

Film Title and Release Date: *The Odd Couple* (1968)

Film Length in Minutes: 106 Minutes

Film Genre: Comedy/Buddy

Reviewer Name and Grade: Rachel R., 10th Grade

Date Reviewed: August 12, 2021

The Odd Couple is a film adaptation of the original Broadway play by Neil Simon, which premiered in 1965. In this film, two divorced men with contrasting personalities move in to share an apartment. Felix Unger lives a very regimented life, is an obsessive cleaner, slaves away in the kitchen, and is concerned about saving money. He feels his whole life is his “wife, kids, and apartment.” Newly divorced, Felix feels his world has slipped away from him. On the other hand, Oscar Madison never cleans up after himself, gambles, and is weeks behind with his child support payments. Oscar is only concerned about “having a good time”.

Although great friends, Felix and Oscar are not great roommates. Chaos erupts when these friends begin living under the same roof. For example, Oscar grows irritated with the all-too-clean apartment, healthy home-cooked meals, and Felix’s insistence on “using a coaster”. Felix is infuriated when Oscar arrives home late without calling, leaving Felix to prepare an entire meal alone for guests. The tension between the friends grows as the film progresses. As the arguing erupts, spaghetti is thrown and fists are nearly raised. At the conclusion of the film when Felix and Oscar choose to part ways, it is revealed how much they have learned from each other after all.

Did the plot keep you interested?

Yes, the film was interesting and funny!

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

The film was well-paced overall. Some scenes were on the slow-paced side as the tension between the men was emphasized, but overall the pace was fine.

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

Despite this film being rated “G”, I believe it is not appropriate for children under thirteen.

Although overall the film is intended to be comedic, some events may be too mature for younger audiences. For example, after Felix’s marriage ends, he is so saddened he intends to commit suicide. Although this does not ultimately occur, the topic of suicide is referred to multiple times throughout the film.

4 stars: The film was very enjoyable.

I am glad I watched this film! It was enjoyable and light-hearted.