

Middle School Non-Fiction Booklist

Codes indicate Non-Fiction (NF), Biography (BIO).

Accelerated Reader (AR) Levels indicate school grade and month, based on vocabulary difficulty.

AR Points indicate the length of the book (more points; longer book).

Level is given first, then points. (7.2 / 7.0 - seventh grade, second month / relatively long book).

AR tests are available for all the books with AR levels / points.

Author	Title	Genre	AR
Hamilton, Virginia	<i>Anthony Burns: The Defeat and Triumph of a Fugitive Slave</i>	BIO	7.2 / 7.0
Jakoubek, Robert E.	<i>Harriet Beecher Stowe</i>	BIO	8.6 / 5.0
Katz, William Laren	<i>Breaking the Chains: African-American Slave Resistance</i>	NF	9.6 / 10.0
Lester, Julius	<i>To Be a Slave</i>	NF	6.9 / 5.0
McKissack, Patricia and Fredrick	<i>Christmas in the Big House, Christmas in the Quarters</i>	NF	6.0 / 2.0
McKissack, Patricia and Fredrick	<i>Sojourner Truth: Ain't I a Woman</i>	BIO	6.3 / 8.0
Myers, Walter Dean	<i>Now Is Your Time! The African-American Struggle for Freedom</i>	NF	7.5 / 12.0
Rappaport, Doreen	<i>Escape from Slavery: Five Journeys to Freedom</i>	NF	5.5 / 1.0
Russell, Sharman Apt	<i>Frederick Douglass, Abolitionist Editor</i>	BIO	7.4 / 4.0
Stein, R. Conrad	<i>The Story of the Underground Railroad</i>	NF	5.9 / 2.0
Sterling, Dorothy	<i>Freedom Train: The Story of Harriet Tubman</i>	BIO	6.2 / 6.0

Hamilton, Virginia

Anthony Burns: The Defeat and Triumph of a Fugitive Slave

New York: Dell Laurel-Leaf / Random House Children's Books, 1988.

Biography. 175 pages.

AR Level 7.2 / 7.0 points

Some parts which discuss the defense and accusations, plus legal thought behind them, can become tedious. List of characters = 63 (some are minor); landscape cluttered in court-related scenes. Chapters on actual life as a slave easier to follow; jumping from present to past better understood by more mature reader.

May 24, 1854: Anthony seized on streets of Boston.

Spring 1839: Anthony retreats from unpleasant present to "sure" life as a slave. His memories can't be taken away (like his freedom). Anthony rouses sleeping slave children; forgets to bow to LeMars (John Suttle) and is slapped by Big Walker, the driver; rides on horse over plantation with LeMars.

May 24, 1854: plans to return Anthony to Suttle under Fugitive Slave Act.

Summer 1841: Lemars dies; slaves fear being sold/separated; Anthony saving paper scraps with letters, hiding them in his pillow; night meeting at Big Walker's cabin; Big W. is Anthony's father.

May 25, 1854: Boston officials hope to dispense with Anthony's case before abolitionists learn of it; they have already been alerted.

May 25, 1854: Richard Henry Dana and others appear, ask to defend Anthony; documents against him read in court; abolitionists win two-day stay, publish information on Anthony's arrest and "mock trial."

Winter 1846: Anthony takes fellow slaves and self to Hiring Ground for Hiring Out Day; Simon tells pot-and-skillet tale with Bruh Rabbit.

May 26, 1854: Dana and Rev. Grimes confer with Anthony, who has been tricked into writing an incriminating letter, which he gets back and rips up.

May 26, 1854: Speeches / rally at Faneuil Hall; liberate Anthony from the Court house tonight?; two factions; calmed by Wendell Phillips, but "messenger" arrives and leaderless mob runs off.

Winter 1846: Simon sick, so slaves arrive late at Hiring Out; Anthony takes humiliation/punishment for all; trade cap for blanket for Simon (sleeping outside in large group).

May 26, 1854: Mob attacks Court House; it has been fortified in advance; mob cannot free Anthony, one federal guard killed.

May 27, 1854: President Franklin Pierce wants the case ended in slavery's favor - soon; Colonel Suttle will sell Tony for \$1200; Rev. Grimes raises the funds; unfortunately, not before midnight - and no business can be transacted on Sundays in Boston.

May 28, 1854: Churches all over Boston offer prayers for Anthony; Colonel now decides not to sell Tony until after he has been returned to Virginia.

Winter 1846-1847: Slave boys are hired out; Anthony to Mr. Foote to run his sawmill steam engine; right hand mangled in machinery; hangs around Suttle place while healing; sooth sayer says "Wings over Jorden," predicting freedom for Anthony; works for druggist Millspaugh.

May 29, 1854: Courtroom; arguments presented.

Winter 1847: Sailor helps him escape on ship.

