

= Tiny Toon Adventures : How I Spent My Vacation =

Tiny Toon Adventures : How I Spent My Vacation is a 1992 American direct @-@ to @-@ video animated comedy film from Warner Bros. Animation and Amblin Entertainment . Featuring the regular characters from the animated program Tiny Toon Adventures , the film follows them during their summer vacation from school , mainly focused on Babs and Buster going downriver , Plucky and Hamton going to a world famous amusement park , and Fifi in search of her favorite movie star .

Steven Spielberg was the executive producer of the film , which was written by Paul Dini , Nicholas Hollander , Tom Ruegger , and Sherri Stoner . Japanese studio Tokyo Movie Shinsha produced the animation . How I Spent My Vacation was released on VHS and Laserdisc formats on March 11 , 1992 . It was the first animated film to be released direct @-@ to @-@ video in the United States . The film was later aired on television as four separate Tiny Toon Adventures episodes .

The film was one of the highest selling videos in the United States , listing on Billboard magazine 's 40 " Top Video Sales " for 16 weeks as of July 1992 . Points of praise by critics included the film 's jokes and celebrity caricatures , while points of criticism included the segmented plot . Themes of the film included parodies of pop culture and summer vacations .

= = Plot = =

The Tiny Toon Adventures characters leave for their summer vacations after their term at Acme Looniversity ends . Babs and Buster Bunny have a water pistol fight , which eventually escalates into their flooding Acme Acres . The bunnies , along with Byron Basset , float from flooded Acme Acres down to the Southern United States , where they continuously avoid getting eaten by the river 's residents .

Plucky Duck joins Hamton J. Pig and Hamton 's family as they drive to the amusement park HappyWorldLand . The trip turns out to be very long and painful for Plucky , who becomes annoyed with the family 's habits and is almost killed by an escaped convict that the Pigs mistake for a hitchhiker . They eventually arrive at HappyWorldLand , only to simply ride the tour monorail around the park and then immediately decide to head back home , much to Plucky 's dismay .

Meanwhile , Elmyra Duff becomes upset after losing her cat Furrball . When her family visits a nature park , she tortures the zoo animals with her adoration . Fifi Le Fume spends time with film actor Johnny Pew , who is uninterested in Fifi . Fowlmouth and Shirley the Loon see Skunknophobia . Fifi and Johnny attend the same film . Fowlmouth continuously talks through the film and is thrown out of the theater . Fifi gets annoyed when Johnny takes her photograph of him and signs it for another girl . Fifi kicks Johnny out of the theater , causing him to end up with Elmyra (still wearing The Cheetah 's fur she got at the zoo earlier) and becoming her new " kitty " .

After realizing they are the main course at a dinner theater on a showboat , Babs and Buster escape with the help of Byron . They are chased down by the hungry animals they met throughout their journey , but are rescued by a possum Buster had befriended earlier . The escaped convict returns and tries to kill them as well ; Buster , Babs , Byron and the possum try to escape using a mine cart and the escaped convict falls off a cliff . The four end up falling down a " plot hole " which leads them through Wackyland and back to Acme Acres . The film ends with the characters ' return to the Looniversity for the fall semester of school .

= = Voice cast = =

= = Production = =

In 1990 , Bugs Bunny magazine reported that Warner Bros. was planning the release of How I Spent My Vacation , then referred to as a " Tiny Toon Adventures home video " . Plans for the film began before Tiny Toon Adventures premiered on television . Warner Bros. discussed with

executive producer Steven Spielberg whether the film should be released in theaters , but Spielberg insisted on a direct @-@ to @-@ video release . Spielberg said that he wanted to make the film a direct @-@ to @-@ video release because " animated features are ideally suited for the repeat viewing , " a factor he found important to the genre 's appeal to those watching animated films at home . In an interview for the Los Angeles Times , executive in charge of production Jean MacCurdy did not specify the budget of the film , but stated that it was far more costly than episodes of Tiny Toon Adventures . According to Hal Erickson 's Television Cartoon Shows : an Illustrated Encyclopedia , the budget of the average Tiny Toon Adventures episode was approximately \$ 350 @, @ 000 .

How I Spent My Vacation was written by series writers Paul Dini , Nicholas Hollander , Tom Ruegger and Sherri Stoner . Ruegger also produced the film , and Steven Spielberg was the executive producer . The film was animated by Tokyo Movie Shinsha , a Japanese studio . The film had eight directors : Rich Aarons , Ken Boyer , Kent Butterworth , Barry Caldwell , Alfred Gimeno , Arthur Leonardi , Byron Vaughns , and Aoyama Hiroshi . The film is about 73 minutes long .

