

## Prince's 'Purple Rain' movie to become a musical

11th January 2024



The 1984 movie "Purple Rain" is going to be made into a musical on Broadway, New York. The film was based on the album of the same name made by the artist Prince. He also starred in it. This should encourage people to go to see

the musical version. The producers of the new musical are excited about their project. They said: "It's been 40 years since Prince's legendary film took the world by storm. We can't think of a more fitting tribute to honour Prince and his legacy than with this stage adaptation of the beloved story." They added: "We can't wait for a new generation to discover 'Purple Rain' and...to experience its power once again, this time live."

"Purple Rain" the movie won an Academy Award for Best Original Song Score. Many critics believe "Purple Rain" is one of the greatest musical films. "Purple Rain" the album spent 24 consecutive weeks at number one in the USA's Billboard 200 music chart. It spent a total of 167 weeks on that chart. It contains the smash hit "When Doves Cry". The movie is about an aspiring singer and guitarist who was trying to become famous. The story shows his complicated home life, his battles with his musical rivals, and a new romance. Prince died in 2016 from an overdose of painkiller drugs. He sold over 100 million records worldwide. This makes him one of the best-selling music artists of all time.

Sources: [variety.com](http://variety.com) / [theguardian.com](http://theguardian.com) / [wikipedia.org](http://wikipedia.org)

### Writing

Musicals are better than movies. Discuss.

### Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

1984 / movie / purple rain / musical / album / project / tribute / stage / story / power / Academy Award / critics / number one / singer / guitarist / rivals / romance / drugs

### True / False

- 1) The movie 'Purple Rain' was made on Broadway in 1984. T / F
- 2) People are being encouraged to see the new musical. T / F
- 3) There was a storm when the 'Purple Rain' movie was released. T / F
- 4) The producers said the musical is a good way to honour Prince. T / F
- 5) The movie won an Academy Award for its songs. T / F
- 6) The movie Purple Rain spent over three years in the US music charts. T / F
- 7) "Purple Rain" contains the song "When Doves Smile". T / F
- 8) Prince is the best-selling music artist of all time. T / F

### Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                        |                 |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. <b>encourage</b>    | a. experts      |
| 2. <b>version</b>      | b. suitable     |
| 3. <b>excited</b>      | c. complex      |
| 4. <b>fitting</b>      | d. adaptation   |
| 5. <b>discover</b>     | e. back-to-back |
| 6. <b>critics</b>      | f. ever         |
| 7. <b>consecutive</b>  | g. persuade     |
| 8. <b>aspiring</b>     | h. come to know |
| 9. <b>complicated</b>  | i. hopeful      |
| 10. <b>of all time</b> | j. delighted    |

### Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you know about the singer and musician Prince?
- b) What do you think of purple rain?
- c) What do you think of musicals?
- d) Which are better, musicals or movies?
- e) What musicals have you been to see?
- f) Would you like to go to see 'Purple Rain' the musical?
- g) What movies are popular in your country?
- h) What musical or movie would you like to be in?

## Phrase Match

- |   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| 1. He also starred                          | a. discover 'Purple Rain' |
| 2. encourage people to go to see the        | b. by storm               |
| 3. Prince's legendary film took the world   | c. of painkiller drugs    |
| 4. We can't think of a more fitting tribute | d. on that chart          |
| 5. wait for a new generation to             | e. musical version        |
| 6. the album spent 24 consecutive weeks     | f. artists of all time    |
| 7. It spent a total of 167 weeks            | g. at number one          |
| 8. his battles with his                     | h. to honour Prince       |
| 9. an overdose                              | i. musical rivals         |
| 10. one of the best-selling music           | j. in it                  |

## Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- What is your favourite song from a musical?
- What are the differences between going to see movies and musicals?
- Are movie theatres or theatres for musicals better?
- Would you prefer to be a singer or a guitarist?
- What rivals do you have?
- What would you like to know about Prince?
- What questions would you like to ask the musical's producers?

## Spelling

- go to see the musical ieosrvn
- We can't think of a more fitting itebtru
- honour Prince and his cylaeg
- this stage aatodtpani of the beloved story
- a new riotqnenae
- ereepxenc its power
- risctic believe "Purple Rain" is one
- 24 icteovunces weeks at number one
- It ioactnsn the smash hit "When Doves Cry"
- an agripnis singer and guitarist
- his opedatcmcil home life
- an deerosov of painkiller drugs

### Answers – Synonym Match

1. g	2. d	3. j	4. b	5. h
6. a	7. e	8. i	9. c	10. f

## Role Play

### Role A – Movies

You think movies are the best things to base movies on. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): biographies, news stories or novels.

### Role B – News Stories

You think news stories are the best things to base movies on. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): movies, biographies or novels.

### Role C – Biographies

You think biographies are the best things to base movies on. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): news stories, movies or novels.

### Role D – Novels

You think novels are the best things to base movies on. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): biographies, news stories or movies.

## Speaking – Musicals on...

Rank these with your partner. Put the best things to base a musical on at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- |           |                 |
|-----------|-----------------|
| • Movies  | • News          |
| • History | • Biographies   |
| • Songs   | • Fairy stories |
| • Dreams  | • Novels        |

### Answers – True False

1	F	2	F	3	F	4	T	5	T	6	T	7	F	8	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.