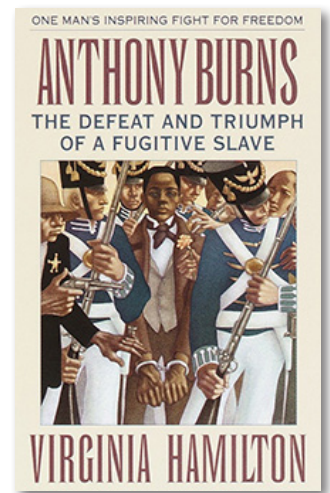
May 29, 1854: more legal presentations; is date of "sightings" correct?

May 31, 1854: Commissioner Loring hears Richard Dana's closing arguments for Anthony, Seth Thomas' for Charles Suttle.

June 1, 1854: Loring finds for Suttle.

June 2, 1854: Anthony shipped back to VA; punished in harsh jail for four months, sold to David McDaniel, wife's neighbor recognizes "Boston Lion" and word gets back to Rev. Grimes - who buys his freedom. Writes Anthony Burns, A History; becomes minister, goes to St. Catharines, Canada, where he dies at age 28.

[Epilogue; Fugitive Slave Act of 1850 (selections); Bibliography]



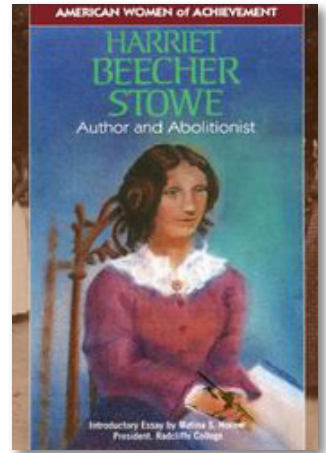
Jakoubek, Robert E.

Harriet Beecher Stowe: American Women of Achievement Series

New York: Chelsea House Publishers, 1989.

Biography. 105 pages.

AR Level 8.6 / 5.0 points



“Remember the Ladies” introductory essay by Matina S. Horner, President of Radcliffe College.

1. “I Will Write Something.” Married to Calvin Stowe, a professor of religion, and living in Cincinnati with a growing family (6 kids), Harriet’s health was poor and she was upset at what she had seen of slavery via escaping slaves. She went north to Maine, determined to use her pen to strike out at slavery. Abolitionism was not wildly popular, even in Maine. Henry Ward Beecher, her brother, encouraged her. At first envisioned as a 3 or 4-week installment publication, Uncle Tom’s Cabin, or Life Among the Lowly expanded to 40 weeks with the last chapter appearing April 1, 1852. It was also published as a book. It was wildly popular in the north.

2. “Hattie Is a Genius.” Her mother, Roxana Foote Beecher, died of TB when Harriet was 5. Her father, Lyman Beecher, was an eminent Congregationalist (Calvinist) preacher. He remarried; lamented that his “genius” Hattie wasn’t a boy. She read much; chafed under heaven/hell theology; battled depression. Was a teacher at her older sister Catherine’s school. Temperance preaching father’s church burned; he relocated to Cincinnati.

3. “What Is There to Be Done?” Lyman sets about expanding the fledgling Lane Seminary, Catherine and Harriet open another school for women. Once, in 1833, Harriet visited a student’s home on a Kentucky plantation and observed slavery first-hand. Theodore Weld leads uprising of abolitionist students at Lane Seminary. Eliza, wife of Calvin Stowe and dear friend of Harriet, dies in cholera epidemic; Harriet and Calvin fall in love and marry. Harriet has twins. Then more children. Pro-slavery forces attack abolitionists in Cincinnati. Stowe’s “maid” turns out to be a runaway and they get her to the UGRR. Constantly sickly, Harriet wrote and published to supplement Calvin’s meager income. She took a spa cure in Vermont, then returned and had yet another baby, who died of cholera while Calvin was taking a year-long spa cure. She moved north to join him.

4. Uncle Tom’s Cabin. Fugitive Slave Act (1850) forces Northerners to look at slavery. Brief history of slavery in U.S. Harriet uses her own observations, research and imagination to portray slave life. Brief summary of book plot. In its day, book was a radical statement of the bravery of blacks (sounds patronizing today).

5. “Shaking the World.” Harriet earned world-wide praise, except in United States south, where she was hated. Proslavery responses. Stage play, showed Uncle Tom as childish, stupid, cowardly, not powerful and intelligent as she had described him. Success of book ends family’s money problems. Move to Andover / Theological Seminary. Publishes Key to Uncle Tom’s Cabin to prove her material factual. Toured / spoke in Great Britain and Europe.

6. “This Great War.” Publishes Dred: A Tale of the great Dismal Swamp. College son drowns while Harriet and Calvin are in Europe; she suffers depression but writes The Minister’s Wooing on New England Puritanism. Lincoln elected. War begins. Stowe continues writing. Confers with Lincoln. Is present on 1/1/63 for Emancipation Proclamation’s beginning.

