

Twelve Years A Slave Film Tie In

Movies do more than tell a good story. Filmspotting co-host Josh Larsen brings a critic's unique perspective to how movies can act as prayers—expressing lament, praise, joy, confession, and more. When words fail, the perfect film might be just what you need to jump-start your conversations with the Almighty.

"The history of Henrietta Robinson, known as 'The Veiled Murderess,' who apparently was born in Quebec City in 1827. In 1854, she was tried and convicted in Troy, New York, of poisoning her neighbour and his sister-in-law with arsenic and she was sentenced to life imprisonment by reason of insanity. The greater portion of the text deals with her true identity, which has never been reliably established, and recounts her trial in detail."--David Ewens Books description.

"Twelve Years a Slave" is an 1853 memoir and slave narrative by American Solomon Northup. Northup, a black man who was born free in New York state, details his being tricked to go to Washington, D.C., where he was kidnapped and sold into slavery in the Deep South. He was in bondage for 12 years in Louisiana before he was able to secretly get information to friends and family in New York, who in turn secured his release with the aid of the state. Northup's account provides extensive details on the slave markets in Washington, D.C. and New Orleans, and describes at length cotton and sugar cultivation and slave treatment on major plantations in Louisiana. The memoir has been adapted as two film versions, produced as the 1984 PBS television film "Solomon Northup's Odyssey" and the Oscar-winning 2013 film "12 Years a Slave". The Golden Eagle World Classics Collection is a collection of pioneering works that shaped the understanding of human history and philosophy. Each work is accompanied by hand-selected, black-and-white artistic illustrations to convey the ideas of the authors. From Austen to Shakespeare to Tolstoy, this collection contains the most influential thinkers across various centuries. The canon aims to provide a literary foundation to understand the past, the present, and the future of humanity. For more information on the collection, please go to www.GoldenEaglePublishers.com.

12 Years a Slave is a 2013 biographical period drama film and an adaptation of the 1853 slave memoir Twelve Years a Slave by Solomon Northup, a New York State born free African American man who was kidnapped in Washington, D.C. by two conmen in 1841 and sold into slavery. Northup was put to work on plantations in the state of Louisiana for 12 years before being released. The first scholarly edition of Northup's memoir, co edited in 1968 by Sue Eakin and Joseph Logsdon, carefully retraced and validated the account and concluded it to be accurate. Other characters in the film were also real people, including Edwin and Mary Epps, and Patsey.

Originally published in 1867, this book is a collection of songs of African-American slaves. A few of the songs were written after the emancipation, but all were inspired by slavery. The wild, sad strains tell, as the sufferers themselves could, of crushed hopes, keen sorrow, and a dull, daily misery, which covered them as hopelessly as the fog from the rice swamps. On the other hand, the words breathe a trusting faith in the life after, to which their eyes seem constantly turned.

The author discusses the writings of Richard Allen, Solomon Bayley, Henry Bibb, Henry Box Brown, John Brown, Leonard Black, William Wells Brown, Lewis Clarke, William Craft, Frederick Douglass, Martin R. Delany, Olaudah Equiano, Moses Grandy, Jacob D. Green, William Grimes, James A.U. Gronniosaw, Briton Hammon, Josiah Henson, Harriet Jacobs, John Jea, Lunsford Lane, Jarena Lee, John Marrant, Solomon Northrup, James W. Pennington, James Robert, Moses Roper, Venture Smith, Austin Steward, Nat Turner, Samuel R. Ward, Booker T. Washington, James Watkins, George White, James Williams, and others.

