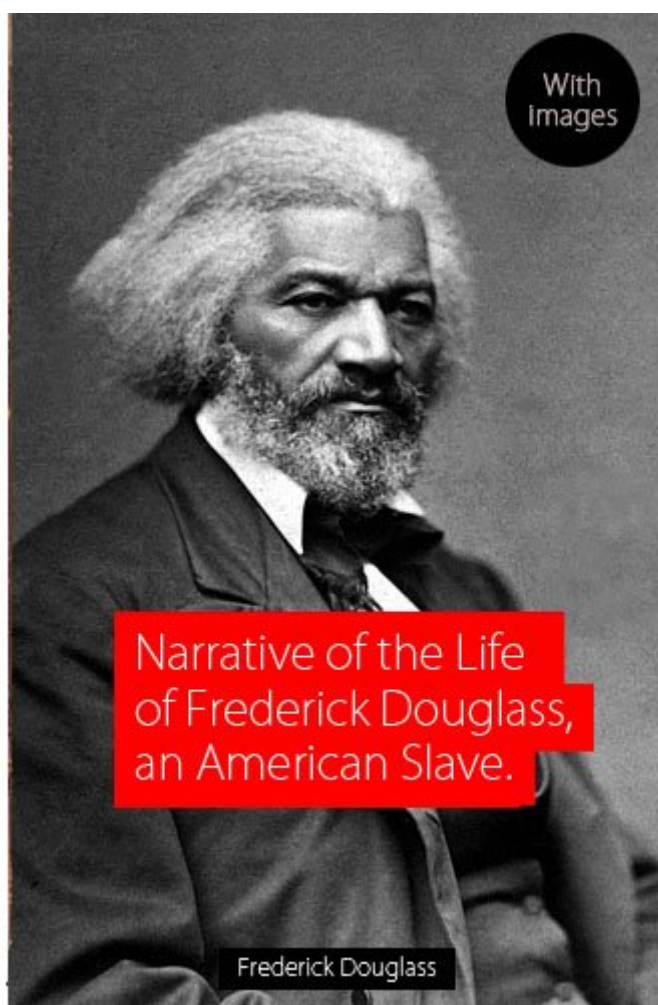


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Narrative Of The Life Of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave (Illustrated)



Synopsis

Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass is a memoir and treatise on abolition written by famous orator and ex-slave, Frederick Douglass. It is generally held to be the most famous of a number of narratives written by former slaves during the same period. In factual detail, the text describes the events of his life and is considered to be one of the most influential pieces of literature to fuel the abolitionist movement of the early 19th century in the United States. The book contains images.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Frederick Douglass was a major figure in the era leading up to the Civil War, and the furious debates raging about the nature and fate of the "peculiar institution" of slavery at the time. Born a slave, brutalized and beaten down for much of his early life, Douglass ran away, educated himself, and became a major voice and major celebrity within the abolitionist movement. Eloquent, dignified, and forceful, he was an important personality in the growth of the abolitionist movement, and someone in our history that everyone should know about. This book was a sensation in its time, exposing to the general population what the real conditions of slavery were, and what they entailed.

It turned thousands against slavery, and was an important influence on the opinions of many who were ambivalent. A century and a half later, it is still a powerful testament of the time, and a powerful story of a man overcoming his circumstances to become something better.

It's hard to believe that this was written by a self educated ex slave. Perhaps my so favorable impression of Frederick Douglass was influenced by my awareness of the life he lived as a freeman and how humbly and generously he worked to achieve freedom for his people. It was the single goal of his life: to be a free man and to achieve the same for his fellow captives, even while preferring life as a peaceful, free, citizen. Though his many talents were recognized by influential and dedicated white abolitionists he remained a humble, dedicated advocate for his people. I was surprised at the erudition of his writing and his perseverance in the face of such discouraging obstacles. I found his life story an inspiration and a must read for young people everywhere, especially the oppressed. After reading of his condition of being captive I bought Harriet Beecher Stowe's seminal depiction of the tragedy that is: for a man to believe he can own another man.

Frederick Douglass, paints a very stark and ugly picture of slave life in the 19th century American South that I have ever read. Sensitive readers, this narrative contains quite a lot of racial language and violent imagery. Parents should use discretion before letting children read this book. I recommend this book to anybody who loves history and biographies.

I read "Up from slavery" by Booker T Washington just before this and the contrast of the two is quite striking. It seems that as a result of being freed from slavery as a child that Washington as great as he was had a genuine love for his oppressors that could not be shaken. He never condemned the slave owner with the same harshness he reserved for the "ignorant and pitiful condition" of the former slave. Douglass does not hold back anything in showing the evils of slavery under the shroud of Christianity.

Good read

Very well written book that gives us an idea of what it was like to be a slave in pre-Civil War America. Frederick Douglass not only gives an account of what he, personally, went through, but also provides an insightful look into the world, assumptions, and justifications of the slave holders.

This is a must read for the entire nation. This is not African American history--It is AMERICAN history, that everyone needs to know about. I love this man with all my heart and appreciate how he tried to save humanity, not just the African Americans, but also the Whites from themselves. Please read this book and pass it on, regardless of race, age, gender, class, etc. It is life changing.

What an inspirational book!! An elaborate historical account slavery. The author, self taught to read and write, eloquently recounts personal experiences, intruduces individuals who passionately fought against the institution of human bondage and explains the coloboration which finally succeeded in ending the legallization of slavery. I strongly reccommend this book.

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