

HUCKLEBERRY FINN: MOVIE VERSION

Study Guide compares the novel *Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain to the movie version *The Adventures of Huck Finn* (1993) starring Elijah Wood, Courtney B. Vance, and Jason Robards.

A Disney Picture.



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SAMPLE HUCKLEBERRY FINN: MOVIE VERSION

THE MOVIE VERSION OF *HUCKLEBERRY FINN* IS NOT LIKE THE BOOK by Mark Twain

RECOMMENDED MOVIE: *The Adventures of Huck Finn* (1993) starring Elijah Wood, Courtney B. Vance, and Jason Robards. A Disney Picture. Even though this Disney movie omits 24 chapters of the book, it still covers the main plot lines and characters fairly accurately. Too bad the movie left out Tom Sawyer who dominates most of the omitted chapters.

HOW ACCURATE IS THE MOVIE VERSION OF THE BOOK?

Plot: ★★☆☆☆ Characters: ★★☆☆☆ Setting: ★★☆☆☆
Structure: ★★☆☆☆ Symbols: ★★☆☆☆ Theme: ★★☆☆☆

WHAT'S IN THE BOOK THAT'S NOT IN THE MOVIE?

Tom Sawyer, Judge Thatcher, Aunt Sally and Uncle Silas, Aunt Polly, Emmeline Grangerford, Tom Sawyer's band of robbers, Jim's rattlesnake bite, the search for Huck's body, the flood, the floating house, The Royal Nonesuch, the circus, Colonel Sherburn, Jim as a sick Arab, Tom and Huck's rescue of Jim, Tom's gunshot wound . . .

WHAT'S IN THE MOVIE THAT'S NOT IN THE BOOK?

The fight with the bully, the wanted poster, Jim as a Grangerford slave, Pap's body on the steamboat, Jim's whipping, Jim as a Swahili, the attempted lynching of Jim, Mary Jane Wilks firing a gun, Jim's arrest, Huck's gunshot wound . . .

WHAT'S THE SAME?

Widow Douglas and Miss Watson try to civilize Huck, Pap kidnaps Huck, Huck stages his own murder, Huck and Jim's raft trip on the Mississippi River, Huck dressed as a girl, the Grangerford and Shepherdson feud, the king and the duke try to swindle the Wilks family, Huck runs away at the end . . .

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THE MOVIE: SUMMARY

The following is a scene-by-scene comparison of the movie to the corresponding chapters in the book.

THE MOVIE: CHAPTER 1

OPENING SCENE: The voice of Huck Finn introduces himself as the narrator. (**ACCURATE**) He says this is the story of himself and a slave named Jim. (**ERROR: Not in the book**) Huck says that the story is mostly the truth. (**ACCURATE**)

OMISSION: In the book Huck reminds the reader that he is the same boy who was in *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* by Mark Twain. Huck retells the story of how he and Tom Sawyer found gold hidden by robbers in a cave. Judge Thatcher awarded each boy \$6,000 apiece. The Judge invested each boy's money so that with interest, the investments earn each boy a dollar a day. Widow Douglas adopted Huck and is now trying to civilize him. The widow's sister Miss Watson lives with her. At midnight Huck hears Tom Sawyer's "meow." Huck sneaks out the window, slides down the drain pipe and joins Tom.

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