

**Film Title and Release Date:** *Robin Hood: The Outlaw Hero* (2014)

**Length of Film in Minutes:** 29 minutes

**Film Genre:** Documentary/Lecture

**Reviewer Name and Grade:** Stefano T. B., 9<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Date Reviewed:** May 31, 2022

Robin Hood is not associated with a single work; he is a legendary hero constructed by countless people from different eras. This created many gaps in the tale, and it resulted in the “bundle of contradictions” that Robin Hood embodies. Although there are the same common themes, different writers interpreted him their own way. However, by exploring the legends more thoroughly, Shippey explains that Robin is *not* a bundle of contradictions—the society is. Robin is a faithful Christian, a just man, and a loyal yeoman (bodyguard). Then why does he attack bishops, rob the rich, and kill the King’s officers? Well the answer lies in the corrupt world surrounding him: the bishops are not faithful, but just seek wealth; the rich take advantage of the poor, stealing their property; and the King’s officers oppress the peasants while robbing them of the little money they own. Thus, Robin Hood embodies all of the good qualities that have been “exiled” from society (like he was). That is why he is a hero, and he is present in our minds to this day. From films to plays to books, artists seek to bring out his honest nature, which on the surface makes him seem like a misshaped character. But, if one delves deeper, the true spirit of Robin Hood is shown, and everything makes sense.

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

It was recommended, since I watched two other episodes of the same series before.

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

Yes, especially all of the different works and authors he mentioned. I really enjoyed his way of “clearing up” the contradictions in the Robin Hood legends, and his presentation was fascinating.

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

Perfect, since it was critical *and* fun, presenting the information at just the right time.

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

I think that this film is better suited for older students (around 9th grade and up).

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

It was very fun, and I learned a lot about Robin Hood. The introduction of other notable pieces was also interesting, and I am definitely glad that I watched it.