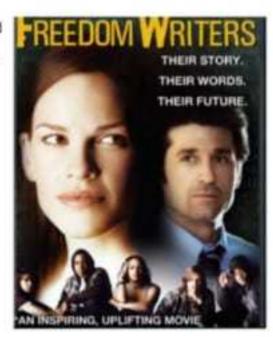


This breathtaking film, directed by Richard LaGravenese, offers us a great amount of drama, suspense and a touching message. The story centres around a young fair skinned teacher, Erin Gruwell, who was surrounded by promising opportunities, yet she chooses to teach at one of the most marginalized and violent schools of Long Beach, California. From the very beginning, she worries about each of her students, and throughout the challenging years she spends beside them, Erin not only gets to know their stories, but also she helps them to change their lives.

A particular strength of the production are the themes raised, as racial discrimination between white people and the rest of the ethnical groups in the community is clearly portrayed. This leads them to create different gangs, in order to feel identified and to earn respect and trust. Due to the presence of these groups, the film is full of violence, betrayals and other problems that the characters will have to overcome to find success. Erin becomes the students' role model, by demonstrating them a way to deal with adversities peacefully, using writing and reading to expand their knowledge.

Freedom writers can give a powerful message for teenagers. Firstly, watching all the difficulties these students have, makes you reflect about taking advantage of your opportunities. Secondly, it gives you a sense of hope and aspiration to succeed in life, which makes you desire a better future, full of equality and justice.

Overall, this heart-touching story really sends a shiver down your spine. We strongly recommend it for teenagers and adults because of its brilliant plot and thought-provoking scenes.



WE RATE THIS MOVIE

