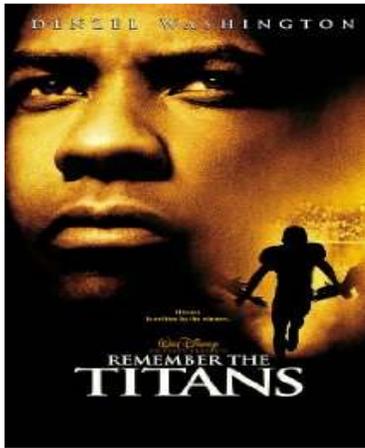




Remember the Titans

Movie Review



Released: 2000 (Sport, Drama)

Director: Boaz Yakin

Writer: Gregory Allen Howard

Stars: Denzel Washington, Will Patton and Wood Harris

★★★★★ 7.5/10

The true story of a newly appointed African-American coach and his high school team on their first season as a racially integrated unit.

Who said the issues of society are not worth fighting over. The Titans aren't afraid to tackle the stout and powerful issues in a muscular, prevailing way. There is no time for bickering between what should be black and white. This movie adds backing to the point that all people can work collectively regardless of colour, and at the base of our hearts, we always want to do what right to our fellow human beings.

In the desegregated T.C. Williams High School, African American head coach Herman Boone (Denzel Washington) is hired to lead the school's NFL team, eventually replacing Coast Bill Yoast (Will Patton) as head coach. Being in a racially imbalanced town in Virginia, conflict erupts between the white and African American students from the moment they embark on their first training camp.

Tension between both sides erupts especially with prominent player Gerry Bertier (Hurst) fighting with Julius Campbell. As a result both players get to know each other well and become an example for the rest of the team after Coach Boone insists on understanding and tolerance. However, it's a feeling not so readily shared by the other citizens of Alexandria, where the majority of the population is white.

Relations between the board and the coaches, along with the interactions between the players themselves are emphasized through the gradual tendency for more close range shots. For most of the first half hour, there is a void between the white and African American players. Even the perspective from which we see Coach Boone and Coach Yoast is less intimate as the relationship took time to grow and better.

The inclusion of African American music is typical as it stereotypes the differences between the two racial groups. Music and singing highlights how the dislikes and appreciated vary significantly affecting our perspective of each other. There is resistance from the white players to participate in singing with the African Americans but at the end through gradual understanding song and dance becomes a beacon of unity.

Dealing with the issue of racial integration within a high school football team in the seventies, it's clearly meant as a warning. Remember The Titans succeeds on its own terms; it uses a simple norm to portray the wider issue of the possibility and reality of racial integration.

Against all odds from within and abroad, the Titans succeed. Even though they are different in skin colour, aided by their remarkable coaches, they come together, understand and bond together to tackle a world that is completely hostile to them.