"Twelve Years a Slave" is a slave narrative of Solomon Northup, a New York State-born free African-American man who was kidnapped in Washington, D.C., in 1841 and sold into slavery. Northup worked on plantations in the state of Louisiana for 12 years before his release. Director Steve McQueen, who adapted this memoir into his critically acclaimed film of the same name, compared Northup's memoir at par with Anne Frank's diary in terms of national hero status and in giving the first-hand account of brutality of slavery. Excerpt: "Having been born a freeman, and for more than thirty years enjoyed the blessings of liberty in a free State—and having at the end of that time been kidnapped and sold into Slavery, where I remained, until happily rescued in the month of January, 1853, after a bondage of twelve years—it has been suggested that an account of my life and fortunes would not be uninteresting to the public. Since my return to liberty, I have not failed to perceive the increasing interest throughout the Northern States, in regard to the subject of Slavery." Solomon Northup (1807–1863?) was the son of a freed slave and free woman of color and a farmer, professional violin and landowner in New York before his kidnapping by the slave catchers. After his freedom he became an active abolitionist and gave more than two dozen speeches about his experiences as a slave, to build momentum against slavery.

This Norton Critical Edition of Solomon Northup's harrowing autobiography is based on the 1853 first edition. It is accompanied by Henry Louis Gates, Jr. and Kevin Burke's introduction and detailed explanatory footnotes. The Norton Critical Edition also includes: · The illustrations printed in the original book. · Contemporary sources (1853–62), among them newspaper accounts of Northup's kidnapping and ordeal and commentary by Frederick Douglass, Harriet Beecher Stowe, and Thomas W. MacMahon. · A Genealogy of Secondary Sources (1880-2015) presenting twenty-four voices spanning three centuries on the memoir's major themes. Contributors include George Washington Williams, Marion Wilson Starling, Kenneth Stampp, Robert B. Stepto, Trish Loughran, and David Fiske, Clifford W. Brown, Jr., and Rachel Seligman, among others. · The 2013 film adaptation—12 Years a Slave—fully considered, with criticism and major reviews of the film as well as Henry Louis Gates's three interviews with its director, Steve McQueen. · A Chronology and Selected Bibliography.

Autobiography of Solomon Northup, a free Black man from Saratoga, N.Y., who was kidnapped in 1841 and forced into slavery in Louisiana for twelve years. Also includes notes and historical context by Dr. Sue Eakin.

Literature Review from the year 2015 in the subject American Studies - Literature, grade: A, , course: Text Discussions, language: English, abstract: We can consider this material a reliable historical reference on slavery, updated to today's background by the lessons it teaches. Indeed, a masterpiece of depicting the world's inner cruelty which makes us reconsider our whole system of beliefs. "Twelve Years a Slave", published in 1853, reveals us Solomon Northup's path to an eventual escape from slavery, after facing monstrous, shocking experiences. His heartbreaking story makes us witness the struggles, sorrows and aspirations of black people in their quest for freedom. The kind of "hell on earth"

emotional status which the main characters attain illustrates the oppressive social order of the South. As a slave narrative, Solomon Northup's confession is not only important for what it communicates about the African American literature and its historical context, but also because it analyses the institution of humanity, portraying an impeccable examination of the realities of slavery, which are enlightened throughout the text.

Twelve Years a Slave, sub-title: Narrative of Solomon Northup, citizen of New-York, kidnapped in Washington city in 1841, and rescued in 1853, from a cotton plantation near the Red River in Louisiana, is a memoir by Solomon Northup as told to and edited by David Wilson. It is a slave narrative of a black man who was born free in New York state but kidnapped in Washington, D.C., sold into slavery, and kept in bondage for 12 years in Louisiana. He provided details of slave markets in Washington, D.C. and New Orleans, as well as describing at length cotton and sugar cultivation on major plantations in Louisiana.

