

Hey Hey!

Okay it's a frightful and stormy night, the shutters are clanging as the rain pours and a thick viscous wind whips across the sky. Huddled underneath the covers I, frightfully with my hands covering my eyes so I only allow myself a modicum of visibility for the action I am so anxious in undertaking, muster up the courage to click the link "Neil Gabler" on Wikipedia hahahahah.

Okay in reality, it was much more happenstance then that. But I did randomly find the movie "[The Grand Hotel.](#)" based on a play and released in 1932 by somehow making it over to Neil Gabler on Wikipedia lol. It also led me to discovering the movie "[The Good Earth](#)", which although I appreciated the sentiment, the use of non asian actors to play asian roles was a little too much for me. (Sidebar: Ms. Thomas's class, she once played us a black and white movie about peasant Chinese farmers, I don't think it was The Good Earth though it might have been. If any of you remember the name of that movie she played for us or even remember her showing us some movie like that, which she did, that is awesome!).

The Grand Hotel:

What an interesting film. It's like a time capsule of a film. It made me think of other classic movies I have seen from around this time period like Holiday from 1938 and The Philadelphia Story from 1941 and a few others like Duck Soup. What is interesting about those later films is that for the most part they could take place during any time, the 1920s, the 30s, 40s, even 50s. But a movie like The Grand Hotel, it's like a movie that could only have come out in 1932. It's an interesting film on the surface, well acted, nicely directed and paced, a little mysterious. But there is also a lot going on underneath the surface. The movie makes it a point repeatedly to talk about the Great War which happened about 15 years prior. And the main antagonist in the film is named Adolphus Preisinger, and he has the same mustache that another Adolph had around that same time lol. Oh yea, even though all the dialogue is in English, the film takes place in Berlin lol. Many allusions are made to this Adolphus Preisinger's dictatorial nature, it's just quite fascinating. It's like a strange spiritual prequel to Casablanca in some respects haha.

It's quite fascinating that in 1932, a year before the [Reichstag Fire](#) these filmmakers could already have their suspicions about this Hitler fellow, especially when during the actual 1930s there was a lot of back and forth, with prominent American society men like Prescott Bush and Joseph Kennedy Sr. and even Mohandas Gandhi, saying positive things about Adolph in that time period. It makes me proud that these artists in 1932 could already sense the trouble that this Adolph guy could be about when such esteemed Statesmen were not.

So that's about it about The Grand Hotel, great movie to watch and reflect on history and society. Also, it has some great star power. I had no idea until the opening credits that two of Drew Barrymore's older relatives are in the film along with Joan Crawford and Greta Garbo. Lastly, I can't help but think that on some level Wes Anderson's "Grand Budapest Hotel" was somewhat of an homage to the film "The Grand Hotel," especially when one of the last lines of the 1932 film is "there's a Grand Hotel in every city in the world."

Hope the holidays are going well! Stay tuned for more, next week in just a few sentences I will utterly destroy the entire entertainment industry in one fell swoop loooooool, but the way things are going someone will beat me to the punch by then haha.

Peace Y'all!

-Nandhish

Attachments area

Preview YouTube video Grand Hotel Official Trailer #1 - Lionel Barrymore Movie (1932) HD

