



THE TORCHLIGHTERS

HEROES OF THE FAITH

Student Handouts for

The Harriet Tubman Story



From Christian History Institute

S T U D E N T



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NOTE: Answer key for selected pages is on p. 22 of the Leader's Guide.



The Underground Railroad

Do you know why escaping slaves called Canada the “Promised Land?” Just like the Israelites looking for freedom and a home in Canaan, the land God promised them, African American slaves found their promised land in Canada. While fugitives used many routes north on the Underground Railroad from all over the United States, Harriet Tubman traveled the route pictured below. **Did the Underground Railroad ever pass through your town? You can find out by researching at your local library or online with the help of an adult!**





Code Name: Underground Railroad

Match the underground railroad code words with their meanings to find out how abolitionists helped escaping slaves make their secret journey north!

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Station Master | A. People providing food, money, shelter, and clothing to the Underground Railroad |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cargo | B. Harriet Tubman's nickname |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conductor | C. A guide for fugitive slaves between safe houses |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stockholders | D. Bounty hunters |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Underground Railroad | E. Owner of a safe house |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Moses | F. Fugitive slaves |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Canaan | G. Safe house |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Depot | H. Canada |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patty Rollers | I. The secret network of people and organizations that helped slaves escape to freedom |

Discuss: Now that you know the code words, what have you learned about the Underground Railroad? What's surprising about these words? How is the Underground Railroad like a real railroad? How is it different?



Dig into the Story!

Questions to get you talking and thinking after you watch
The Harriet Tubman Story.

1. What is slavery?
2. What happens to Harriet's sisters? How does Harriet respond?
3. Why do you think the Quaker woman wanted to help Harriet?
4. What is the Underground Railroad?
5. When Harriet escapes, how does she know she is heading north?
6. Why are escaped slaves no longer safe in Pennsylvania?
7. Why does Harriet decide to return to the plantation?
8. How does Harriet avoid capture on her rescue missions?
9. What plan do Master Thompson and Spencer come up with to trap Harriet?
10. Does Harriet rescue her parents? How?



Dig Deeper

Thinking through tough issues

1. Slavery was a heated topic in the 19th century with Christians taking both sides.
What big issues today divide Christians?

2. What obstacles did Harriet face in her quest for freedom? How did she overcome them?

3. After the Fugitive Slave Act was passed, how did Harriet respond? What would you have done?

4. Did Harriet value her freedom? How do you know? What did she value more than her freedom?

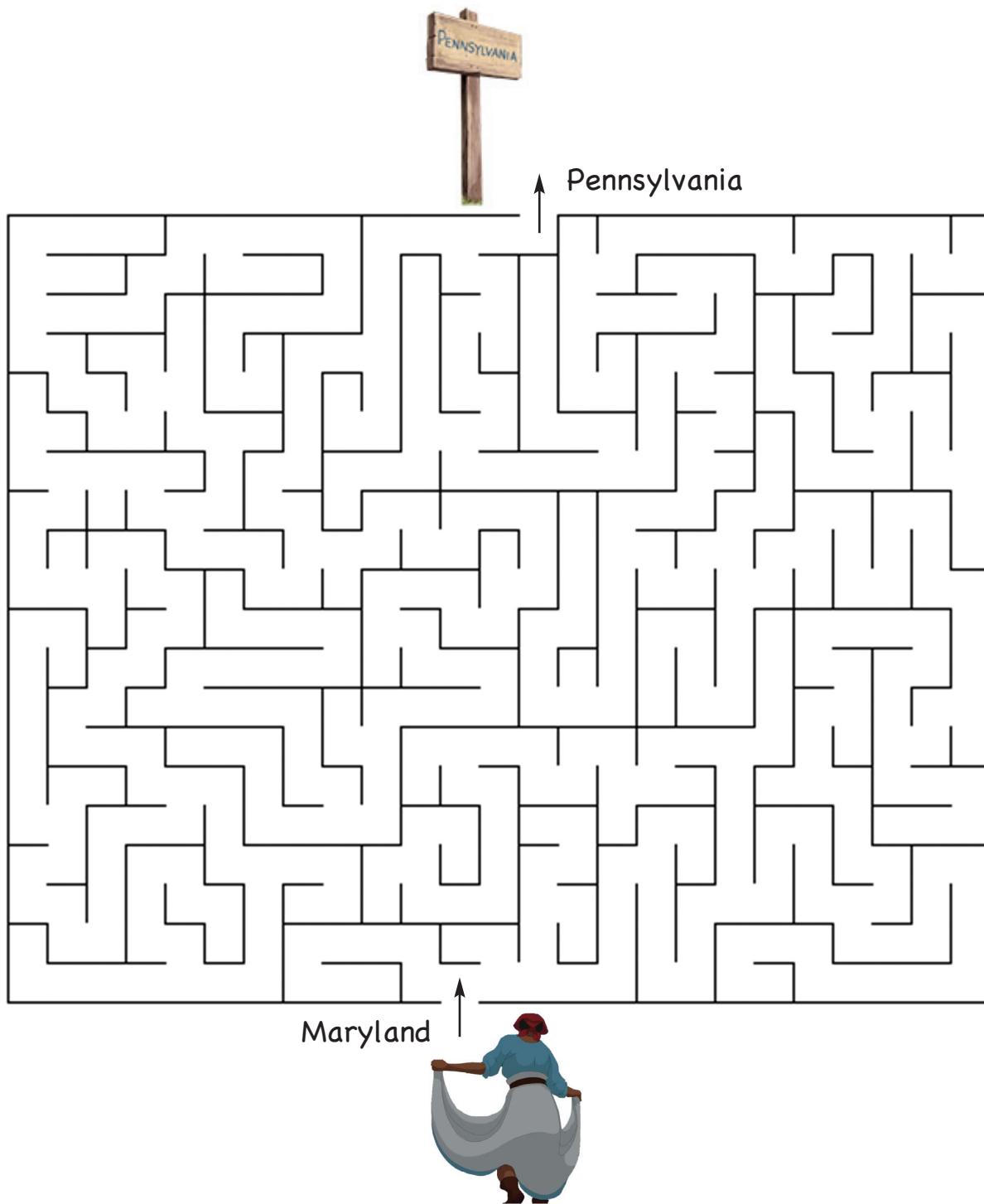
5. Slave owners often justified slavery using the Bible. How? Are these good arguments?
Why or why not?