The true story behind the acclaimed movie 12 Years a Slave, this book is based on the life of Solomon Northup, a free black man from New York who was captured in the United States and sold into slavery in Louisiana. Solomon Northup awoke in the middle of the night with his body trembling. Slowly, he realized that he was handcuffed in a dark room and his feet were chained to the floor. He managed to slip his hand into his pocket to look for his free papers that proved he was one of 400,000 free blacks in a nation where 2.5 million other African Americans were slaves. They were gone. This remarkable story follows Northup through his 12 years of bondage as a man kidnapped into slavery, enduring the hardships of slave life in Louisiana. But the tale also has a remarkable ending. Northup is rescued from his master's cotton plantation in the deep South by friends in New York. This is a compelling tale that looks into a little known slice of history, sure to rivet young readers and adults alike. National Geographic supports K-12 educators with ELA Common Core Resources. Visit www.natgeoed.org/commoncore for more information.

Extensive reading improves fluency and there is a real need in the ELT classroom for motivating, graded material that will instantly appeal to students. Twelve Years a Slave is the extraordinary true story of Solomon Northup, a free black man living in New York State who, in 1841, was kidnapped and sold into slavery. This simplified version condenses Northup's memoirs for students of English and is interspersed with stills from the 2013 Oscar award winning film.

Twelve Years a Slave is an 1853 memoir and slave narrative by American Solomon Northup as told to and edited by David Wilson. Northup, a black man who was born free in New York state, details his being tricked to go to Washington, D.C., where he was kidnapped and sold into slavery in the Deep South. After having been kept in bondage for 12 years in Louisiana by various masters, Northup was able to write to friends and family in New York, who in turn secured his release with the aid of the state. Northup's account provides extensive details on the slave markets in Washington, D.C. and New Orleans, and describes at length cotton and sugar cultivation and slave treatment on major plantations in Louisiana. The work was published eight years before the Civil War by Derby & Miller of Auburn, New York, soon after Harriet Beecher Stowe's best-selling novel about slavery, Uncle Tom's Cabin (1852), to which it lent factual support. Northup's book, dedicated to Stowe, sold 30,000 copies, making it a bestseller in its own right. After being published in several editions in the 19th century and later cited by specialist scholarly works on slavery in the United States, the memoir fell into public obscurity for nearly 100 years. It was re-discovered on separate occasions by two Louisiana historians, Sue Eakin (Louisiana State University at Alexandria) and Joseph Logsdon (University of New Orleans). In the early 1960s, they researched and retraced Solomon Northup's journey and co-edited a historically annotated version that was published by Louisiana State University Press (1968). The memoir has been adapted as two film versions, produced as the 1984 PBS television movie Solomon Northup's Odyssey and the Oscar-winning 2013 film 12 Years a Slave.

Solomon Northup (July 10, 1807, or 1808-1863?) was an American abolitionist and the primary author of the memoir Twelve Years a Slave. A free-born African American from New York, he was the son of a freed slave and free woman of color. A farmer and professional violinist, Northup had been a landowner in Hebron, New York. In 1841, he was offered a traveling musician's job and went to Washington, D.C. (where slavery was legal); there he was drugged, kidnapped, and sold as a slave. He was shipped to New Orleans, purchased by a planter, and held as a slave for 12 years in the Red River region of Louisiana, mostly in Avoyelles Parish. He remained in slavery until he met a Canadian working on his plantation who helped get word to New York, where state law provided aid to free New York citizens kidnapped into slavery. Family and friends enlisted the aid of the Governor of New York, Washington Hunt, and Northup regained his freedom on January 3, 1853.... David Wilson, (born September 17, 1818, Hebron, New York, U.S.-died June 9, 1870, Albany, New York) American lawyer and author who collaborated with Solomon Northup to describe the latter's kidnapping and enslavement in Twelve Years a Slave: Narrative of Solomon Northup, a Citizen of New York, Kidnapped in Washington City in 1841, and Rescued in 1853, from a Cotton Plantation near the Red River in Louisiana (1853). Wilson attended Salem Washington Academy in Salem, New York, and graduated from Union College in Schenectady, New York, in 1840. He then studied law with lawyer and future state senator Orville Clark in Sandy Hill (now Hudson Falls), New York, and later practiced law in Whitehall, New York.

