

## A Hero in Disguise

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A young woman wearing a big hat walked down the road carrying chickens. When she recognized a man coming toward her, she pulled a string tied to one chicken's leg. The chickens started squawking. Because of the noise, the man avoided her.

The woman was named Harriet Tubman. She was wearing a disguise. In fact, Harriet was an African American woman who was an escaped slave. The man who avoided her was a slaveholder who had once owned her. If he had recognized her, he would have tried to capture her again.

Two hundred years ago, many African Americans were held as slaves. Most slaves were in the southern United States. Tubman helped the slaves escape to the North and on to Canada. Many other people also helped. They hid escaping slaves in houses and churches along the way. The group of people who worked to help slaves escape by using different places and secret routes was known as the Underground Railroad.

Facing danger, Harriet Tubman showed courage every day. Slaveholders knew who she was, and the police wanted to arrest her, but she kept on helping slaves to escape. Today, Harriet Tubman is remembered as a brave leader who made the world a better place.