

FILM REVIEW

Fill in the gaps with ONE suitable word.

In this review I am going to compare two contrasting tales about overcoming adversity. 1. *The Blind Side* (2009) left me with a 2. grin on my face, sadly, *Doctor Zhivago* (1965) left me feeling the weight of the world on my shoulders.

Doctor Zhivago, directed by five-time Oscar winner David Lean, is 3. in the Bolshevik revolution and follows the title character, who must adapt to the new order while pining for Lara, the beautiful wife of a political campaigner. The director succeeded 4. creating a film that is thoroughly engaging but full of 5. realism, cruelty and tragic irony. Take the tissues!

The Blind Side, which is based 6. a true story, is also a bit of a tearjerker, in a completely different way. Starring Sandra Bullock, who won an Academy Award for her portrayal of a rich white mother in Tennessee who takes a homeless black teenager 7. her roof. Understandably, the gentle giant thinks he isn't good at anything but his new mother sees his potential to become a football star and part of the family. The plot is based 8. a true story, making it all the more touching.

I would 9. recommend *The Blind Side*. It will appeal to a range of people and is a great choice for a movie night. Although *Doctor Zhivago* is a classic, I think it has more of a niche audience and is best saved 10. when you want a dose of gloom.