

Film Title: *Father and Daughter* (2008)

Length of Film in Minutes: 8 minutes

Film Genre: Comedy/Family

Reviewer Name and Grade: Kylee K., 9th grade

Date Reviewed: July 7, 2022

In the animated short film, “Father and Daughter” directed by Michael Dudok de Wit, it begins with a young girl biking with her father. They went up a small hill and left their bikes standing by a tree. Now, going to the body of water next to them, the father gives the girl one last embrace, steps on a boat and rows away into the sunset. Signaling his departure from the girl's life, an idea that she was too young to yet understand or maybe simply refused to. Throughout her life, no matter the weather or season, the girl biked back to the hill, checking if her father was coming back. But every time, all she sees is his bike leaned against the tree. As time went on, it became increasingly more difficult to climb the hill but the girl persisted. She came back even as she got married, had two children and grew old. One time, she discovered that the body of water had all dried up and what once was there is replaced by dirt and sand. She looked at it and left. Time went on, and the girl is now an elderly woman, she bikes up the hill once again. But when she reached the top and tried to make the bike stand up, the bike no longer could. She gives up on the bike and walks towards what was once the water's edge. Tall grass now grew. The woman navigates her way through the grass until she reaches an area of clearing where she finds the boat that her father used all those years ago, wrecked not far from shore. She climbs into the wreckage and falls asleep. When she wakes up, her father is standing before her. As she runs towards him, she becomes young again and they embrace tightly.

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

I found the film by casually browsing in the “Oscar Winners and Nominees” section in the Kanopy app.

Did the plot (for fictional movie) or presentation of information (for documentary) keep you interested?

Yes. I found the plot very interesting. It was able to present a very touching story that was beautifully animated.

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

The pace of the film was just right. This is seen in the bike rides to the hill as the girl gradually matured in each one.

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

I believe this film is appropriate for all grade levels.

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

I found the story of this short film to be interesting. The story itself is a figurative representation of life, death, and a child's mind. Furthermore, I also really loved the animation style of this film. I think the inky feel of the animation gives the film a cozy, almost nostalgic vibe.