7. Peace and Controversy. Lyman Beecher dies. Son Fred Stowe wounded fighting for Union at Gettysburg, comes home and drinks heavily. Hartford “Oakholm” dream house actually a nightmare, so more articles needed to be written to finance mounting bills. Buys homes in Florida so son Fred can start over; he ends up drunk again. Befriends Lady Byron; publishes/ defends her version of their split-up.

8. “Favored Among Women.” Fred goes to California and disappears. Mark Twain is next-door neighbor. Brother Henry accused of adultery; Stowe defends him (he probably did it). Began speaking tours. Retires. Honored on 70th birthday/ party by Atlantic Monthly. Calvin dies. She dies 10 years later. Mourned worldwide.

Many photos; Further Reading; Chronology; Index

Katz, William Laren

Breaking the Chains: African-American Slave Resistance

New York: Ethnoc Publications Inc., 1990.

Non-Fiction. 184 pages.

AR Level 9.0 / 10.0 points

Excellent introductory essay on the erroneous depiction of slaves in U.S. history and in the minds of U.S. citizens - black and white. Will quote mostly blacks.

Fighting Bondage on Land and Sea

1. The First Rebels: Settlers in New World first took Native Americans as slaves; near-by families could free them. Slaves from farther away (Africa) had no allies to seek them out. Being black, it was obvious at a glance who was a slave. Slave trade profitable, therefore acceptable, if dangerous due to revolts. Africans bravely seek freedom at every chance.

Daily Toil, Perilous Struggle

2. A Troublesome Property: A few slave owners set policies in Southern states. Tax money went for slave jails and patrols. Slaves were livestock. Slaves kept in line by distortions and lies about race - skilled, but unable to care for selves; punished for taking liberties reserved for whites. Overseers given free hand. Family groupings not respected. Slaves faked dullness, got back at whites subtly.

3. Battle for Family and Knowledge: African families had close ties. No African names. Walked miles for brief family visits. "White supremacy" theory. Slaves worked side jobs, purchased freedom. Extended "families" cared for children. "Breeding" slaves. White masters sleeping with/forcing themselves on slave women, which most of their wives chose to ignore. Slaves sought to be free / reunite their families; learn to read and write, sometimes with illegal white help.

4. Disrupting Plantation Life: Slaves constantly (and intentionally) sluggish. Plantation owners exasperated / fearful / watchful 24/7. Whites encouraged tattling. Stealing from master OK; he was stealing their labor. Slave sabotage on the job. "Sickness." Feigning "damaged goods" at auction. Retaliate / resist overseer. Arson. Poison. Sham illness / age, "recovery" upon emancipation.

5. Industrial and Urban Resistance: Slaves performed myriad skilled and supervisory jobs. Preferred urban to plantation. Still used the delay and sabotage techniques. Did extra jobs, got overtime / incentive bonus; could eventually purchase freedom. Dred Scott.

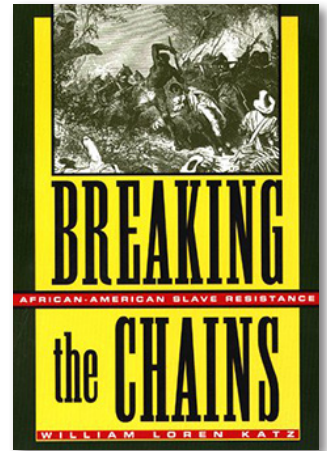
6. Music for Jesus, Lyrics of Freedom: Slaves embrace Christianity. White preachers preach obedience to masters. Some bought it; many didn't. Secret slave worship in woods. God and Jesus - intimate; going to bring freedom - the attitude whites feared. Prosser, Vesey, Turner used Biblical images/visions to undergird their rebellions. Tubman/Moses. Spirituals=freedom doubletalk. Masters encouraged up-beat work songs to a) help set work pace and b) keep track of slaves' location. Songs could mock whites, communicate running away - time and route.

Flight and Revolt

7. Runaways and Maroons: Lotsa running. Native American tribes hid/sheltered. Seminoles/Florida. Flight terrifying - all whites so far were enemies; dear families must be left behind; no knowledge of geography intentionally, plus calculated lies about distances, etc. Entire South alert for flight/retrieval - patrols, bloodhounds, rewards. Newspaper notices of runaway slaves are good source for their physical and personality descriptions and show much variety of response to slavery. Young men fled most, but also women (alone, pregnant or with children) and even entire groups (more frequent in border states). Stories of various daring individual escapes (Texan, Ann Wood, Box Brown, disguises like Maria Weems). Lived in near-by woods, supplied by and visiting family still enslaved. Maroon colonies. Allegheny and Blue Ridge Mountains, Great Dismal Swamp. Crafts. Black communities in South crucial to many escapes. Free blacks in North, ditto. Tubman. Bibb. Abolitionist lecturer.

