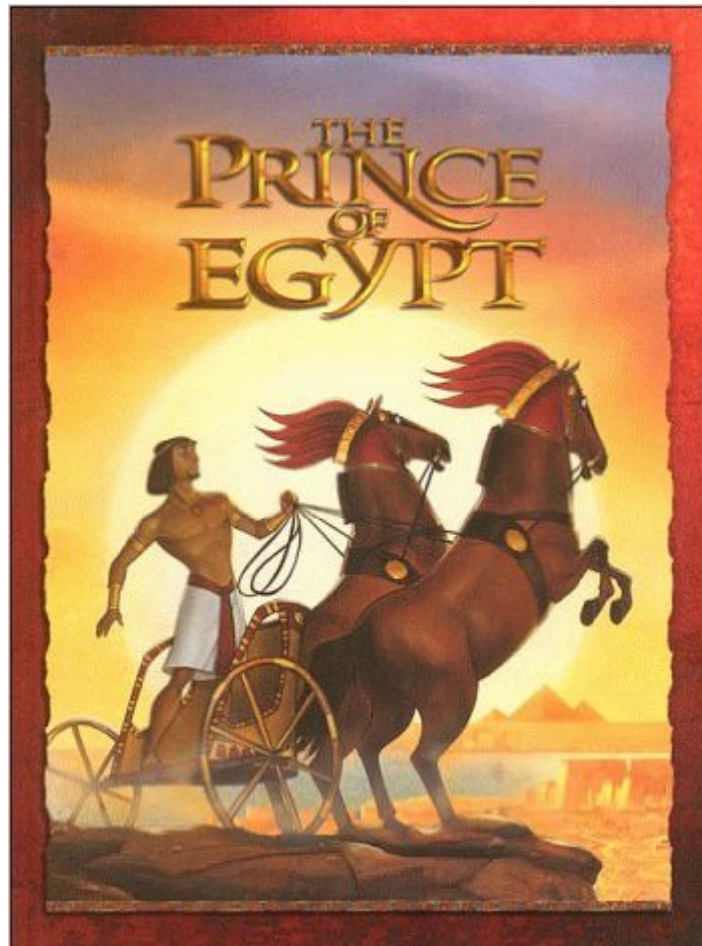


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The Prince Of Egypt



Synopsis

In timeless prose, Jane Yolen shares the story of Moses as stirringly told in the Dream Works' epic film, "The Prince of Egypt." In the divided land of Egypt some are masters and the rest are slaves, While the queen and her handmaidens bathe in the water gardens, the Hebrews toil under the hot sun, building a great empire. Pharaoh's sons race their chariots through the city, destroying a month's work in a careless minute. And ruling over them all is Pharaoh, a man of dreadful power. Prince Moses is proud to be Pharaoh's son and Rameses' beloved brother. But soon he will discover that his life is a lie. He will learn how a Hebrew slave -- his birth mother -- set him adrift in a basket to save his life. And in this truth, Moses will find his destiny. For God has chosen him to lead the Hebrew people out of Egypt to freedom.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I am pleased to offer this review for what I consider to be one of the finest animated films of all time. The review is partially in response to a rather malicious one offered by a reviewer known as trezku13. I felt it necessary to rebut some of this person's inaccurate comments. The movie puts a disclaimer at the beginning to inform the viewer that there are artistic and dramatic licenses taken with the story (a.k.a. whales in the Sea of Reeds). You should be prepared for this when you watch it. If you're watching this with the book of Exodus in your lap, you will see some differences in the two accounts. These changes don't adulterate the message of the story and should not detract from the viewing experience. Some differences to note are: 1) Seti's wife finding Moses rather than his

daughter (Exodus 2:5),2) The idea that Moses didn't know he was Hebrew and had no contact with his family (Exodus 2:7-11),3) Moses' "accidentally killing the Egyptian rather than deliberately killing him (Exodus 2:12),4) Rameses pleading with Moses to stay in Egypt as opposed to Pharaoh seeking to kill him (Exodus 2:15),5) Any idea of personal rivalry between Pharaoh and Moses,6) Moses speaking by himself before Pharaoh instead of Aaron speaking for him (Exodus 4:14-16),7) An exaggerated role for Zipporah when she is actually hardly mentioned. These changes may seem unnecessary, however they do add intrigue to the narrative and, as before mentioned, do not in any way seriously alter the story. The quality of the music does fall firmly into the realm of opinion. However, as a person who holds a degree in music, and has performed and taught professionally for many years, my professional and personal opinion is that the music is quite wonderful.

The story of Moses is a compelling one. "The Prince of Egypt" manages to meld that story into a very easily digested tale for the whole family. Though some liberties are taken, "Prince" keeps the basic elements of this wonderful tale intact. The only truly noteworthy changes are that Moses confronts Pharaoh instead of his biological brother, Aaron, doing most of the talking and Moses and Ramses are raised as brothers by the Pharaoh. In the Bible, Moses is raised by Pharaoh's daughter, and Aaron plays a larger role in the overall story, doing most of the speaking to Pharaoh as a representative of Moses. With those minor details out of the way, "Prince of Egypt" is one of the best films around for the entire family to watch. It begins with the finding of Moses on the Nile River by Pharaoh's wife, then shows him grow up as royalty in Egypt. He and his brother, Ramses, pretty much have full run of the roost. They get into plenty of trouble with each other, and their chariot race sequence is one of the best "chase" scenes in cinematic history. When Moses finds out that he is Hebrew, and that most of his people are slaves to Pharaoh, he begins to notice the horrible things happening to his people. He accidentally kills one of Pharaoh's guards when he attempts to protect one of the slaves, and, upset, he leaves his home in search of himself. God reveals to him that he is to lead his people out of Egypt, and he must go and tell Pharaoh (who, by now, is Ramses) to, "let my people go." The tale then takes us through the plagues that wreak havoc on Egypt as long as Pharaoh refuses to free the Hebrews. The final plague, and definitely the most chilling, is the Passover.

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