6. How does the past of American slavery affect us today?



Help Harriet Escape to Freedom

Help Harriet find her way along the underground railroad from Maryland to Pennsylvania, where she first gained her freedom. Be sure to start at the bottom, so Harriet heads "north" toward freedom!





Story Mix-Up

These pictures of Harriet Tubman's story are all mixed up.

Number the pictures in the correct order.



The slaves sing, "Go Down, Moses," secretly signalling that Harriet has arrived.



Harriet escapes under the cover of darkness, covering her tracks by wading through water.



Master Thompson tells Ben to get ready to appear in court and face execution.



Sold to another master and taken away, Harriet's sisters cry for their parents.



Finally free! Harriet praises God when she reaches Pennsylvania.



Harriet disguises herself as the Quaker woman to reach Ben and plan his rescue.



The friendly Quaker woman helps Harriet begin her journey on the Underground Railroad.



Harriet and her parents narrowly escape Master Thompson's plantation.



Freedom in Christ Interview

Get the conversation started with these questions for your guest speaker.

1. What can you tell us about the history of American slavery? Why is it important?
2. What is your favorite story about Harriet Tubman and the Underground Railroad?
3. How has American slavery affected your ancestors? How has it affected you?
4. How does knowing Jesus as your Lord and Savior heal the hurts of the past?



Go Down, Moses!

This song tells the story of Israel in bondage and represents African-Americans' own struggles in slavery. As seen in **The Harriet Tubman Story**, Harriet used this song to secretly communicate with fugitive slaves as they escaped Maryland! With the help of your teacher, learn and sing the song with the lyrics below!

- 1 Why Israel was in Egypt's land
Let my people go
Oppressed so hard they could not stand
Let my people go

Refrain:

Go down, Moses, way down in Egypt's land
Tell old Pharaoh: Let my people go

- 2 The Lord told Moses what to do
Let my people go
To lead the Hebrew children through
Let my people go [Refrain]
- 3 As Israel stood by the waterside
Let my people go
At God's command it did divide
Let my people go [Refrain]
- 4 When they had reached the other shore
Let my people go
They let the song of triumph soar
Let my people go [Refrain]
- 5 Lord, help us all from bondage flee
Let my people go
And let us all in Christ be free
Let my people go [Refrain]



Modern Day Slavery

Though slavery is illegal, that does not mean it is over.

The bad news:

- Over 40 million people are trapped in slavery right now (that's the combined population of 80 countries.)
- Around 25% of slaves worldwide are children.
- Slavery happens all over the world, including in many U.S. towns.
- Slave owners prey on poor families looking for a better life.¹
- Slavery is the third largest international crime.
- Criminals get rich off of slavery—it is a \$150 billion industry.



These children from Ghana are forced to fish—a form of modern slavery.

Source: Facebook-profile of the US Embassy in Ghana

Is there good news?

Though so many still suffer under slavery today, God is using people all over the world to work for their deliverance. Here are some organizations working, just like Harriet did, to help slaves worldwide gain their freedom:

International Justice Mission (www.ijm.org)

World Hope International (www.worldhope.org/anti-trafficking)

Vision Beyond Borders (www.visionbeyondborders.org/trafficking)

¹ Fact about slavery from International Justice Mission at <https://www.ijm.org/slavery> and Vision Beyond Borders at www.visionbeyondborders.org/trafficking



What can I do?

Did you know that YOU can help end slavery? Take a look at the ways you can get involved below.

Raise money

Raising money for victims helps them escape from slavery and get the care they need. It also helps provide resources for those working to end slavery.

What are some creative ways you and your group could raise money?

- Have a bake sale
-
-

Bring Awareness

Many people don't know that slavery is still happening today. Hosting an awareness event and teaching your community to recognize the signs of slavery get everyone involved.

Where could you host an awareness event? Write down some ideas and the names of people who could help you organize it!

- At my church—my Pastor
-
-

Pray

We've learned through our lessons each week that God hears his people and works in mighty ways when they pray.

Sometimes praying seems hard! How can you and your group pray with purpose? Write your ideas below!

- Go on a prayer walk through your town
-
-

After you have come up with some ideas, gather as a group to decide how you can help end modern slavery. For more ideas and resources, check out <https://www.ijm.org/resources> and download the GiveChange toolkit!



Quilt Codes

Did you know that something as simple as a blanket could be a secret message? Stories from the time of the Underground Railroad tell us that Railroad workers used quilts, or patchwork blankets sewn together in unique patterns, to send coded signals to escaping slaves. Thanks to some creative thinking, many slaves reached freedom! The following pages show some quilt patterns and their meanings.

