

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.