



Connecting us through film

The Color Purple is a beloved, classic story about sisterhood, empowerment and healing; a story about resilience and finding strength in community. And the latest movie in theaters is a bold new take. The film is a vibrant reimagining of the novel and stage musical and celebrating this classic story through music infuses it with hope and joy. The following six questions are intended to inspire conversation and connection, after viewing the new film.

1. The new film *The Color Purple* depicts positive connections between women in many different lights – from the layered portrayal of Shug Avery and Celie’s relationship, to the powerful nature of Nettie and Celie’s sisterhood regardless of distance, and the immense strength seen amongst every Black woman that hits the screen, especially Sofia. How does this representation add to the narratives that we are accustomed to seeing across screens today?
2. Throughout this film, we get the opportunity to see Celie transform into a vibrant, powerful and proud woman standing firm in her strength. How was this transformation illustrated on the screen? In what ways has her resiliency impacted or inspired you?
3. The title of the movie is a reference by Shug Avery; as she is walking with Celie, she says, “I think it pisses God off if you walk past the color purple and not notice it.” After having seen the film and connected with these characters and their stories, what does the color purple mean to you?
4. What can be said about the story of *The Color Purple* and its ability to remain relevant after decades of retellings? What is a key takeaway you’ve gained from being able to experience this work in different art forms? And if this is your first time encountering *The Color Purple*, would you say that it accurately reflects the narratives and experiences of today?
5. Oprah Winfrey says *The Color Purple* has been the most important/influential thing in her life – for someone who has had so many momentous life experiences and opportunities, why do you think this story and these characters continue to resonate and she continues to share them with the world in new ways?
6. This film combines the classic story and the Broadway musical for the first time – what do you think the songs contribute to our understanding of Celie, Shug, Sofia, Mister and so on, and how do they enhance the experience of *The Color Purple*?