Make your own quilt codes following the directions below!

Supplies:

- Colored construction paper
- Scissors
- Colored markers, pencils, or crayons
- Glue

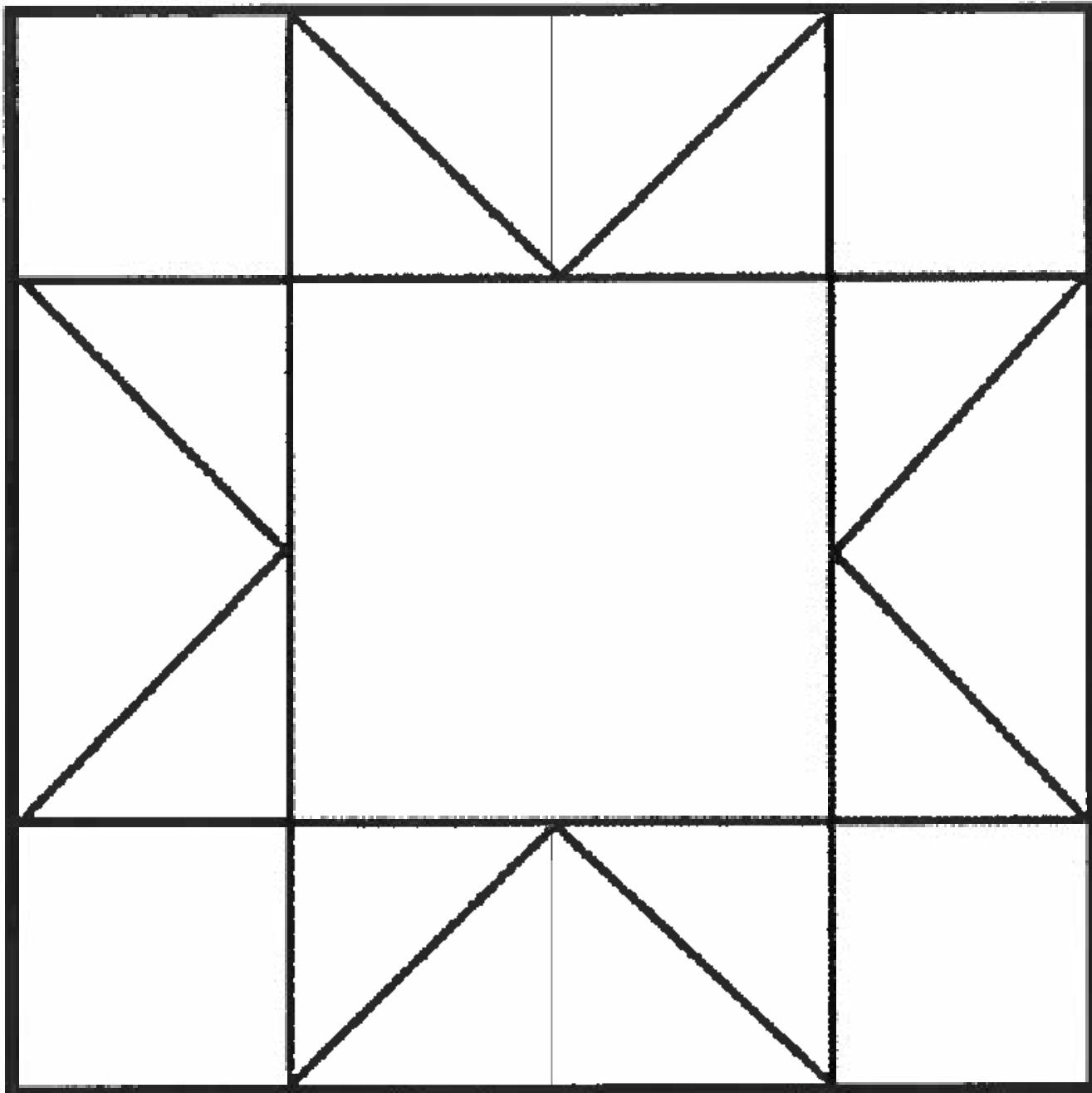
Directions:

1. Choose a pattern from the following pages.
2. Color your pattern and cut it out.
3. Glue the pattern onto a piece of construction paper.



North Star:

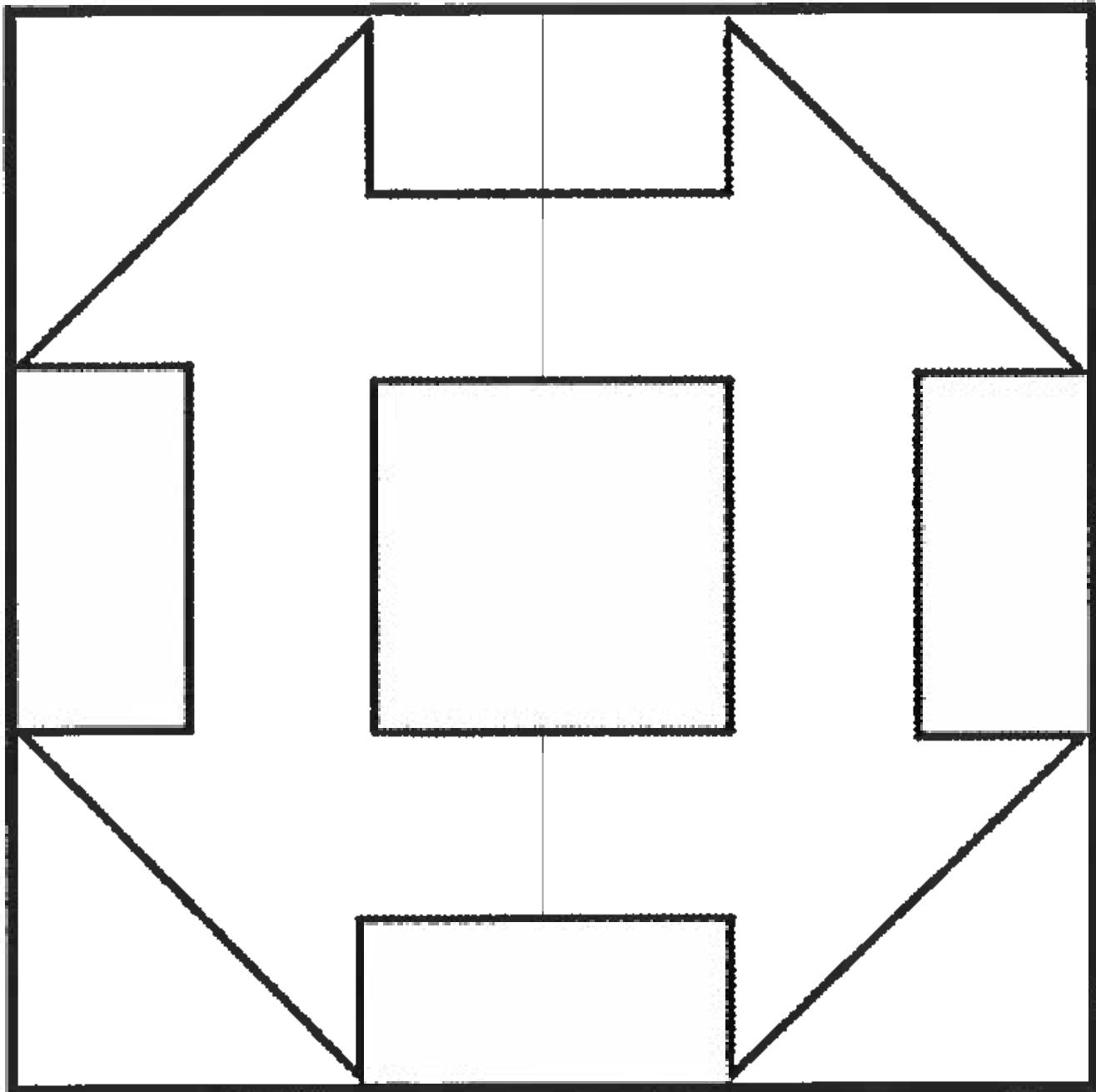
Could mean prepare to escape or to follow the north star to freedom in Canada.





Monkey Wrench:

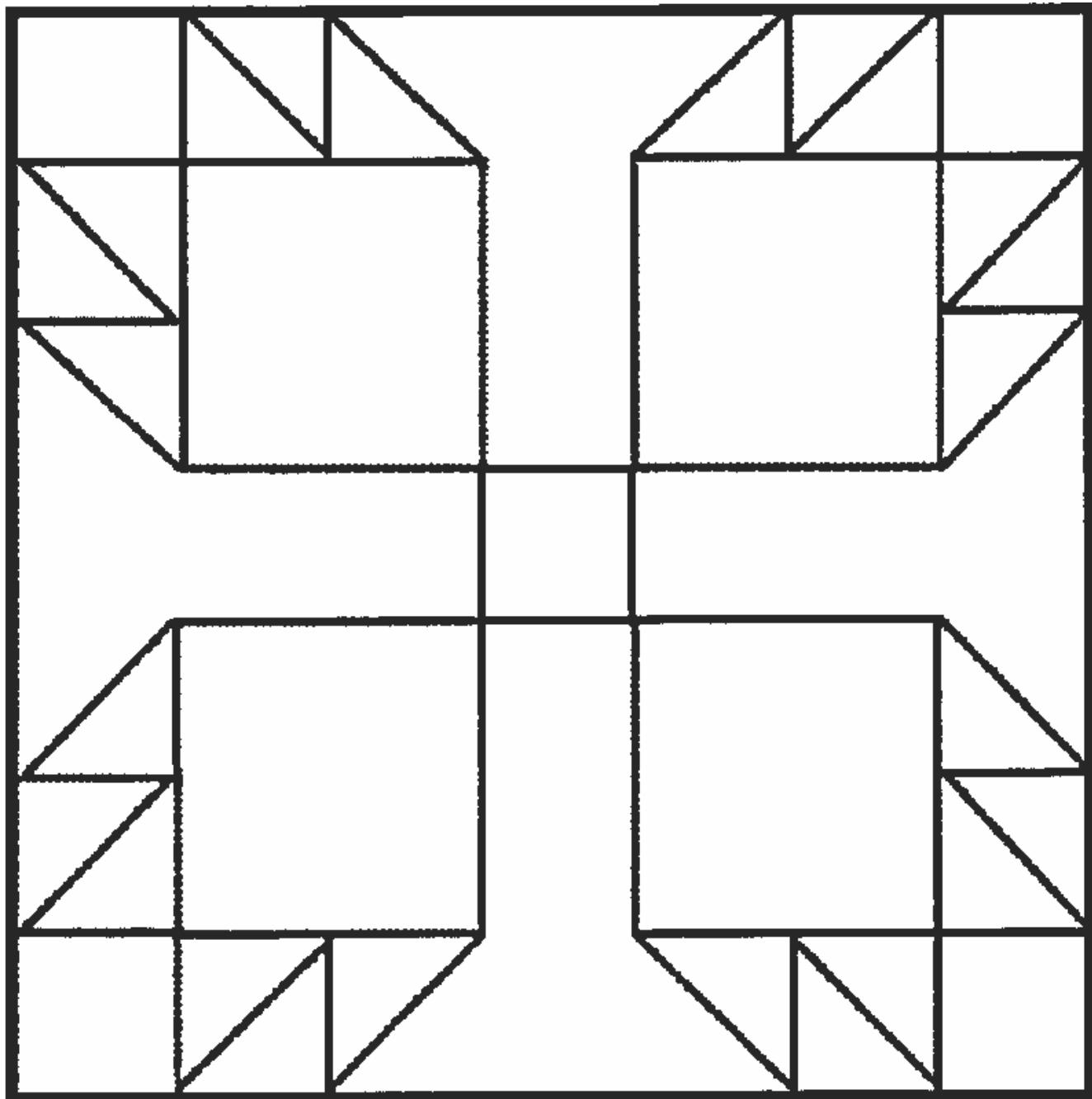
Gather tools, like compasses, hammers, or weapons, needed to make the journey.