8. Revolts in the Age of Revolution: British colonials tried to pit Africans against Native Americans, fearing their power if united. Numerous "small" slave uprisings, put down even as colonists were contemplating and demanding their own freedom from England. Slaves fled to British troops during the war. Some fought for colonists, assuming their own freedom at war's end. Not so. But revolutionary ideas spread elsewhere. Toussaint L'Ouverture / San Domingo / France. U.S. Slaveholders nervous.

9. Nineteenth-Century Slave Rebels: Slave uprisings kept quiet so as not to encourage others. Severe reprisals. Four major slave revolts. Gabriel Prosser planned to take Richmond / rainstorm began their demise / executed, but whites nervous and



other slaves encouraged to try. Denmark Vesey / Charleston - informers unraveled / executed. St. John Baptist Parish / New Orleans. Nat Turner / Southampton, VA / whites very nervous thereafter and clamped down more on blacks. No reading; no preaching. Whites became even more cruel to protect their investments.

10. The Firey Abolitionists: David Walker - Freedom's Journal (1827), America's first black newspaper; Appeal to the Slaves of the United States (1829); enraged Southerners; Walker died mysteriously; poison? Benjamin Lundy (white). William Lloyd Garrison (white), Liberator, American Anti-Slavery Society (incl. women). Henry Highland Garnet, escaped slave, Address to the Slaves of the United States (1843). Spurred northern blacks to action, as well as whites. Several incidents of northerners rescuing re-captured fugitives. 1850 Fugitive Slave Law prompts defiance from many. Black vigilance committees formed to help fugitives. Battle at Christiana, PA, showed slavers that blacks willing to use guns, do battle to remain free. Anthony Burns / Boston. Several other daring-do rescues. Northern states' Personal Liberty Laws tried to counteract slave legislation. During 1850s, slave rebellions picked up. 1859 - Brown's raid on Harper's Ferry. 1860 - Lincoln and Republicans win election.

Marching to Freedom

11. The Slaves' Civil War: Lincoln's election taken by some slaves to mean immediate emancipation so added restlessness among them, then disappointment. Many fled to Union troops, some with information on Confederate troop strength. Those who stayed on plantations often negotiated wages, no whips. Some just sabotaged production. Escapes increased. The slave response helped convince Lincoln that, in spite of its political costs, emancipation was the best move. Only slaves in areas of open rebellion freed. On January 1, 1863, emancipation "officially" arrives. Big celebrations. (Not really a fact until war's end.)

12. The Bayonets of Freedom: Frederick Douglass et al. called on the negroes to fight (in the Union army) for their own freedom. They did well in battle, earning respect. As both Union and Confederate armies were exhausted, influx of fresh black soldiers gave Union the upper hand. Captured black soldiers executed by Confederacy; Lincoln threatens same on Confederate prisoners, so they relent some. Negroes still in South also helped escaped Union prisoners. Still-enslaved laborers didn't produce much crop, so South moving toward hunger and poverty. Sherman "gives" confiscated plantations along coast and Sea Islands to slaves. Contraband colonies give refuge to thousands.

13. From Slave Liberation to Protest: Repeated jubilant scenes at liberation and reunion. Some black soldiers short-changed on pay, staged demonstrations, were ultimately paid. Soldiers began schooling, began writing families still held in South.

Bibliography; Index

Lester, Julius *To Be a Slave*

New York: Scholastic / Dial Books for Young Readers, 1968.

Non-Fiction. 156 pages.

AR Level 6.9 / 5.0 points

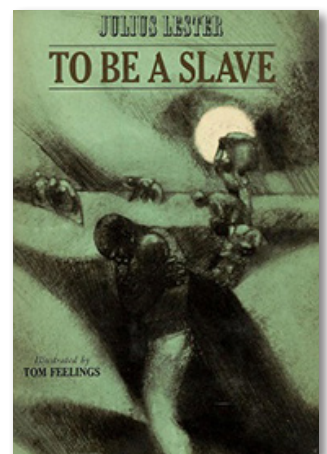
A Newberry Honor Book and other awards incl. NY Times Outstanding Book of the Year.

Lester = professor of black studies at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Dedication: "The ancestry of any black American can be traced to a bill of sale and no further. In many instances, even that cannot be done. Such is true of part of my family. This book is dedicated to the memory of my great-grandparents, Elvira Smith / Maggie Carson / slaves in Arkansas / and / Square and Angeline Lester / Austin and Sylvia Jones / Slaves in Mississippi / and / to those whose names are now / unknown. I never knew them, but I am proud to be one of their descendants. I hope that I may be worthy of them, their strength, and their courage."

