

harriet movie questions and answers

harriet movie questions and answers are essential for anyone looking to deepen their understanding of the film "Harriet," which chronicles the daring life of Harriet Tubman, a key figure in the American abolitionist movement. This article provides a comprehensive exploration of various questions and answers related to the movie, including its historical context, character development, themes, and more. We will delve into specific plot points, the portrayal of significant characters, and the film's overall impact on viewers. This resource is designed for educators, students, and movie enthusiasts seeking clarity and insight into the cinematic representation of Harriet Tubman's extraordinary life.

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Overview of the Movie

"Harriet," directed by Kasi Lemmons, was released in 2019 and features Cynthia Erivo in the titular role. The film captures the harrowing journey of Harriet Tubman, who escaped from slavery and went on to become a leading figure in the Underground Railroad, helping others to achieve freedom. The narrative spans Tubman's early life in Maryland, her daring escape, and her relentless efforts to rescue others from the bonds of slavery. The film highlights Tubman's courage, intelligence, and resourcefulness, painting a vivid picture of her struggles and triumphs.

The film is notable not only for its engaging storytelling but also for its commitment to historical detail. By focusing on Tubman's life, it sheds light on a critical period in American history, illustrating the harsh realities faced by enslaved individuals and the courage required to fight against oppression. The film's cinematography, score, and performances work together to create an emotionally resonant experience that captivates audiences.

Character Analysis

Character development is a key element that enriches the narrative of "Harriet." The film introduces several pivotal characters, each contributing to Tubman's journey in unique ways. Central to the story

is Harriet Tubman herself, whose character is portrayed with depth and complexity.

Harriet Tubman

Harriet Tubman, played by Cynthia Erivo, is depicted as a fierce and determined woman. The film explores her transformation from a slave named Araminta to the leader known as Harriet. Her character is marked by resilience, compassion, and an unyielding commitment to freedom. The audience witnesses her internal struggles and the profound loss she endures, which fuels her desire to liberate others.

William Still

William Still, portrayed by Leslie Odom Jr., is another significant character in the film. As a key abolitionist and a conductor on the Underground Railroad, Still helps Tubman in her mission. His character represents the collective effort of many who fought against slavery, providing a supportive network for freedom seekers.

Other Key Figures

Other notable characters include Tubman's family and fellow slaves, who reflect the varying perspectives and struggles within the slave community. Each character adds richness to the story, helping to convey the broader implications of Tubman's fight for freedom.

Thematic Elements

The themes presented in "Harriet" resonate deeply with contemporary audiences. The film addresses issues of freedom, identity, and the moral imperative to fight against injustice. It serves as a reminder of the sacrifices made by individuals in the pursuit of liberty.

Freedom and Sacrifice

The theme of freedom is central to the narrative. Tubman's journey is not just about her own escape but also about her commitment to help others attain freedom. The sacrifices she makes highlight the personal cost of such a monumental struggle. The film emphasizes that the fight for freedom often requires great personal risk.

Faith and Resilience

Another important theme is the role of faith and resilience. Tubman's strong belief in a higher power guides her decisions and provides her with strength during her darkest moments. Her resilience in the face of adversity serves as an inspiring message about the power of hope and determination.

Historical Accuracy

When discussing "Harriet," it is crucial to consider its historical accuracy. The film is based on true events, but as with many historical dramas, some artistic liberties are taken for storytelling purposes.

The portrayal of Harriet Tubman is grounded in historical accounts, yet certain events may be dramatized or condensed. For instance, the film showcases Tubman's visions and spiritual experiences, which were significant in her life but may be interpreted differently by historians. Overall, while the film aims to honor Tubman's legacy, it also engages viewers with a compelling narrative that may not fully encapsulate the complexities of her life.

Impact and Reception

The impact of "Harriet" extends beyond the cinematic experience. The film has sparked conversations about race, history, and the ongoing fight for social justice. It has been praised for its powerful performances, particularly Erivo's portrayal of Tubman, which garnered her nominations and awards, including an Academy Award nomination for Best Actress.

Critics have lauded the film for its emotional depth and historical significance. Viewers have expressed their appreciation for the way the film brings to light the stories of those who fought against slavery, making Tubman's legacy accessible to new generations. The film serves as a testament to the enduring relevance of Tubman's story in today's context, encouraging discussions about freedom and equality.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is the main storyline of the movie "Harriet"?

A: The main storyline of "Harriet" follows the life of Harriet Tubman, focusing on her daring escape from slavery and her subsequent efforts to rescue other enslaved individuals through the Underground Railroad.

Q: How does the film portray Harriet Tubman's character?

A: The film portrays Harriet Tubman as a courageous and determined figure, highlighting her resilience, intelligence, and unwavering commitment to freedom for herself and others.

Q: Who directed the movie "Harriet"?

A: The movie "Harriet" was directed by Kasi Lemmons, who is known for her work in both film and television, bringing a nuanced perspective to Tubman's story.

Q: What themes are explored in "Harriet"?

A: Key themes in "Harriet" include freedom, sacrifice, faith, and resilience, emphasizing the personal and collective struggles in the fight against slavery.

Q: Is "Harriet" historically accurate?

A: While "Harriet" is based on true events and aims to honor Tubman's legacy, some artistic liberties are taken for dramatic effect, and certain events may be condensed or dramatized.

Q: How has "Harriet" been received by audiences and critics?

A: "Harriet" has been well-received, praised for its powerful performances, particularly Cynthia Erivo's, and its ability to spark discussions about race and social justice.

Q: What is the significance of Harriet Tubman's story today?

A: Harriet Tubman's story remains significant as it highlights the historical fight for freedom and equality, resonating with ongoing social justice movements today.

Q: Who plays Harriet Tubman in the film?

A: Cynthia Erivo plays the role of Harriet Tubman in the film, delivering a performance that has garnered critical acclaim and recognition.

Q: What impact did "Harriet" have on its audience?

A: "Harriet" has had a profound impact on its audience, encouraging reflection on historical injustices and inspiring discussions about freedom and equality in contemporary society.

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