Bear's Paw:

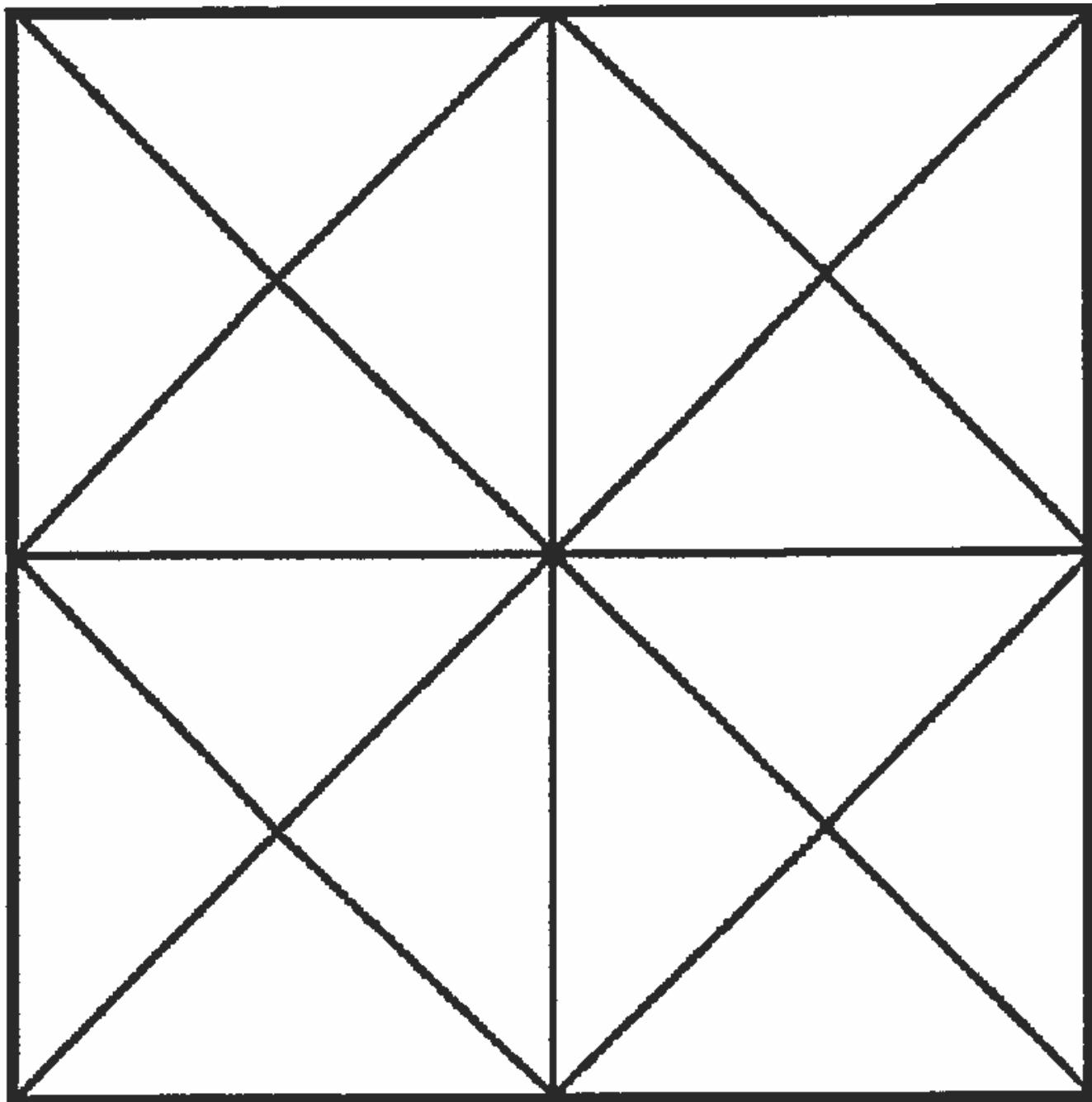
Follow a mountain trail or the path of a bear.