The official movie tie-in edition to the winner of the 2014 Academy Award for Best Picture, starring Chiwetel Ejiofor, Michael Fassbender, and Lupita Nyong'o, and directed by Steve McQueen New York Times bestseller "I could not believe that I had never heard of this book. It felt as important as Anne Frank's Diary, only published nearly a hundred years before. . . . The book blew [my] mind: the epic range, the details, the adventure, the horror, and the humanity. . . . I hope my film can play a part in drawing attention to this important book of courage. Solomon's bravery and life deserve nothing less." —Steve McQueen, director of 12 Years a Slave, from the Foreword Perhaps the best written of all the slave narratives, Twelve Years a Slave is a harrowing memoir about one of the darkest periods in American history. It recounts how Solomon Northup, born a free man in New York, was lured to Washington, D.C., in 1841 with the promise of fast money, then drugged and beaten and sold into slavery. He spent the next twelve years of his life in captivity on a

Louisiana cotton plantation. After his rescue, Northup published this exceptionally vivid and detailed account of slave life. It became an immediate bestseller and today is recognized for its unusual insight and eloquence as one of the very few portraits of American slavery produced by someone as educated as Solomon Northup, or by someone with the dual perspective of having been both a free man and a slave.

Solomon Northup was born a free man in New York State. At the age of 33 he was kidnapped in Washington D.C. and placed in an underground slave pen. Northup was transported by ship to New Orleans where he was sold into slavery. He spent the next 12 years working as a carpenter, driver, and cotton picker. This narrative reveals how Northup survived the harsh conditions of slavery, including smallpox, lashings, and an attempted hanging. Solomon Northup was among a select few who were freed from slavery. His account describes the daily life of slaves in Louisiana, their diet and living conditions, the relationship between master and slave, and how slave catchers used to recapture runaways. Northup's first person account published in 1853, was a dramatic story in the national debate over slavery that took place in the nine years leading up to the start of the American Civil War.

Literature Review from the year 2015 in the subject American Studies - Literature, grade: A, course: Text Discussions, language: English, abstract: We can consider this material a reliable historical reference on slavery, updated to today's background by the lessons it teaches. Indeed, a masterpiece of depicting the world's inner cruelty which makes us reconsider our whole system of beliefs. "Twelve Years a Slave," published in 1853, reveals us Solomon Northup's path to an eventual escape from slavery, after facing monstrous, shocking experiences. His heartbreaking story makes us witness the struggles, sorrows and aspirations of black people in their quest for freedom. The kind of "hell on earth" emotional status which the main characters attain illustrates the oppressive social order of the South. As a slave narrative, Solomon Northup's confession is not only important for what it communicates about the African American literature and its historical context, but also because it analyses the institution of humanity, portraying an impeccable examination of the realities of slavery, which are enlightened throughout the text.

Seminar paper from the year 2020 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies - Other, language: English, abstract: The research question of this paper focuses on the relation between power and resistance within McQueen's movie by incorporating Foucault's notion that power is reversible and always brings along resistance. I argue that power as well as power relations change through practiced forms of resistance. For my analysis of Solomon's confrontations with white power and strategies of resistance in the movie, I will first illustrate Foucault's theory of power and resistance, followed by a depiction of control and slave resistance in antebellum American slavery. Finally, I will analyse how power and resistance are displayed in the movie. Although the United States Constitution declares all human beings as equal individuals, white people of European descent regarded themselves as superior compared to people of different ancestry, especially to Blacks. Blacks were not even regarded as human beings and furthermore treated as objects and "legal property" of white people. This derives from the notion of race as an indicating signifier, categorising people based on supposed biological characteristics, including skin colour. Moreover, race is not a universal concept; rather, it forms "a contingent and unstable cultural category with which people identify". With its prejudicial connotation, the cultural studies concept of race roots in the misbalanced hierarchical power distribution between colonialists and subjected people. Thus, colonialists referred to themselves as 'civilized people', distinguishing from the 'primitive' subject and thereby hierarchised human types. The dominant groups' assumed superiority results in the suppression of the recessive subject by ranking social groups within a hierarchical system of both material and social inferiority and superiority. This leads to the view of race being a cultural instead of a biological phenomenon.

