

harriet movie questions and answers

harriet movie questions and answers provide a valuable resource for understanding the 2019 historical drama film "Harriet," which portrays the extraordinary life of Harriet Tubman. This article offers a comprehensive exploration of key themes, characters, and historical contexts presented in the movie. By examining important questions and providing detailed answers, the content aims to enhance viewers' appreciation and comprehension of Harriet Tubman's legacy and the film's depiction of the Underground Railroad. Whether used for educational purposes or personal interest, this guide delves into the accuracy of the film, its dramatic elements, and its cultural significance. Readers will find insights into the plot, character motivations, and the broader impact of Harriet Tubman's story as represented on screen. The following sections will cover thematic analyses, character breakdowns, historical accuracy, and frequently asked questions related to the movie.

- Overview and Plot Summary
- Main Characters and Their Roles
- Historical Accuracy and Representation
- Themes and Symbolism in the Film
- Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

Overview and Plot Summary

The film "Harriet" chronicles the life of Harriet Tubman, an African American abolitionist and political activist who escaped slavery and subsequently led numerous missions to rescue enslaved people via the Underground Railroad. The movie begins with Harriet's early years as a slave named Minty, capturing the brutal conditions she endured. It then follows her daring escape to freedom and her transformation into a courageous conductor on the Underground Railroad. The plot highlights her relentless determination to secure freedom for others, despite immense personal risk and physical challenges. Through a series of tense and emotional scenes, the film portrays Harriet's courage, leadership, and unyielding spirit.

This summary sets the foundation for addressing harriet movie questions and answers, providing context for further analysis of the film's narrative and characters.

Main Characters and Their Roles

The movie centers on several key characters who play significant roles in Harriet Tubman's journey. Understanding these characters is essential for answering harriet movie questions and answers regarding motivations, relationships, and character development.

Harriet Tubman (Minty)

Harriet Tubman, originally named Minty, is the protagonist whose life story the film follows. Her character embodies resilience and bravery as she escapes slavery and commits herself to liberating others. The film portrays her physical and psychological struggles, emphasizing her leadership qualities and unwavering faith.

Ralph and Ben Ross

Ralph and Ben Ross are white abolitionists who assist Harriet in her missions. Their characters illustrate the alliances formed between free individuals and escaped slaves working toward abolition. They provide necessary resources and support for Harriet's Underground Railroad activities.

William Still

William Still is depicted as a key figure in the Underground Railroad network. His role in documenting escaped slaves and coordinating safe passages is crucial to Harriet's success. The film highlights his dedication to the cause and his collaboration with Harriet.

Other Supporting Characters

The film includes several enslaved individuals, family members, and antagonists such as slave catchers. These characters contribute to the emotional depth and historical context of the narrative, illustrating the dangers and stakes involved in Harriet's missions.

Historical Accuracy and Representation

Addressing harriet movie questions and answers requires an examination of the film's fidelity to historical facts. While the movie is based on true events, some dramatizations and creative liberties are present for narrative impact.

Faithfulness to Harriet Tubman's Life

The film accurately depicts key events such as Harriet's escape from slavery, her role as a conductor on the Underground Railroad, and her involvement in the Civil War. It showcases her strategic planning and the risks she faced. However, certain timelines and interactions are condensed or embellished to enhance storytelling.

Dramatic Elements and Artistic License

Some characters and incidents are fictionalized or combined for dramatic effect. For example, the portrayal of particular confrontations or dialogues may not be historically documented but serve to

communicate Harriet's character and the broader struggle against slavery.

Representation of Slavery and Resistance

The film provides a stark representation of slavery's brutality, including physical violence and psychological trauma. It also highlights the collective resistance efforts of enslaved people and abolitionists, emphasizing themes of solidarity and courage.

Themes and Symbolism in the Film

Understanding the thematic elements enriches the analysis of harriet movie questions and answers. The film weaves several powerful themes and symbols throughout its narrative.

Freedom and Liberation

The central theme revolves around the quest for freedom—both physical and spiritual. Harriet's repeated journeys back into slave-holding territory symbolize hope and the relentless pursuit of liberty.

Faith and Spirituality

Harriet's faith plays a crucial role in her resolve and decision-making. The film often portrays moments of prayer and divine guidance, reflecting the spiritual dimension of her activism.

Strength and Sacrifice

The movie emphasizes Harriet's physical and emotional endurance. Her sacrifices, including separation from family and personal danger, highlight the costs of resistance and the strength required to challenge injustice.

Symbolism of the Railroad

The Underground Railroad serves as a powerful metaphor for connection, hope, and collective action. It symbolizes a path to freedom forged through courage and cooperation.

List of Key Themes

- Freedom and resistance against oppression
- Faith as a source of strength

- Leadership and perseverance
- Community and solidarity
- The moral imperative of justice

Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

This section addresses common harriet movie questions and answers to clarify viewers' understanding and provide deeper insights into the film and its historical context.

Is the movie "Harriet" historically accurate?

While the movie is largely faithful to Harriet Tubman's life and achievements, it includes dramatized scenes and composite characters to enhance narrative flow. The core events, such as her escape and role in the Underground Railroad, are based on historical records.