Tells how it felt to be a slave, told by former slaves themselves. Interspersed are commentary (editorial) and dramatic illustrations. Written for youth - stark, while not too unsettling. Primary source material from the Federal Writers' Project ex-slave interviews of the 1930s.

Contents: Author's Note, Prologue, To Be a Slave, The Auction Block, The Plantation, Resistance to Slavery 1 and 2, Emancipation, After Emancipation, Epilogue, Bibliography



McKissack, Patricia and Fredrick McKissack
Christmas in the Big House, Christmas in the Quarters

New York: Scholastic Inc., 1994.

Non-Fiction. (Illustrated by John Thompson). 60 pages.

AR Level 6.0 / 2.0 points

Authors' Note contrasts Big House and Quarters. Notes (pgs. 61-66) give explanatory information which would be awkward in text. Bibliography.

Set in Christmas, 1859, this is an antebellum holiday. Chapters alternate between the two settings to show the contrasts between two ways of life. Big House / Holiday for Slaves.

Big House

use dates

pre-holiday cleaning

children learn Bible verses

presents are discussed

slaves chop tree, family decorates

read from Bible

Christmas Eve morning hunt

Christmas Eve visit shut-ins; guests arrive

Quarters

gauge time by seasons

fix chinks between logs in walls

gather roots, etc. for dyes

make new clothes, presents

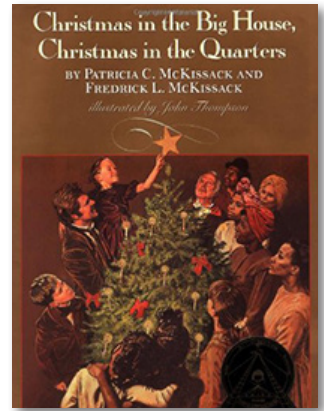
home-made decorations from nature

storyteller

families travel/arrive for Christmas reunions

Christmas Eve possum hunt

Christmas Day - slaves come demanding "Christmas Gif" from Master and Mistress; Massa receives men in study, passes out clothing, opens smokehouse; eggnog; Missus gives and receives small gifts; Join for Christmas carols, fiddle music, then slaves leave



McKissack, Patricia and Fredrick McKissack

Sojourner Truth: Ain't I a Woman?

New York: Scholastic Inc., 1992.

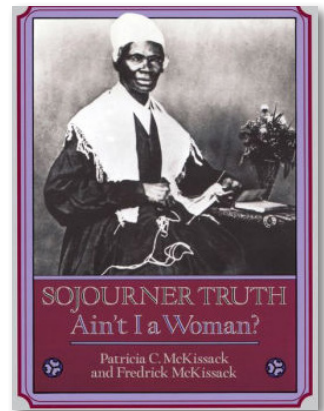
Biography. 162 pages.

AR Level 6.3 / 8.0 points

1. Hardenbergh's Belle: her family's life as slaves of this Dutch family.
2. Dumont's Belle: works hard; can't marry for love, has arranged mating; isn't freed as promised.
3. Free Belle!: runs; Quakers buy freedom; sues to keep son Peter from being sold south.
4. The Kingdom: goes into NYC to work; discovers siblings she didn't know existed, involved in religious community; wrongly accused of poisoning.
5. Gone Forever: son Peter in jail, then goes to sea; exchanged a few letters, then lost all contact; UGRR; abolitionists, incl. Douglass; Belle leaves and takes new name, Sojourner Truth.
6. A New Direction: life as itinerant speaker; incidental information on other great abolitionists - Phillips, Pillsbury, Garrison, Douglass, Barnet, Gilbert, Lydia Marie Child
7. Ain't I a Woman?: difficulties as a feminist, abolitionist speaker; speech in Akron
8. Keep 'Em Scratchin': scenes from speeches and encounters; "you are a knat!" "keep you scratchin!"
9. The Book of Life: uprisings of slaves; speaks for emancipation; Sammy Banks, grandson, goes along, reads, etc.; helps wounded soldiers, then in freedmen's villages; meets Lincoln / autograph
10. The Last Cause: women's suffrage; Sammy dies at 25; she dies at 86

Photos, drawings and other illustrations

More About the People Sojourner Truth Knew: thumbnail sketches with portraits of - Richard Allen, Susan B. Anthony, John Brown, Frederick Douglass, William Lloyd Garrison, John Jay, Lucretia Mott, Wendell Phillips, David Ruggles, Dred Scott, Elizabeth Stanton, Lucy Stone, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Harriet Tubman; Bibliography; Index



Myers, Walter Dean

Now Is Your Time! The African-American Struggle for Freedom

New York: Harper Trophy / HarperCollins Publishers, 1991.

