



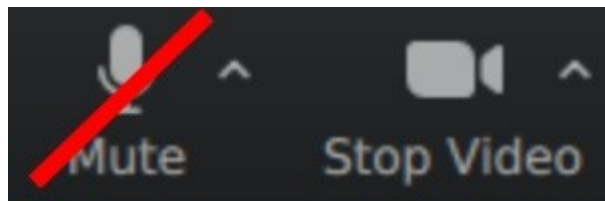
LIFE Movie Club

My Man Godfrey [1936]

Zooming: October 6, 2020

Technology — Zoom

- Joining a Zoom meeting is free
- Installing Zoom is free (better virtual experience)
- Webcam setup is required to join the discussion
- I will mute everyone during the movie, you can un-mute at any time



Contacts

- Terry Poulton — poultonterry@gmail.com
 - Terry *is* the LIFE Movie Club. She found the movies. She told all of us what's coming. But technology is not her thing.
- Bob Fabian — bob@fabian.ca
 - Bob has watched movies, but he is no movie expert. He is here to help with the technology — where he spent much of his career.
- Reference Material — <http://fabian.ca/LIFEmovies>
 - These slides and all future slides will be posted there, as will reference material that might be interesting to members

Feature Today



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

An American screwball comedy film directed by Gregory La Cava and starring William Powell and Carole Lombard, who had been briefly married years before. The screenplay was written by Morrie Ryskind, based on a short novel by Eric S. Hatch. The story concerns a socialite who hires a derelict to be her family's butler, and then falls in love with him.

It premiered on September 6, 1936, and was released in the United States on the 17th of September. It was a runaway hit and earned huge profits for the studio.

Wikipedia

board a tramp steamer en route to Mombasa.

Comment

- The movie was one of the most acclaimed comedies of 1936. Writing for *The Spectator* in 1936, Graham Greene gave the film a moderately positive review, characterizing it as "acutely funny [for three-quarters of its way]". Particularly praising the scene of the scavenging party, Greene finds it to be "perhaps the wittiest, as well as noisiest, sequence of the year". Considering the end of the film, however, he notes that "the social conscience is a little confused" and he wishes for a more "dignified exit".

Wikipedia

- Was Graham Greene correct?

Plan for Today

- Introduction - 5 minutes
- My Man Godfrey - 93 minutes
- Discussion - 20 minutes
- See you next month



The Movie

Possible Discussion Points

- It was successful in 1936, certainly financially successful. Does it still work as a comedy? Do screwball comedies still make sense in a world with Covid-19 and President Trump?
- Did it paper over a desperate social reality? Should movies accept a responsibility to accurately portray the less attractive aspects of their social reality? Or ... Do we sometimes need to escape that reality?



From Our Sponsor

LIFE wants movie goers to remember that only LIFE members will receive notification of up-coming movies.

Renew your LIFE membersip!

Final

- Anyone have a "final comment"?
- Please send your comments and suggestions to:
 - Terry - poultonterry@gmail.com
 - Bob — bob@fabian.ca
- Check for postings at <http://fabian.ca/LIFEmovies>
- Enjoy the rest of your virtual afternoon ...