy Quest was real and thought of the show as a historical document, so when they were under attack by General Sarris they rebuilt the ship from the show which was called the NSEA protector. The actors, of course didn't know much about defending the galaxy because in the show they had a script, it was fake, but the Thermians couldn't grasp that concept and their species didn't have entertainment like the people of earth. They end up messing up the core of the ship and have to go to another planet in order to get a new Beryllium core. Eventually

they are able to get the ship back into order and have to face General Sarris. They defeat General Sarris and the actors get a new appreciation for the show they used to be in and they reboot it.

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

I found this film while looking for some good family friendly Science Fiction movies, Galaxy Quest looked interesting because it was also listed as a comedy.

*Did the plot keep you interested?*

The plot kept me interested. There was a lot of suspense, the idea behind the plot was also interesting especially how the actors had to experience their roles in real life, and really get into the world of the show they created.

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

The pace of the movie was just right, It didn't go too slow to the point where it seemed like things were dragging forever and it also didn't go too fast to the point where it would be hard to keep track of what was going on.

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

This film would be appropriate for anyone of all grades and is great to watch with the whole family.

*Rating: 4 stars: : I enjoyed this film and found it worthwhile to watch.*

I would rate this film a 4, I like the film as it had an interesting concept and how the characters had to learn how to do the roles that they played on TV. I also found it interesting how the aliens thought that the TV show was something that was real and that had actually happened when it was really just for entertainment. However some of the costume design and special effects didn't look the best. Overall it was a good and interesting film.

**Reviewer Name and Grade: Jacob W., 8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**Date Reviewed: March 19, 2021**

The film is about the actors of a TV show called *Galaxy Quest*, which is basically *Star Trek* but they couldn't actually use *Star Trek* because they'd get sued so much their kids would be in debt, or at least that's my theory. Anyway, the film starts off with the cast of the show eighteen years later about to go onstage for a Galaxy Quest convention, but their captain is an hour late. The crew member that's supposed to be an alien is having a mental breakdown and saying that he's sick of saying his characters quotable line, which will be a theme for him across the whole movie. The captain finally shows up, whose name on the show was Peter Quincy Taggart, but his name in movie real life is Jason Nesmith. Right after he arrives, the alien but not really alien actor decides that he's not going on, and tries to escape but Jason stops him, and finally convinces him to go on right when he's supposed to by saying that the show must go on, funnily right after he said there was nothing Jason could say that would change his mind. After they're presented to the crowd, the crew goes to sign autographs and Jason runs into these people as he's heading to the bathroom that look like die-hard fans of the show cosplaying as aliens that say that they're Thermians, and that they need Jason's help in negotiations with the evil alien Sarris. Long story short, Jason hears people talking about how him and the whole crew is a laughing stock, which leads him to become completely unmotivated for the rest of the day because he has

a massive ego, which leads to him getting drunk at night and waking up hungover. The Thermians figure out where he lives and come over asking for his assistance again and Jason, thinking that they're talking about a gig they have to do that day, so he gets into their car and he dozes off, where they bring him to their ship. There, he orders them to fire on Sarris' ship and then calls it a day, going back home to tell the crew about it, who are annoyed at him for being late to their gig again. The aliens come back and tell Jason that they need him again, the crew is offered to come and they eventually do. They are brought aboard the alien's space station and have to fight Sarris again, leading to the rest of the events of the movie, fighting Sarris and trying to break it to the Thermians that they're not actually heroes, because the Thermians found the old recordings of Galaxy Quest and thought that they were real and actually happened.

*How did you find the film on Kanopy?*

I was browsing science fiction movies and this one caught my eye.

*Did the plot keep you interested? Was the pace of the film too fast, too slow, or just right?*

The plot kept me interested and the pace of the film was just right. It did a good job at entertaining me and the action was fun to watch.

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

This film would be appropriate for 6th grade and up.

I would rate the film as

*5 stars:* I loved the Sci-Fi theme with a perfect mix of comedy, it allowed for funny moments without every serious moment being cut short by comedy. I liked all of the quips made about Guy, the forgotten crew member who was killed off to raise tension, and Guy is always getting scared that he's going to die for the same reason. He's always overreacting to things, and Fred, another character, is always calm, even when you really shouldn't be calm. For instance, when you the crew gets transported to the space station they're covered by some sort of space goo that allows them to breath in space and they're sent flying through space to where they're dropped off. Everyone else is traumatized by this experience, Guy even screams, but when Fred is transported he says "That was a hell of a thing", and he's completely calm.