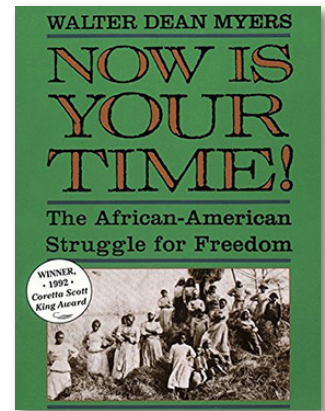
Non-Fiction. 271 pages.

AR Level 7.5 / 12.0 points

Excellent introduction "claiming" the pain, joy and courage of African-American history and experience.

1. The Land: New world agrarian. Dandridge brothers. Indentured (ripped contract) and slave labor necessary.
2. Abd al-Rahman Ibrahima: Son of African Fula chieftain. Known to Dr. Cox in Africa, where enslavement of captured warriors common. Ibrahima captured, brought here, spent 20 years as slave of Thomas Foster. Ran into Dr. Cox, who sent letter for him to Africa, saying he was Moslem. Letter reaches Morocco (not his home), wheels set in motion, he spends last years in Liberia.
3. The Plantation Society: Southern planters are minority but determine policies. Poor whites suffered /slaves worked cheaper. Hard-working planter willing to use slave labor could become wealthy.
4. To Make a Slave: "Seasoning": gun, whip, patrols (written into state laws), remove symbols of African heritage, ignore family ties/marriage, illiteracy, feelings of inferiority, African facial features "bad," "slave" mentality.
5. The United States of America!: Jefferson put abolition in draft of Declaration of Independence; Southern states insisted it be removed. Jefferson and Washington slaveholders. Africans fought in Revolution but not freed by it.
6. James Forten: Free, worked for Philadelphia sailmaker. Signs on privateer Royal Louis as powder monkey, defeated British Active, then captured and kept on prison ship. Eventually, wealthy sailmaker.
7. We the People...: Slavery - pro and con - arguments effect political outcomes. Constitution permits slavery's retention.
8. To Be a Slave: Various aspects of a life lived as someone else's property. Cruelty, leniency, facts of being enslaved.
9. Fighting Back: Cinqué and the Amistad. Nat Turner. Josiah Henson. Purchased own and family's freedom. Run. Back to Africa / American Colonization Society.
10. George Latimer: Jailed for debts of master (collateral); later flees to Boston with pregnant wife. Seen and arrested; freedom bought by abolitionists.
11. The Dred Scott Case: Fairly detailed discussion of case, its importance.
12. John Brown: Detailed recounting. Implications discussed.
13. Secession: "Union" is reason for war (bring back rebellious states).
14. The Bower: Effect of Emancipation Proclamation. Dandridge family owns The Bower, used as social center. Mary Chestnut's diary. Author's great-grandmother, Dolly Dennis, held at The Bower / family stories of slavery.
15. We Look Like Men of War: Union tried to demoralize South by using Negro soldiers; South retaliated by shooting captured "contraband" instead of imprisoning. Massachusetts 54th (black; white officers).
16. Fort Wagner: 54th proves itself in battle (even though rebuffed)
17. The First Taste of Freedom: Freed slaves impoverished planters. Lincoln shot. Reconstruction begins, various institutions, etc.
18. Ida B. Wells: Teacher, journalist. Exposes lynchings in Memphis; black grocery store owner. Continues journalism and exposés.
19. Lewis Howard Latimer: Navy during Civil War; self-taught draftsman for patent applications; expert in new incandescent lighting, an Edison Pioneer; poet.
20. The Battle in the Courts: Plessy v. Ferguson leads to "separate but equal".
21. Meta Vaux Warrick: Cultured Philadelphia childhood; sculptor in Paris; poet.
22. Brown v. Board of Education (of Topeka Kansas): Thurgood Marshall presents school cases. Marshall bio as NAACP lawyer. Supreme Court says segregation unconstitutional (1954). Marshall named to Supreme Court (1967).
23. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Modern Civil Rights Movement: 1960 sit-ins and demonstrations against segregation. Aided by extensive news coverage. Malcolm X, Nation of Islam, militancy. March on Washington, 4/4/68 - MLK assassinated.

Afterward lists heritage and pride; Author's Note; Selected Bibliography; Index; Meaningful photos, documents, drawings.



Rappaport, Doreen

Escape from Slavery: Five Journeys to Freedom

New York: Harper Trophy / HarperCollins Publishers, 1991.

Non-Fiction. 112 pages.

AR Level 5.1 / 1.0 points

Short forward on slave escapes.

The River of Ice: Eliza, learning she's to be sold, takes two-year-old daughter Caroline and runs to Ohio River. The ice has started to thaw, so she seeks shelter in a near-by cabin with a black family. Slave catchers are searching for her, so she must escape or be taken back. She puts Caroline on an ice chunk and flutter-boards her to the other side, where abolitionists wait to get them on the Underground Railroad.