Bow Tie:

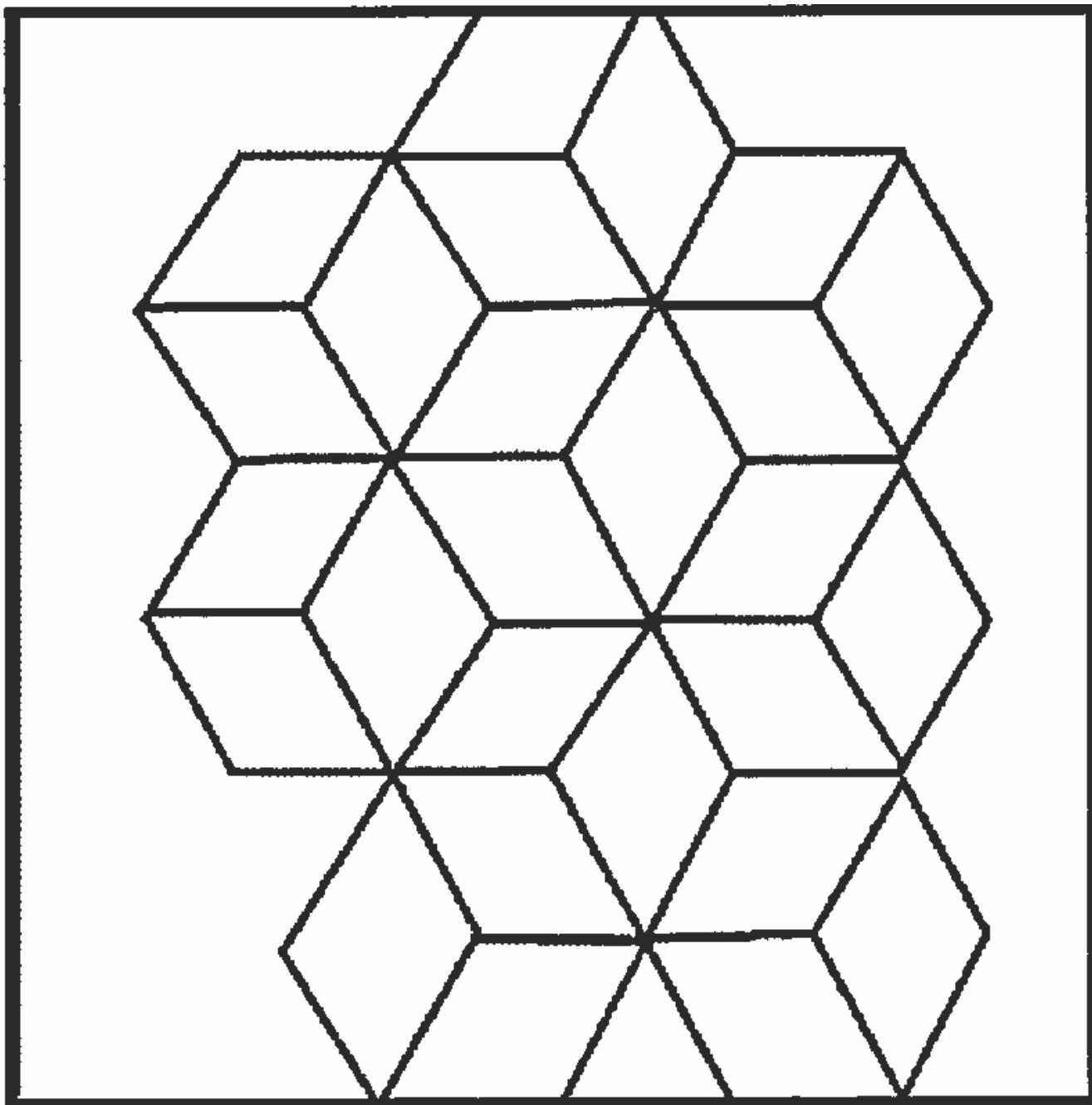
A place to change clothes to help disguise the escaping slave.





Tumbling Boxes:

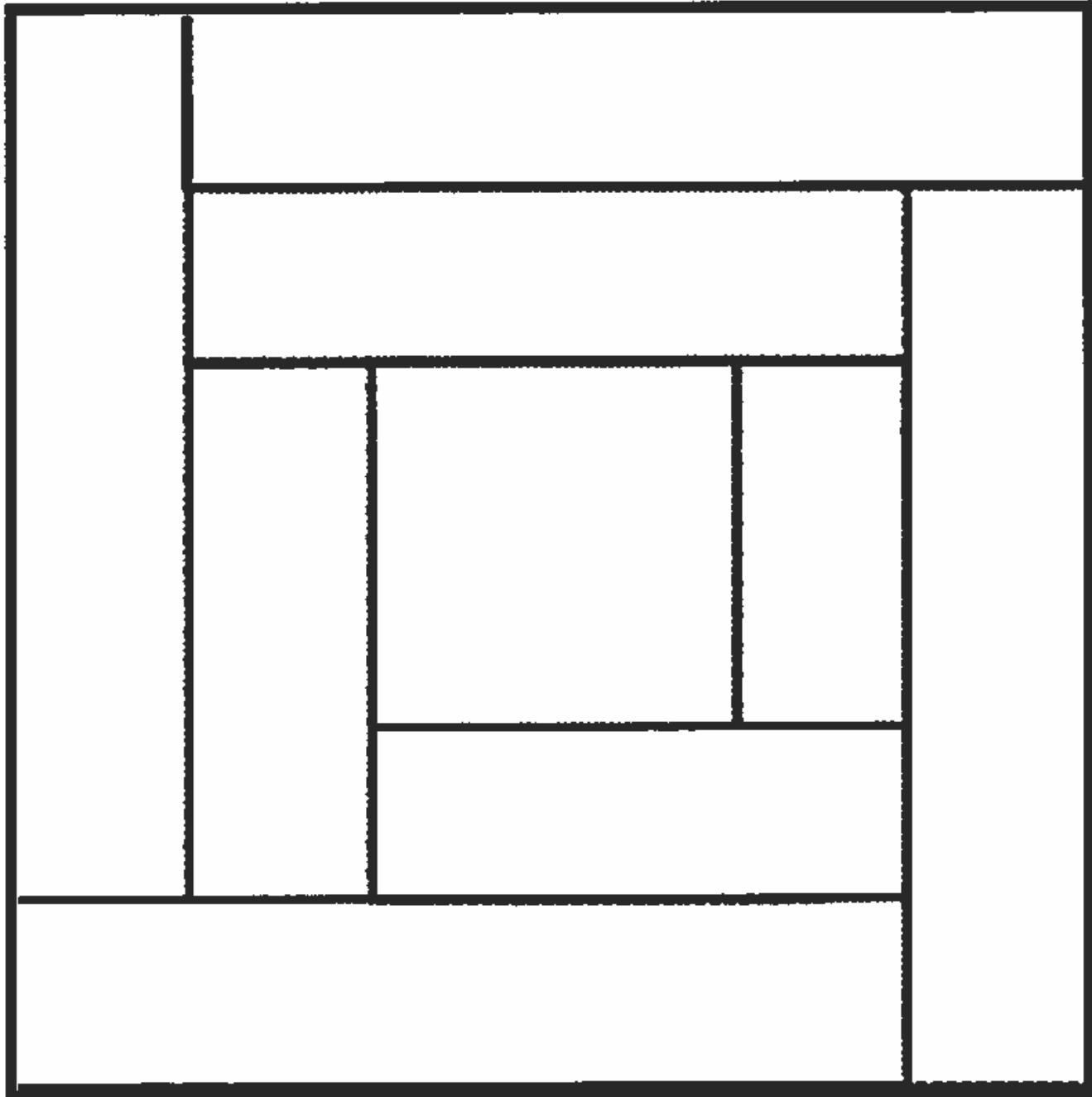
Sign to pack up and go.





Log Cabin:

Sign of a safe house where slaves could shelter.





Decode the Quote by Harriet Tubman

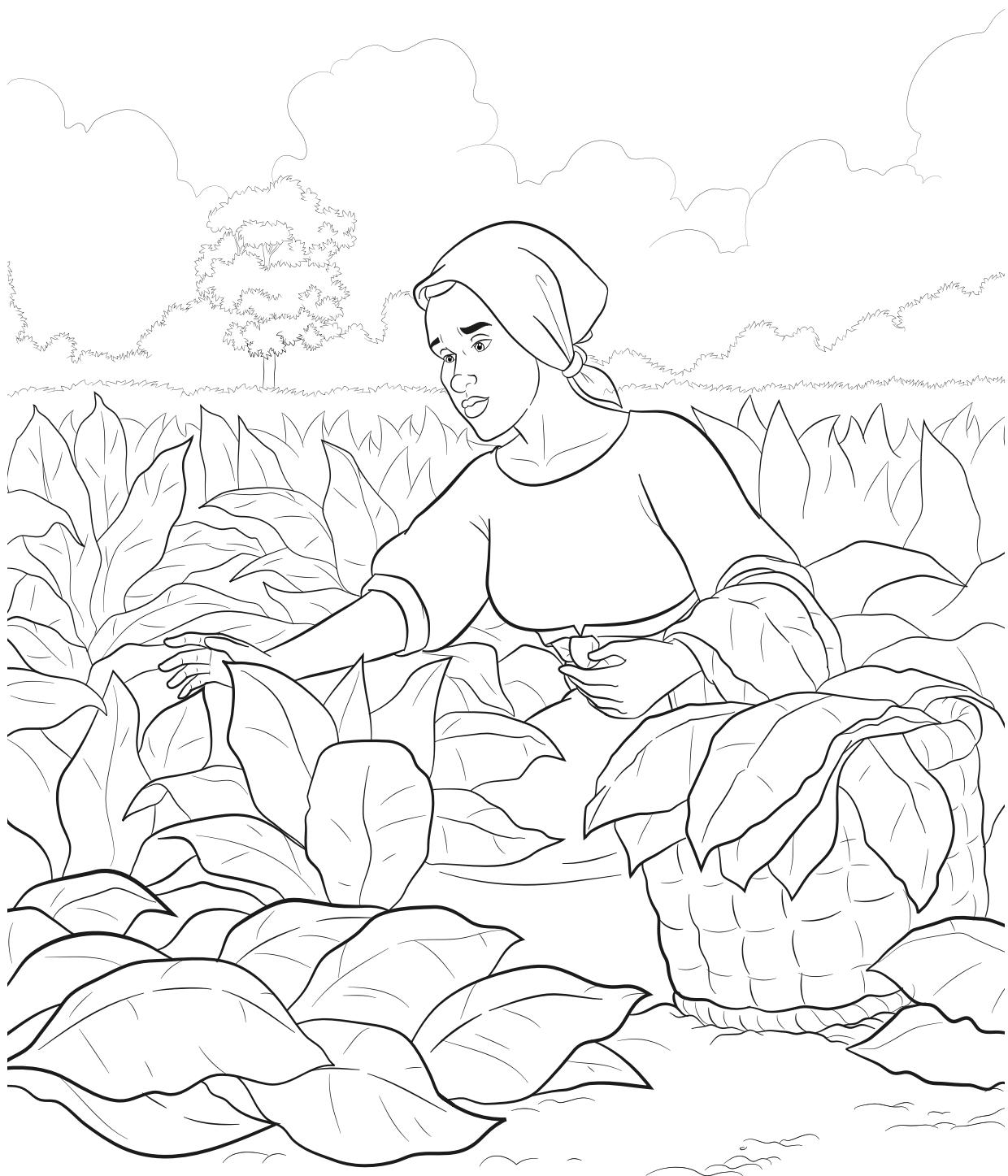
Use the key below to decode
the following quotation from Harriet Tubman.

