

LORD OF THE FLIES: MOVIE VERSION

Study Guide compares the book *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding to the movie *Lord of the Flies* (1990) starring Balthazar Getty, Chris Furrh, and Daniel Pipoly. Directed by Harry Hook. Produced by Ross Milloy. A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture.



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LORD OF THE FLIES: MOVIE VERSION

THE MOVIE VERSION OF *LORD OF THE FLIES* IS NOT LIKE THE BOOK by William Golding

RECOMMENDED MOVIE: *Lord of the Flies* (1990) starring Balthazar Getty, Chris Furrh, Daniel Pipoly, James Badge Dale (listed as Badgett Dale), Andrew Taft, Edward Taft, Gary Rule, Terry Wells. Screenplay by Sara Schiff, based on the novel by William Golding. Directed by Harry Hook. Produced by Ross Milloy. A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture. This is the most accessible film version of the book via DVD and streaming. Even though the movie leaves out the parachutist, turns the British schoolboys into Americans, and invents the character of Captain Benson, the basic plot, setting, symbols, characters, and group dynamics are the same as the book.

HOW ACCURATE IS THE MOVIE VERSION OF THE BOOK?

Plot: ★★☆☆☆ Characters: ★★★☆☆ Setting: ★★★☆☆

Structure: ★★☆☆☆ Symbols: ★★☆☆☆ Theme: ★★★☆☆

WHAT'S IN THE BOOK THAT'S NOT IN THE MOVIE?

The scar in the jungle, English schoolboys, the platform, Castle Rock, Piggy's asthma, Simon's secret place in the jungle, the mounted pig's head referred to as the Lord of the Flies, the younger boys called littluns and the older boys biguns, the choirboys, Samneric (what the book calls twins Sam and Eric), Percival, Maurice, Robert, Johnny, Henry, the beast, the dead parachutist, the rescue by a British ship. . .

WHAT'S IN THE MOVIE THAT'S NOT IN THE BOOK?

The plane crash at sea, the life raft, the wounded pilot Captain Benson, American boys in uniform from a military academy, the survival knife, the glow stick, Simon's dreams, Simon's pet lizard, Simon's discovery of Captain Benson in the cave, the helicopter, rescue by U.S. Marines, characters named Andy, Larry, Greg, Sheraton, Peter, Patterson, Mikey, Steve, Pablo, John, Will, Tony, Rapper, Luke, Tex, Billy, and Rusty. . .

WHAT'S THE SAME?

The main characters of Ralph, Jack, Piggy, Simon, Roger, and Sam and Eric, Ralph's election as leader, the conch shell, Piggy's eyeglasses, the fire, the hunters, the killing of the pig, the deaths of Simon and Piggy, the hunt for Ralph, the rescue by adults. . .

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THE MOVIE: SUMMARY

The following is a scene-by-scene comparison of the movie to the corresponding chapters in the book.

THE MOVIE: CHAPTER 1 THE SOUND OF THE SHELL

The plane carrying a group of American military school cadets crashes into the ocean. (**ERROR:** *The plane in the book carries English schoolboys and crashes in the jungle*) The pilot is injured and is sinking to the bottom of the ocean. Ralph grabs him by the hair and pulls him up to the surface. (**ERROR:** *In the book the pilot is killed in the crash*) The boys are all swimming in the ocean. They climb into an inflatable life raft and bring the injured pilot into the raft with them.

They row toward the shore of an island. (**ERROR:** *In the book the boys who survive the crash are already on the island*) The boys are dressed in military school uniforms. (**ERROR:** *In the book the only boys dressed in any kind of uniform are the choirboys who wear black robes with crosses on them*)