

Film Title and Release Date: *The Secret of NIMH* (1982)

Film Length in Minutes: 82 Minutes

Film Genre: Fantasy/Animation

Reviewer Name and Grade: Ashley L., 9th Grade

Date Reviewed: April 23, 2022

Mrs. Brisby, a widowed mouse, lives with her children on the Fitzgibbon farm in a cinder block. As plowing season approaches, she plans to relocate her family from the field they call home, but her son Timothy has become unwell, and transferring him could be catastrophic. Mrs. Brisby decides to pay a visit to the Great Owl, who then tells her to pay a visit to a mysterious gang of rats that dwell under a rose bush on the same property. Brisby meets Nicodemus, the rats'

wise and mystical leader, and Justin, a nice rat who takes an immediate fancy to Mrs. Brisby when visiting the rodents. While she's there, she discovers that her late husband, Mr. Jonathon Brisby, and the rats were involved in a series of studies at a facility known only as N.I.M.H., the National Institute of Mental Health. There experiments were held on mice and rats which boosted their intellect, allowing them to read and grasp sophisticated mechanics and electronics without being taught or caught. Mr. Brisby and the rats escaped the N.I.M.H. and settled on the Fitzgibbon property. The rats then build an amazing room out of Mrs. Fitzgibbon's rose bush, complete with gorgeous cameras, elevators, and Christmas lights. The rats, however, are fed up with their reliance on humans, from whom they steal electricity, and have devised a plot to leave the farm and live on their own. They agree to help Mrs. Brisby get her house out of the way of the plow because of her husband's previous involvement with rats. However, the evil Jenner and his naive partner Sullivan conspire to kill Nicodemus during the relocation to stay under the rosebush.

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

I found the film on Kanopy by casual browsing.

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

The plot of the fictional movie did keep me interested.

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

The pace of the film was just right however, sometimes it could be a little slow.

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

This film is appropriate for all grade levels however it may be boring for students of Grade 10 and up to watch it.

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

The film had a very entertaining and interesting plot. The character development is very evident in this film which is nice considering most films don't have character development. This film is on par with Disney and Pixar and the voice actors are really good.