

## **125B Harriet**

Most of us learned in middle school only the briefest history highlighting Harriet Tubman's daring feats. She freed over 70 enslaved people, including family and friends, during numerous trips in and out of the very regions of Maryland from which she had escaped slavery. Always moving under the cover of darkness (hence the candle holder), armed (hence the revolver) and undaunted, she repeatedly and fearlessly risked her own freedom.

Here is a tiny, illiterate African American woman whose bravery and tenacity is an inspiration for us all. Her successes as the best-known conductor on the Underground Railroad are only part of her remarkable combination of intelligence, reconnaissance skills, determination and zeal. She was a noted American abolitionist, militia leader, cook, spy, nurse, Civil War scout, suffragist, political activist and visionary.

It is my hope that Harriet will inspire the Warrior within each of us. In our current climate of divisiveness and lack of moral grounding, we all could use her as a symbol of bravery in the face of overwhelming odds.