

Singin Wid A Sword In Ma Han

Characters

TOPPER is a feisty woman who works in the field as a slave and dreams of running north until one day she is sold. She escapes with her fiancé Nate and his family to freedom.

NATE is affianced to Topper and a skilled carpenter who is "hired out" by slave owner Carlisle, and is saving to buy freedom for himself and his family until he is forced to escape and rescue Topper as he brings his family to freedom.

DOREY who is Nate's sister and the daughter of Mizz Kessie and Carlisle by rape, lives in a world of Big House illusion until she decides to flee slavery and eventually sacrifices her freedom so the others can escape.

MIZZ KESSIE is mother to Nate and Dorey and was banished to the field years ago after her husband was sold and she was raped by her slaveowner Carlisle. She endures until she decides to run with her family, and dreams of reuniting with her husband.

CARLISLE who is a white genteel and degenerate slave owner, risks his home and family in drinking and gambling excesses until his wife leaves him and he chases after her, abandoning his plantation and slaves.

PATISON is a black slave owner who buys Topper until she escapes and he hires the Gap Gang to capture her. He owns the free town barber Cato's son and uses this to force Cato into spying on potential escapees but finally comes to see the error of his ways.

CATO who is the free black barber in town and clearinghouse for information, is forced to spy for Patison while giving Nate crucial information to escape. Cato tells Patison their route under duress but finally leads his son to freedom.

GAP GANG are three unscrupulous highly successful bounty hunters with a ferocious reputation. Hired by Patison to chase the runaways, they capture Topper who is rescued by Nate, nearly capture Mizz Kessie and Dorey and finally capture Dorey whose sacrifice allows the others to cross to freedom.

DAVEY who is a fruit seller in Wilmington DE and an Underground Railroad conductor with a regular freedom route to Philadelphia, reluctantly agrees to cross Nate & Topper to a rural African Methodist Episcopalian (AME) church in PA. Nate and Topper marry and in her honor take on Davey's last name as their own.