"...I could see the stars, and I would count them, and say to myself, 'I'm a free woman now, I can't be a slave, because I own myself.'"

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| a | b | c | d | e | f | g | h | i | j | k | l | m |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| n | o | p | q | r | s | t | u | v | w | x | y | z |



Color the Scene #1



Harriet Tubman is a slave that works on a tobacco farm.



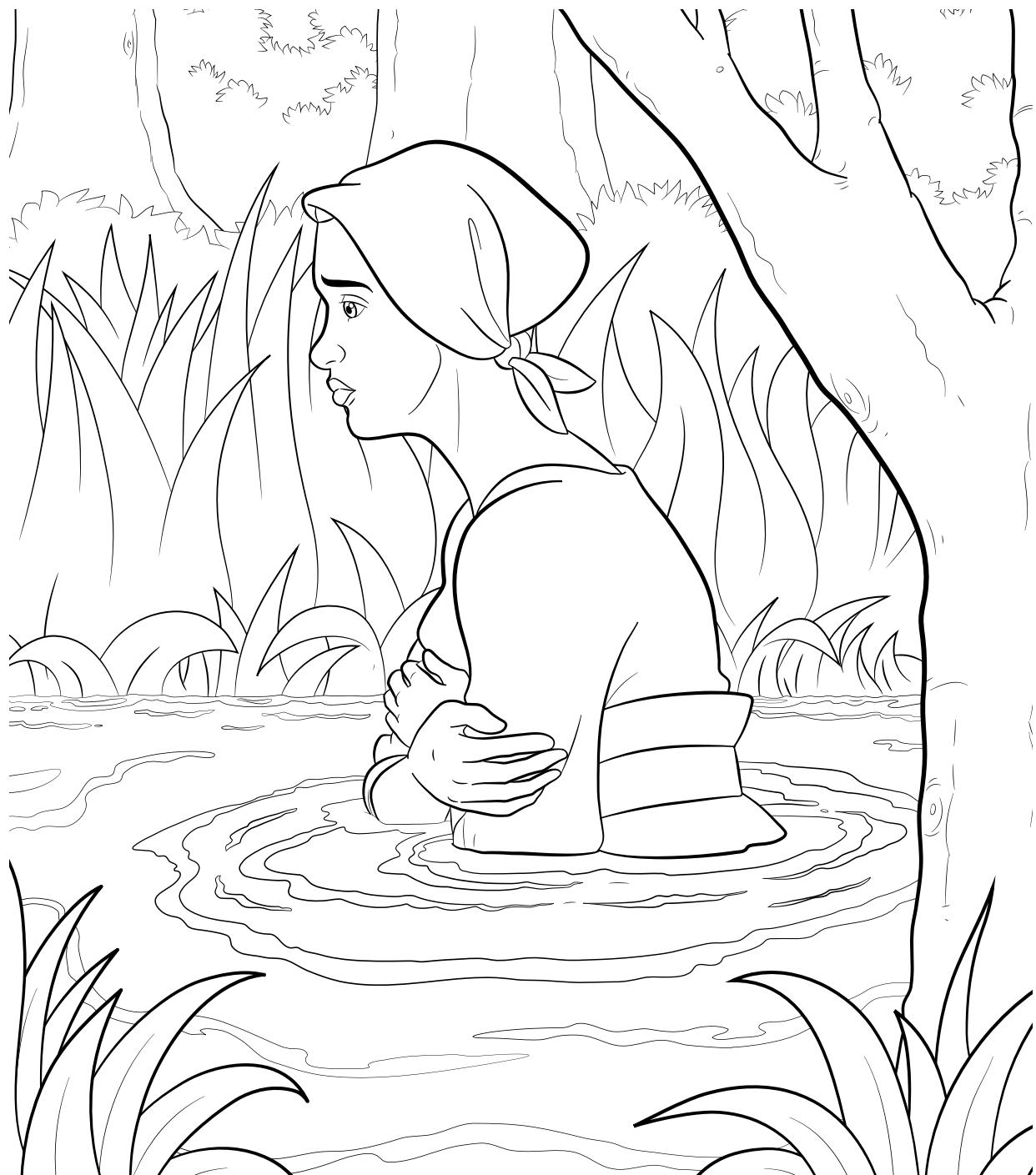
Color the Scene #2



A Quaker woman tells Harriet how she could escape to freedom through the Underground Railroad.



Color the Scene #3



**Harriet has to be very careful and wade through
murky waters in order to escape.**



Color the Scene #4



In Pennsylvania Harriet finally experiences freedom for the first time in her life.



Color the Scene #5



Once free, Harriet risks her life to help rescue more slaves.