Who played Harriet Tubman in the film?

Actress Cynthia Erivo portrayed Harriet Tubman, delivering a critically acclaimed performance that captured the strength and complexity of the historical figure.

What is the significance of the Underground Railroad in the movie?

The Underground Railroad is central to the film's plot, representing the secret network of routes and safe houses used to help enslaved people escape to freedom. It symbolizes hope and collective resistance against slavery.

Does the film explore Harriet Tubman's role during the Civil War?

Yes, the movie briefly covers Harriet's involvement as a spy, nurse, and scout for the Union Army, highlighting her continued commitment to the abolitionist cause beyond just the Underground Railroad.

What message does the film convey about slavery and resistance?

The film conveys the brutal realities of slavery while emphasizing the courage and resilience of those

who fought against it. It highlights the importance of activism, faith, and sacrifice in the pursuit of justice.

List of Additional Frequently Asked Questions

- How does the movie portray Harriet's family relationships?
- What challenges did Harriet face during her missions?
- Are there any notable historical inaccuracies in the film?
- How was the film received by critics and audiences?
- What impact has the movie had on public awareness of Harriet Tubman's legacy?

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the movie 'Harriet' about?

The movie 'Harriet' is a biographical film that tells the story of Harriet Tubman, an escaped slave who became a leading abolitionist and helped hundreds of slaves escape through the Underground Railroad.

Who stars as Harriet Tubman in the movie 'Harriet'?

Cynthia Erivo stars as Harriet Tubman in the movie 'Harriet'.

What themes are explored in the movie 'Harriet'?

The movie explores themes such as freedom, bravery, resilience, the fight against slavery, and the power of hope and determination.

How historically accurate is the movie 'Harriet'?

While 'Harriet' is largely based on true events and portrays Harriet Tubman's life and achievements, some dramatization and creative liberties are taken for storytelling purposes.

What role does faith play in the movie 'Harriet'?

Faith is depicted as a significant motivating factor for Harriet Tubman, providing her with strength and guidance throughout her dangerous missions to free enslaved people.

What impact did Harriet Tubman have according to the movie 'Harriet'?

The movie highlights Harriet Tubman's impact as a courageous leader who not only helped many slaves gain freedom but also contributed to the abolitionist movement and the fight for civil rights.

Additional Resources

1. *Harriet Movie Study Guide: Questions and Answers for Students*

This guide offers a comprehensive set of questions and answers designed to deepen students' understanding of the Harriet movie. It includes discussion prompts, character analyses, and historical context to enhance classroom engagement. The book is ideal for educators looking to facilitate meaningful conversations about Harriet Tubman's life and legacy.

2. *Exploring Harriet: A Companion to the Harriet Movie*

This companion book provides insightful commentary and answers to common questions viewers may have after watching the Harriet film. It delves into the historical accuracy of the movie and highlights key moments from Harriet Tubman's journey. Readers will find useful background information that enriches their viewing experience.

3. *Harriet Tubman: From Screen to History*

Focusing on the connection between the Harriet movie and real-life events, this book answers many questions about the portrayal of Harriet Tubman. It offers a factual breakdown of the film's narrative compared to historical records. The book also discusses the significance of Tubman's contributions to the Underground Railroad.

4. *Understanding Harriet: Q&A on the Harriet Movie and Its Themes*

This book presents a series of questions and answers that explore the major themes of the Harriet movie, such as freedom, courage, and resilience. It encourages readers to think critically about the challenges Harriet faced and the broader impact of her work. The text is accessible for both young adults and adult readers.

5. *The Harriet Movie Discussion Handbook*

Designed for group discussions, this handbook provides thought-provoking questions and well-researched answers related to the Harriet movie. It covers character motivations, historical context, and the film's narrative style. Perfect for book clubs, classrooms, or community groups interested in Harriet Tubman's story.

6. *Harriet Movie FAQs: Answers to Your Burning Questions*

This FAQ-style book addresses common questions viewers have about the Harriet movie, including inquiries about casting, plot choices, and historical facts. It offers clear, concise answers that clarify misconceptions and provide deeper insights. The book also includes trivia and behind-the-scenes information.

7. *Harriet Tubman on Film: Analysis and Q&A*

This analytical book explores the cinematic portrayal of Harriet Tubman, providing answers to questions about the film's accuracy and artistic choices. It discusses how the movie contributes to the public's understanding of Tubman's life and legacy. Readers gain an appreciation for the challenges of adapting history to film.

8. *Questions & Answers on Harriet: The Movie and the Movement*

Focusing on both the Harriet movie and the broader abolitionist movement, this book offers detailed Q&A sections that connect the film to historical events. It highlights the significance of Harriet Tubman's activism and the impact of the Underground Railroad. This resource is valuable for those interested in history and film studies.

9. *Harriet Movie Reflection and Study Questions*

This book encourages readers to reflect on the Harriet movie through guided questions and answers that promote critical thinking. It covers key scenes, character development, and historical background. Ideal for educators and students, it supports a deeper exploration of the film's message and Harriet Tubman's enduring influence.

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