

Film Title and Release Date: *The Bellboy* (1960)

Film Length in Minutes: 72 Minutes

Film Genre: Comedy

Reviewer Name and Grade: Yaseen V., 10th Grade

Date Reviewed: July 17, 2021

The Bellboy is an American comedy film written, produced, directed by and starring Jerry Lewis. The film narrator begins the movie by explaining how there is no plot or story. Instead, the film focuses on its main character Stanley, a dull and quiet bellboy who works at the fancy and quaint Fontainebleau Hotel in Miami Beach, Florida. Stanley does not speak until the very end of the movie because he is constantly overlooked and talked over. Instead, the audience sees how he communicates through emotion and facial expressions. Throughout the film, Stanley gets involved in one ridiculous situation to another, a plot many comedic movies follow. For example, after being told to “bring up everything out of the trunk”, Stanley delivers an entire car engine to Room 664. One of the main plot points in the story is when Jerry Lewis, a big star, visits the hotel. Many people see the striking resemblance between Jerry and Stanley and begin mixing them up. As a result, chaos ensues. The hilarious movie ends with the narrator explaining that while the movie had no plot, it did have moral. The narrator closes the film by saying “You'll never know the next guy's story...unless you ask.”

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

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

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

Yes, the plot kept me interested because of how much chaos Stanley caused at the hotel. It was a very funny movie and introduced many different characters.

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

I think the pace of the film was just right because the audience is able to see the different gags pan out. I also think the comedic timing of this movie was great.

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

This film is appropriate for grades six through nine, based on the light-hearted and funny plot, as well as humor.

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

In conclusion, *The Bellboy* was a charming and humorous movie. The light plot and the caricature nature of Stanley kept the audience engaged and in a good mood. One of my favorite parts of the film was watching Stanley unknowingly do the wrong thing. For example, Stanley places a mesh covering on a sleeping man's face so he does not get sunburned. But, the mesh pattern results in a hilarious uneven tan. Overall, I would recommend this film to others.