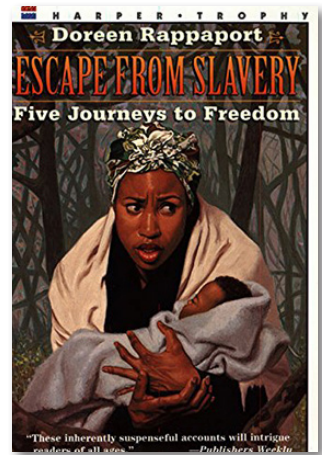
Free Like the Wind: Doshia, age 10 and living free in Cabin Creek, Indiana, has "watch duty" in a tree, rides Free (horse) into town and blows horn when he sees riders approaching. Entire town confronts sheriff and owner-with-writ. Keep parading pairs of boys. Men are looking for Selena and Cornelia Jackson - runaways aged 11 and 9. Finally, after stalling and after saying the wait empowers them to look for "property" and people aren't property in Indiana, they let them inside. The girls, now disguised as boys, just walk out the door and to the woods, where Doshia takes them quietly off to the next UGRR station.

A Shipment of Dry Goods: Nicely detailed story of Henry "Box" Brown from Richmond to Philadelphia.

Pretending: Jane Johnson and her two sons, accompanying master John Wheeler through Philadelphia, get out word that they want freedom. William Still and Passmore Williamson rescue them from the steamship and take them to Quakers James and Lucretia Mott. Jane agrees to risk federal arrest by appearing in court to deny she was abducted and say she sought freedom ("I rather die" than go back).

"Two Tickets for Mr. Johnson and Slave.": Nicely detailed account of escape of Ellen and William Craft from Macon, GA

Afterward; Sources for stories; Selected Bibliography



Russell, Sharman Apt

Frederick Douglass, Abolitionist Editor, Black Americans of Achievement Series

New York: Chelsea House Publishers, 1988.

Biography. 105 pages.

AR Level 7.4 / 4.0 points

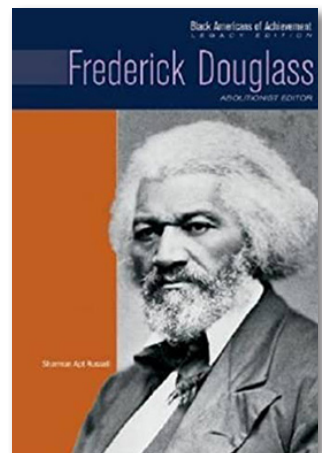
The Fortunate Meeting: stirring address 1841 / Nantucket.

Freedom's Rainbow: childhood; mistress taught him to read; (Fredrick Bailey); eager for freedom / reads of Nat Turner, etc.; new field hand job; rebelled at treatment by "slave breaker" Covey; back with Hugh Auld; engaged; couldn't buy freedom; ran.

A Soul on Fire: in NY, sent for fiancée (who was free) and married; new name Douglass from character in Scott's Lady of the Lake; menial laboring work; interested in abolition / Garrison's Liberator; preacher in Zion Methodist Church; became involved with Garrison / antislavery lecturer and writer, also pointing out Northern inequalities; was so eloquent, folks doubted he had been a slave, so he published Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave (1845).

The Chattel Becomes a Man: travels / speaks in British Isles; Brits collect money to buy Douglass' freedom; begins publishing North Star in 1847; Rochester; also espoused women's rights / suffrage; ended dependence on white abolitionists.

The Gospel of Struggle: allied with white assistant Julia Griffiths; broke with Garrison on several issues; personal life / public



debate over slavery in new territories; after 1850, involved in UGRR; met with John Brown, distanced self from Harper's Ferry.

The War for Emancipation: Lincoln elected, war begins; Douglass calls on Lincoln to declare slaves free, then encouraged blacks to fight in Union Army, protested at discrimination; elated at war's/slavery's end.

"The Work Before Us": Reconstruction; speaks out for black suffrage and other rights; turns down heading Freedmen's Bureau to avoid alliance with President Andrew Johnson; campaigns for U.S. Grant; black rights still elusive; lectured; Marshall in D.C.; wife died, married Helen Pitts, white and 20 years younger.

Indian Summer: after initial criticism over marriage, couple tours Europe, deep South; aghast at freed blacks' plight, spoke out on topic; named consul to Haiti, health led him to resign; continued more-or-less active until death.

Chronology; Further Reading; Index; many pictures and drawings

Stein, R. Conrad

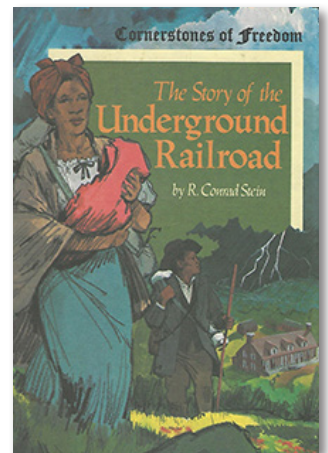
American Cornerstone of Freedom: The Story of the Underground Railroad

New York: Grolier / Children's Press, 1997.

