

**Film Title and Release Date:** *War and Peace* (1956)

**Length of Film in Minutes:** 431 Minutes

**Film Genre:** Historical Fiction

**Reviewer Name and Grade:** Ayush M. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Date Reviewed:** March 27, 2022

War and Peace focuses on Napoleon's invasion of Russia in 1812 and follows three of the most well-known characters in literature: Pierre Bezukhov, the illegitimate son of a count who is fighting for his inheritance and looking for spiritual fulfillment; Prince Andrei Bolkonsky, who leaves his family behind to fight in the war against Napoleon; and Natasha Rostov, the young daughter of a nobleman who intrigues both men. In 1812, Napoleon invades Russia, and Tsar Alexander reluctantly declares war. Andrew returns to active military service. Pierre observes Moscow's response to Napoleon's threat and develops a crazy sense that he has a mission to assassinate Napoleon. The French approach the Bolkonski estate, and Mary and the old Prince Bolkonski (Andrew's father) are advised to leave. The prince dies just as the French troops arrive. Mary, finally forced to leave her estate, finds the local peasants hostile. Nicholas happens to ride up and save Mary. Mary and Nicholas feel the stirrings of romance. Pierre, after being liberated from the French, falls ill for three months. Upon recovering, he realizes his love for Natasha, which she reciprocates. Pierre and Natasha are married in 1813 and eventually have four children. Natasha grows into a solid, frumpy Russian matron. Nicholas weds Mary, resolving his family's financial problems. He also rebuilds Mary's family's estate, which had been damaged in the war. Despite some tensions, Nicholas and Mary enjoy a happy family life.

*How did you find the film on Kanopy?*

I found the film on Kanopy by search.

*Did the plot or presentation of information keep you interested?*

The plot kept me interested.

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

The pace was too slow.

*What grade level is this appropriate for?*

This is appropriate for grades 6-12.

Rating:

I would rate this a 4/5 because the movie was just too long for my liking. I rate it a 4/5 because the movie was 3 hours long with too much filler instead of being short and concise