





You'll

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NEVER catch

BORN ARAMINTA ROSS, AROUND 1820 IN THE 'SLAVE STATE' OF MARYLAND, USA. CHANGED HER IDENTITY TO HARRIET TUBMAN WHEN SHE ESCAPED.

HAS SHAMELESSLY MADE REPEATED TRIPS TO MARYLAND BETWEEN 1850 AND 1860 TO HELP MANY MORE SLAVES RUN AWAY. REPORT SIGHTINGS TO YOUR NEAREST SLAVE CATCHER.

Like many other African Americans in the south of the USA in the 1800s, Harriet Tubman and her family were slaves. This meant they were the property of a rich white household. To make money for themselves, owners forced slaves to work long hours, on land and in their homes, with no payment.

Harriet dreamed of a better life. After hearing stories of slaves escaping north, to 'free states' where slavery was outlawed, Harriet tried to persuade her family to run away with her. But they were too scared of being caught and punished. Even though Harriet was scared too, in 1849 she decided that freedom was worth the risk...



Runaway slaves, like Harriet, were helped to freedom by the 'UNDERGROUND RAILROAD'. Although this sounds like a railway, it was actually a network of safe routes north. 'Underground' meant that it was top secret. It was set up by people, white and black, who wanted to put an end to slavery. They were called 'ABOLITIONISTS'.

Travelling at night meant less chance of being caught.

careful to stay hidden from slave catchers.

By 1860 a reward was being offered for Harriet's capture. Because of this Harriet had to give up being an Underground Railroad Conductor, but she found new ways to fight for freedom.

SEEN THIS

ESCAPED

WANTED

During the American Civil War Harriet served as a nurse and a spy, even leading a military expedition. Harriet's brave deeds helped to ensure that one day all slaves would be free - and at the end of the war, in 1863, slavery was abolished.

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In 1850 the FUGITIVE SLAVE ACT

was introduced in order to make

in the USA, even in 'free states'.

But this didn't stop Harriet. She

guided her passengers further -

hide here!

into Canada - to find safety.

Directions were given by

places known as STOPS

CONDUCTORS, and hiding

were offered in safe houses

run by STATION MASTERS.

it harder for slaves to find freedom

When Harriet

reached the free state of Pennsylvania, she was, for the first time in her life, a free woman. But without her friends and family Harriet felt very lonely. She decided to use her freedom to help other slaves to freedom, and became an Underground Railroad Conductor.

