

Plot

“Gulliver’s Travels” is an adventure story, consisted of several books, which follow the voyages of a ship’s surgeon named Gulliver. On his journeys with the ship, Gulliver always ends up instead of at his destination – in different islands, unknown to humanity, living with unusual people and creatures like he had never encountered before.

Gulliver always manages to return home to England, where he goes back to his ordinary life until he goes on a new trip.

The first book of the series tells the adventure Gulliver has in the island of Lilliput.

This is one of those stories that has been adapted into children’s cartoons. In fact, the first time I heard about Gulliver was through this cartoon, about very small people (about six inches tall) that capture this man who came on their island, and how he helps them solve the issues they face in their country. However, when he refuses to use his size to enslave the citizens of Blefuscu, the enemy island across Lilliput, he is considered an enemy and therefore is forced to flee to Blefuscu.

There, he takes a massive warship and sails away. He is eventually rescued when he comes across an English merchant ship, which returns him to his home in England.

The second book tells a story about an utterly contrary situation: this time Gulliver and his small team, who go to an island to find water, face giants. His crew manages to escape, but Gulliver is captured and left behind.

However, just like in the case of the Lilliputians, Gulliver is treated with kindness, as he is taken to one farmer’s home, who gives him to his daughter to care for him.

She is compassionate, but curious at the same time.

Since he is nothing like the Giants have seen before, they take him on tour around the country to show them to their “people.”

Their curiosity is so big that the farmer manages to sell him to the Queen and King. The King is interested in Gulliver’s country and the customs of people, so he spends a great deal of time with him, discussing these subjects he is interested in.

In many instances, the King expresses his shock by the selfish behavior of people that Gulliver describes to him.

Gulliver, however, does not agree and defends his people.

Then, one day, Gulliver is sitting in his portable room and looking at the sea, when a giant eagle snatches him and drops him into the water.

That is when a ship notices him and rescues him, again, just like in the first book.

In the third book Gulliver adventures off to the Flying Island named Laputa. He meets some of the people that live there which as he notices are obsessed with music, mathematics, and astronomy. The astronomers use the laws of physics – magnetism to be exact, to control the movement of the island.

By the end of the book, he passes through Japan, Amsterdam, and eventually arrives home.

In the last, fourth book, Gulliver is sailing to Barbados. On this trip a few crew members die of illness, so he hires a few men to replace them in Barbados.

It turns out that the recruited members are pirates, and in the end, they take over the ship and leave him on one island.

Can you guess what happens here?

Well, of course, he is discovered by the island's inhabitants – ugly creatures that look like humans and are called Yahoos. The Yahoos attack him by defecating on him from the top of the trees.

But they are not the only ones that live there – a fact that he finds out after he is saved by a horse named Houyhnhnm. The horse takes him to his house and introduces him to his family.

What Gulliver realizes in that incident is that he and the Yahoos are practically the same animals and that he (they) are considered uncivilized in this world he came by.

In fact, although he enters into long discussions with the horse that saved him about the evolution and underlying concepts of the Yahoo society, and the horse favors him, the kingdom decides that he is, in fact, a Yahoo, and as such should either live with the Yahoos or go back to his country.

Gulliver, of course, decides to leave for his homeland. He builds a canoe and sails for the nearby island where he is found by the Portuguese ship, which saves him.