

HEART OF DARKNESS: MOVIE VERSION

Study Guide compares the book Heart of Darkness by Joseph Conrad to the movie Heart of Darkness (1993 TV movie) starring Tim Roth, John Malkovich and Iman. Directed by Nicolas Roeg. TNT original movie.



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SAMPLE HEART OF DARKNESS: MOVIE VERSION

THE MOVIE *HEART OF DARKNESS* IS NOT LIKE THE BOOK by Joseph Conrad

RECOMMENDED MOVIE: *Heart of Darkness* (1993 TV movie) starring Tim Roth, John Malkovich and Iman. Directed by Nicolas Roeg. TNT Original Movie.

HOW ACCURATE IS THE MOVIE VERSION OF THE BOOK?

Plot: ★★☆☆☆ Characters: ★★☆☆☆ Setting: ★★★★★

Structure: ★★☆☆☆ Symbols: ★★☆☆☆ Theme: ★★★★★

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: An elephant hide appears on screen as the credits run. (**NOTE:** The novel involves 19th century African ivory trade, but no elephants appear in the story) The voice of Marlow says that the story is about one of the dark places on the earth. (**ACCURATE**) The opening scene is on a yacht moored in the Thames River in London. (**ACCURATE**) A man named Jaeger from a European trading company demands that Marlow hand over Kurtz's papers. (**ERROR:** Not in the book. In the book the Director of Companies on the yacht is Marlow's friend. No character named Jaeger appears in the book) Jaeger says that the European exploitation of Africa is no different from the Roman exploitation of Britain. (**ERROR:** In the book Marlow says this) Marlow says that the trading company has been trying to get him to hand over Kurtz's papers for eight years. (**ERROR:** Not in the book) The accountant has set up a game of dominoes but no one wants to play. (**ACCURATE**, but in the book the accountant is Marlow's friend) The lawyer says nothing. (**ACCURATE**, but in the book the lawyer is Marlow's friend) Jaeger's argument is that Kurtz had knowledge of unexplored territory that is invaluable to science. (**ERROR:** In the book in Chapter 3 an Inspector from the trading company visits Marlow and uses this argument to no avail) Marlow refuses to surrender Kurtz's papers to the company. (**ACCURATE**, but this occurs at the end of the book in Chapter 3) Marlow tells Jaeger that Kurtz did not give him the papers. (**ERROR:** In the book Kurtz entrusts his papers to Marlow for safe-keeping just before he dies)

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QUIZ

This quiz compares the movie *Heart of Darkness* (1993 TV movie) starring Tim Roth and John Malkovich to the novel *Heart of Darkness* by Joseph Conrad.

- ___ 1. In the opening scene of the movie Marlow tells a man that Kurtz did not give him his papers. In the book Kurtz does entrust his papers to Marlow for
a. safe-keeping b. legal protection c. a trade d. publication
- ___ 2. In the movie and the book the opening scene takes place on the yacht Nellie in the
a. Congo b. Mediterranean Sea c. English Channel d. Thames River
- ___ 3. In the movie Kurtz says that it is dangerous to look into the abyss of our being. In the book Marlow himself says that he has stood on the edge of the abyss but did not do as Kurtz had done and
a. recommend it b. run away c. know it d. fall in

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