= = Themes = =

One of the hallmarks of How I Spent My Vacation was the parody of film , popular culture , and celebrities . Videos for Kids noted that the film makes fun of " California culture and youth " with the use of celebrity caricatures , such as those of Roseanne Barr , Johnny Carson , Arsenio Hall , David Letterman , Jay Leno , Oprah Winfrey , and Sylvester Stallone . The film makes fun of other cartoon characters , such as those of Superman , The Simpsons , Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles , Who Framed Roger Rabbit , The Ren & Stimpy Show , Beavis and Butthead , and The Little Mermaid . Babs and Buster 's travels down the river are a parody of the film Deliverance .

Jean MacCurdy said that How I Spent My Vacation makes fun of summer vacations by mocking " the boredom of summer and some of those horrible car trips " (an issue that was first explored in National Lampoon 's Vacation) . In the film , the Hampton family car trip is very taxing for Plucky Duck ; he is disgusted by the family and is nearly killed by an escaped lunatic that the family mistakes for a hitchhiker (He happens to be a caricature of Jason Voorhees) . The film 's fictional theme park , " HappyWorldLand " , is a spoof of Disneyland . The film also parodies the THX logo and Deep Note when Fowlmouth and Shirley are at the movie theater .

= = Home media releases and broadcast = =

How I Spent My Vacation was released direct @-@ to @-@ video on March 11 , 1992 . The film was released on VHS and Laserdisc formats . MacCurdy said that the film was released at that time to take advantage of the Easter market . Because retailers had high demand for the film , Warner Bros. shipped to them nearly one million copies , which the Los Angeles Times noted as " a record for direct @-@ to @-@ video programs " .

How I Spent My Vacation was the first direct @-@ to @-@ video , feature @-@ length animated film released in the United States . At the time , the concept of a direct @-@ to @-@ video animated feature was so strange to consumers that some mistakenly thought How I Spent My Vacation was a collection of Tiny Toon Adventures episodes .

The film later aired on Fox Kids on September 5 , 1993 , as four Tiny Toon Adventures episodes , episodes 97 through 100 . Warner Bros. began to release the Tiny Toon Adventures series on DVD , in volumes , on July 29 , 2008 . The company released How I Spent My Vacation for the first time on DVD on August 21 , 2012 (20 years later) . The Hub , which airs Tiny Toon Adventures , has shown the film as a " Hub Family Movie . "

= = Reception = =

Reviews ranged from positive to mixed . Giving three out of four bones , the VideoHound 's Golden Movie Retriever highlighted the parodies in the film , and noted that " Parents will be [as] equally

entertained [as children] by the level of humor and fast @-@ paced action " . Film critic Leonard Maltin gave the film two and a half stars out of four , saying the film was " [e] pisodic , " but praised the voice cast , songs and " funny business " . TV Guide called the film a " firecracker " , citing the film 's many jokes . The book Videos for Kids : The Essential , Indispensable Parent 's Guide to Children 's Movies on Video praised the " tongue @-@ in @-@ cheek humor " and celebrity caricatures but issued warning to parents , stating that the film may not be appropriate for " children too young to identify satire " because the characters in the film " are rude and combative " and may not be positive role models . Videos for Kids still concluded that the film " should provide an enjoyable viewing experience for the whole family " . Dennis Hunt of the Los Angeles Times said that the format of a direct @-@ video film was " unusual " , but that some parts of the film were " hilarious " , especially the scenes which make fun of Walt Disney World . Since its release , How I Spent My Vacation has been rated as one of the " Top 20 (U.S.-Produced) Direct @-@ to @-@ Video Animated Films " by The Animated Movie Guide .

Rating the film a " C + " overall , Steve Daly of Entertainment Weekly noted that while the film was " superior to most TV fare " , he called the film a " pandering kidvid make @-@ over " of the Looney Tunes cartoons on which Tiny Toons was based , saying the characters were immature and the content was " fast without being funny " . A 1992 issue of the Video Watchdog was particularly critical , calling the film " a mixed bag " that " sacrificed (...) a cohesive plot for an outline that allows various teams of characters to come up with four stories . " The magazine also questioned the point of using characters heavily based on the classic Looney Tunes characters instead of using the classic characters themselves .

The VHS release of How I Spent My Vacation was one of the highest selling videos in the United states ; on the Billboard charts , the video ranked 12th in sales in April 1992 . In May 1992 , How I Spent My Vacation rose to 9th in video sales . On July 18 , 1992 , How I Spent My Vacation had been on Billboard Magazine 's 40 " Top Video Sales " for 16 weeks . On June 27 , 1992 , the film was ranked the 5th highest on Billboard 's " Top Kid Video " . On February 6 , 1993 , How I Spent My Vacation had been on the " Top Kid Video " list for 41 weeks . While it did not state the revenue of the film , the Toronto Star stated that the film sold so well that Warner Bros. decided to release videos of Tiny Toon Adventures episodes .