\*Sorry how late this is, I thought I already turned it in after our conversation

Social class, a system which political or not we are all a part of, how much we earn or have places us within certain echelons of our society. These classes can be identified simply by tax bracket, place of residence, or in some cases your family. That's not to say that a white collared worker will implicitly earn more than a blue collared one, however, the white collar worker has more room for mobility within his class. Social class is social; often you are identified by your access rather than your paycheck, this is the argument in these two films. Often class is categorized as the difference between the have and have nots, and while money does have power, that power primarily first arises from the means of production, by who is motivated to have power and exposed to it.

In Metropolis we follow our hero, Freder, who comes from the pristine city of Metropolis who one day follows a woman below the city where he becomes appalled by the living and working conditions. So infatuated with the woman, Maira and enraged by the workers plight he joins them to fight for better conditions. Flushed away follows a similar yet less nuanced trajectory; In this Film we follow Rody, a rat who comes from the surface world in London and lives in an upper middle class home with no responsibilities. One day he is pushed into the toilet and is flushed to the below world or Ratopolis, it is here where he finds Rita, a thief whom he at first wants help from, but after falling in love helps to save the sewer city. These two films pursue a similar thread of setting and motivation but the goals diverge a good amount.

In metropolis, Freder’s end goal is to unite the classes to start a dialogue and lead to better and fair treatment of the lower class, Flushed away again is less nuanced in this approach. Rody is more of a bystander for the first third of the film, someone who just wants to get back home to the surface world without concern for the lives of those in Ratopolis. Once faced with the guilt and mammotomy of living life above so he ventures back down to save his new home. While the heroes may differ, the villains hold a similar power.

Both metropolis and Flushed away have our characters face the threat of their new adopted peoples to be killed in a great flood, manipulated not necessarily by the richest but those who are adjacent to them and manipulate their power. This dichotomy of the scientist whom creates the robot and the frog who has the “master wire” both wich had and in one case did flood their worlds. Both these films recognize class however play with what is means, money and position don’t necessarily promise power, rather exposer and motivation.