

# HOLES: MOVIE VERSION

**Study Guide compares the novel *Holes* by Louis Sachar to the movie version *Holes* (2003) starring Sigourney Weaver, Jon Voight, Shia LaBeouf, Henry Winkler, Eartha Kitt, and Patricia Arquette.**



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**SAMPLE HOLES: MOVIE VERSION**

**THE MOVIE VERSION OF *HOLES*  
IS NOT LIKE THE BOOK by Louis Sachar**

**RECOMMENDED MOVIE:** *Holes* (2003) starring Sigourney Weaver, Jon Voight, Shia LaBeouf, Henry Winkler, Eartha Kitt, and Patricia Arquette. This is one of the most accurate movie versions of a novel because the book's author, Louis Sachar, wrote the screenplay.

**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?**

Two oak trees and a hammock, spit in the hole, Wreck Room, Stanley is big and overweight, Italian restaurant, Zero's math skills, Derrick Dunne, Doc Hawthorn, Super Bowl commercial for Sploosh.

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

Grandpa Yelnats, "Doctor" Pendanski, morning reveille at the camp, the Library shed, Tastee Freeze, Hector's mother at the bus station, X-Ray's goodbye, rain storm at Camp Green Lake, the arrest of Marion Sedillo.

**WHAT'S THE SAME?**

Camp Green Lake, the Warden, Mr. Sir, Mr. Pendanski, the boys of D tent, digging holes, the Yelnats family curse, Kissin' Kate Barlow, God's Thumb, Sam's rowboat, Mr. Yelnats's invention, the suitcase.

## **SAMPLE HOLES: MOVIE VERSION**

### **THE MOVIE: SUMMARY**

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

### **THE MOVIE: PART ONE -- CHAPTER 1**

**Opening scene:** In a desert a teenager called Barf Bag takes off his shoe and deliberately lets a rattlesnake bite him. (**ERROR:** In the book in Chapter 35 there is a mention that Barf Bag was bitten by a rattlesnake, but not intentionally) A pair of sneakers falls from a highway overpass. (**ACCURATE**, but in the book this scene is in Chapter 6)

**OMISSIONS:** Today Camp Green Lake has no lake. More than a hundred years ago Green Lake was the biggest lake in Texas, but it dried up. The town of Green Lake also disappeared. The only shade at the camp is two oak trees in front of a log cabin. There is a hammock strung between the two trees, but the only person who can use the hammock is the Warden. The camp is in a desert wasteland with summer temperatures in the 90s. Rattlesnakes and scorpions are plentiful. Campers who are bitten by snakes and scorpions are taken to a tent to recover. A bite from the yellow-spotted lizard will cause death. Campers spend every day digging holes in the hot sun.

### **THE MOVIE: CHAPTER 2**

A pair of sneakers falls from a highway overpass and lands on Stanley Yelnats. (**ACCURATE**, but in the book the account of the sneakers falling on Stanley is in Chapter 6) Stanley blames his bad luck on a 150-year-old curse. (**ACCURATE**, but in the book the curse is first mentioned in Chapter 3)

**OMISSIONS:** Camp Green Lake is a correction center for juvenile offenders. The theory is that digging a hole in the hot sun will reform delinquent teenage boys. Stanley Yelnats chose Camp Green Lake over spending time in jail. He is from a poor family and has never been to camp.

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