

BAMBI

1942

Bambi, Walt Disney's all-time favorite picture, is an endearing animated tale about the beauty of nature and the miracle of life.

No film better captures the pure magic of Disney than Bambi. The film tells the story of an orphaned deer growing up ... but not until it presents one of the most traumatic movie experiences ever filmed: "the death of Bambi's mother". Some may argue that the film is unfit for young children, but in 1942, when it was released, there was no modern rating system. On the other hand, far less deer hunters came out the next season.

"Bambi" is the story of one deer, but it is also a case study in the very basics of life: parental love, loss and grief, friendship, loyalty, balancing risk and need, growing toward independence, being at one and in harmony with Nature, and romantic love. For a mere 69-minute movie, it covers more ground than many of the epics made today.

Nominated for three Academy Awards, it be stiff competition for computer animated "Pixar" films, even today.