The shocking first-hand account of one man's remarkable fight for freedom; now an award-winning motion picture. 'Why had I not died in my young years - before God had given me children to love and live for? What unhappiness and suffering and sorrow it would have prevented. I sighed for liberty; but the bondsman's chain was round me, and could not be shaken off.' 1841: Solomon Northup is a successful violinist when he is kidnapped and sold into slavery. Taken from his family in New York State - with no hope of ever seeing them again - and forced to work on the cotton plantations in the Deep South, he spends the next twelve years in captivity until his eventual escape in 1853. First published in 1853, this extraordinary true story proved to be a powerful voice in the debate over slavery in the years leading up to the Civil War. It is a true-life testament of one man's courage and conviction in the face of unfathomable injustice and brutality: its influence on the course of American history cannot be overstated.

After years of fact checking, here is the entire text of Twelve Years A Slave, with annotations throughout and back stories on all of the characters—even the villains other historians have ignored. This is the true story of Twelve Years a Slave, and of David Wilson, the man who really wrote Solomon Northup's story into history.

Firsthand accounts of escapes from slavery in the American South include narratives by Frederick Douglass, Sojourner Truth, and Harriet Tubman as well as lesser-known travelers of the Underground Railroad.

In his second collection of poems, Daniel Donaghy uses the power of poetry to connect the Kensington section of Philadelphia he knew as a boy—a place replete with crime, poverty, fractured families, and various other kinds of darkness—to upstate New York's woods, rural Connecticut's town greens and small churches, Vancouver's back alleys, the killing ground of the 1864 Sand Creek Massacre in Kiowa County, Colorado, and the shores of ancient Greece. In doing so, he examines the relationship between memory and identity and strives to give voice to those who might otherwise be forgotten by history. Start with the Trouble is the place of fist fights and first kisses, where we sit beside the dying and where we sing to those not yet born. It is where Michelangelo's Pieta recreates itself on a Kensington sidewalk, where a mother watches helplessly as two older boys dangle her son from the roof of a building, where a prostitute writes poems between tricks before she disappears without a trace. It is where Bruce Springsteen goes back in time to woo Circe and the Sirens, where a father returns from the dead in the voice of Babe Ruth, where a

mother's spirit rises from the shadows of spruce trees, where Santa forsakes his reindeer and slides into town behind sled dogs. It is where simple gestures such as opening a car trunk or loading a wheelbarrow become portals into faraway, nightmarish worlds in which the young are forced to bear too much witness to the world. Start with the Trouble is a place where beauty exists amidst every kind of ugliness, and where that beauty is made even more precious because of the depths from which it rises.

Now an Award-winning Motion Picture, *Twelve Years a Slave* by Solomon Northup, is a heartfelt memoir by an African American man who was born free in Saratoga, New York but was tricked and kidnapped in 1843. He was sold into slavery and kept in bondage for 12 years in Louisiana before he could get word to his friends and return to his family. Read the story in Solomon's own words.

This special edition of the book commemorates the revival and the deserving success of an astounding, evergreen story in the form of Steve McQueen's acclaimed movie *12 Years a Slave*. The film was awarded the Golden Globe Award for Best Motion Picture – Drama, and received nine Academy Award nominations including Best Picture and Best Actor. An incredible, true story of one man's fight for survival and freedom. No fiction, no exaggeration.