Non-Fiction. 31 pages.

AR Level 5.9 / 2.0 points

Readable, general with some specifics. Well illustrated with documents, photographs and drawings. Glossary, time line, index. Harriet Tubman, thumb-nail history of slavery in U.S., Nat Turner, Dred Scott, Levi Coffin, Thomas Garrett, Stowe/Uncle Tom, Jermain Loguen, William Still, Frederick Douglass, code songs, Crafts (unnamed), Henry "Box" Brown, John Fairfield/conductor, Tubman, Lincoln/Emancipation Proclamation.



Sterling, Dorothy

Freedom Train: The Story of Harriet Tubman

New York: Scholastic, Inc., 1954.

Biography. 191 pages.

AR Level 6.2 / 6.0 points

Little Girl, Little Girl!: Daddy Ben teaches survival in woods. Harriet watches baby. Steals sugar lump, hides in pig pen.

Peck of Trouble: Harriet whipped; made field slave, but at least not sold South. Covered by Old Rit's patchwork quilt.

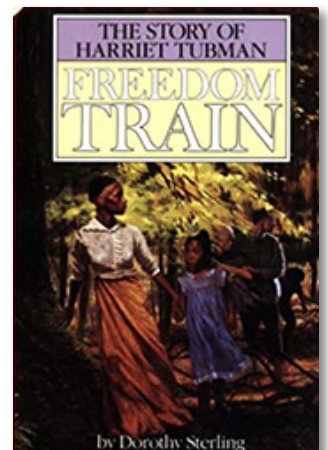
School Days : Harriet works in fields; learns spirituals, has distinctive singing voice. Nat Turner; 11-year-old Harriet hopes for emancipation. Thereafter, Old Cudjoe replaced by white preacher. Slaves worship in secret in woods.

The Train Whistle Blows: Harriet exceptionally strong, hires out as field worker. Meets Barrett's Jim, hears his tales of running, several attempts. Jim tries to run again, Harriet blocks door, is hit in head with iron weight.

Not Worth a Sixpence: Recovered but plagued by sleeping fits, Harriet hires out and saves to buy herself. Price too high. Meets and marries John Tubman, who is free. Master dies. Harriet wants to flee, but John "forbids" her.

Bound for the Promised Land: Harriet strikes up conversation with Quaker lady, gets valuable UGRR info. She and two brothers start to flee, but have to turn back. They're going to sell Harriet, so she runs alone, leaving her quilt on the doorstep of the Quaker woman. Sings spiritual as "farewell."

Following the Star: Harriet goes through woods; reaches first station, Ezekiel Hunn's house.



Riding on the Railroad: More of her journey. Reaches home of Thomas Garrett; crosses Mason-Dixon Line.

In a Strange Land: Reaches Philadelphia, works hard for small amounts of money. Meets William Still. Freedom not so wonderful without her family; will raise money and go back for them.

“Why Not Every Man?”: Goes back, rescues sister Mary Ann and children from auction pen; then gets her brother James and others; goes for John Tubman, but he’s remarried and stays behind. It’s Christmas; she visits her brothers; parents don’t “see” her, so won’t have to lie if asked. Quaker man strolls and talks about horse/wagon in barnyard; more escapes.

Ship of Zion: another rescue mission by Harriet.

The Old Folks: Old Ben’s in jail; Harriet comes to rescue both parents. Made a crude carriage; took parents. Turned them over, as she was “wanted.”

The Lion’s Paw : Harriet visits Stephen Myers, Loguen, Douglass; goes to the safety of St. Catharines, Canada. “Shook the lion’s paw.” takes many over bridge by Niagara Falls to freedom.

Moses: Legendary

“The Most of Man”: Frees Charles Nolle, to be returned south, with little citizen uprising. Meets with John Brown, agrees to help recruit soldiers (“General Tubman”). Harriet en route; Brown attacks arsenal at Harper’s Ferry before she can arrive.

Department of the South: wants to join Union Army; is needed to help with morale of the “contraband.”

“Our Time Is Coming”: Army nurse. Emancipation.

Mr. Lincoln’s Army : disguised as Union soldier, she spreads news of emancipation and spies on Confederate positions.

Victory: Harriet organizes sanitation in hospitals; experiences discrimination on railroad car.

The Years of Peace: active for women’s rights (Stanton, Anthony); publishes Scenes in the Life of Harriet Tubman; money always tight, helps needy. Marries Nelson Davis. Revered in old age. Dies in 1913 at more-or-less 93.