



My Big Fat Greek Wedding

Film Summary

This is a wonderful film that is both touching and hilarious at the same time. The film is narrated by Toula Portokalos, the 30 year old daughter of Greek parents who is a “seating hostess” in her family’s Greek restaurant: The Dancing Zorba. At the beginning of the film she is, much to the disappointment of her family, still single. Toula feels rather overwhelmed by her huge Greek family who believe that her destiny is to marry a Greek man, have Greek children and to feed everyone until the day she dies. Enter Ian Miller, an American WASP and definitely not Greek. As Toula and Ian fall in love the film takes us on a journey of discovery, not just for Toula and Ian, but for their families too. The film highlights a number of issues that are covered in the English curriculum, such as immigration, cultural identity, integration and inter-cultural marriage.

Food is very much a central theme in the film, since not only does the family run a Greek restaurant, but their lives revolve around the making and eating of it. It therefore provides a useful starting point for discussions within RM and KOS. Since Toula also goes back to school to study IT, and then goes to work in her aunty’s travel agency with the goal of updating its outdated IT system, the film is useful for reiseliv vg2 as well. The Greek orientated design theme runs throughout the film from the front lawns through to the bridesmaids’ dresses and is thus interesting for Design og Håndverk pupils too.

Additional information

The film came about after Tom Hanks and his wife, who is Greek, went to see Nia Vardalos (who plays Toula) perform in her own one-woman play about her Greek family, who she has great affection for and at times a little exasperation too. He liked it so much that it became a film. My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2 has now been released.

Classification: PG

Duration: 95 mins