BOOK SUMMARY *Twelve Years a Slave*: Narrative of Solomon Northup, citizen of New-York, kidnapped in Washington city in 1841, and rescued in 1853, from a cotton plantation near the Red River in Louisiana. **INTERVIEWS AND PHOTOGRAPHS OF FREED SLAVES.** This edition of Northup's autobiography is unique because it includes photographs and interviews with former slaves who voice their experiences of slavery. Many talk about how they were treated, the condition before their freedom and after. Unlike Solomon Northup, there were no Canadians to rescue them from slavery, they did not ride off into the sunset. A few spoke of the beatings, the work and their fear of the Klan after the abolition of slavery. Readers most also bear in mind the the majority of interviewees were unable to read and write, and sadly the interviewers, often recorded their narrative voices in a somewhat racist and stereotypical vernacular as often seen in Uncle Ben and Mammy type caricatures of African-Americans in the late 19th and early 20th, Century. **THE SCREEN PLAY** The book *12 Years a Slave* is now a major screenplay that has received wide critical acclaim, and was named the best film of the year by several media outlets. It also proved to be a box office success, earning over \$140 million on a production budget of \$20 million. The film has won three Academy Awards: Best Picture, Best Supporting Actress for Nyong'o and Best Adapted Screenplay for Ridley. It was awarded the Golden Globe Award for Best Motion Picture - Drama, and the British Academy of Film and Television Arts recognized the film with the Best Film and the Best Actor award for Ejirofor. *12 Year a Slave*. However, little mention has been made of the fact that *12 Years a Slave* the film is a REMAKE! What's more, the original television film Solomon Northup's *Odyssey*, was re-issued as *Half Slave, Half Free*, is a 1984 directed by the often celebrated Gordon Parks. The screenplay was written by Lou Potter and the noted playwright-actor Samm-Art Williams, who were also, inspired by Northup's 1853 book *Twelve Years a Slave*. Why this fact has not been mention by film critics is a mystery, that has yet to be explained. **ABOUT THE EDITOR** D. Constantine-Simms is an Occupational Psychologist, Counselling Psychologist and a qualified Therapeutic Career Coach. He is also as freelance print and photojournalist, whose work is regularly submitted and distributed by photo agencies such as Corbis Images and Demotix. His articles and images have appeared in British and international publications such as the Word (Canada) The Big Issue, The Guardian, The Voice Newspaper, Miami Times, and many other publications. Constantine-Simms has previously edited the following books and Co-edited *Teachers for the Future* (1995) *The Greatest Taboo: Homosexuality in Black Communities* (2001) *Hip Hop Had a Dream: Vol. 1 the Artful Movement* (2008) Constantine-Simms is the recipient of the 2001 Lambda Award for Best Anthology for his book: *The Greatest Taboo: Homosexuality in Black Communities* (2001) He is also a novice graphic artist who distributes/sells his work under the appropriately artistic name of "THINKDOCTOR" through the Following websites: www.deviantart.com www.zazzle.com/thinkdoctor www.zazzle.com/anythingobama

Describes the life of Solomon Northup, a free Black man from Saratoga, N.Y., who was kidnapped in 1841 and forced into slavery in Louisiana for twelve years.

This scarce antiquarian book is included in our special Legacy Reprint Series. In the interest of creating a more extensive selection of rare historical book reprints, we have chosen to reproduce this title even though it may possibly have occasional imperfections such as missing and blurred pages, missing text, poor pictures, markings, dark backgrounds and other reproduction issues beyond our control. Because this work is culturally important, we have made it available as a part of our commitment to protecting, preserving and promoting the world's literature.

"Thoughtful, suggestive and highly readable."—New York Times Book Review In the American Revolution, Virginians were the most eloquent spokesmen for freedom and quality. George Washington led the Americans in battle against British oppression. Thomas Jefferson led them in declaring independence. Virginians drafted not only the Declaration but also the Constitution and the Bill of Rights; they were elected to the presidency of the United States under that Constitution for thirty-two of the first thirty-six years of its existence. They were all slaveholders. In the new preface Edmund S. Morgan writes: "Human relations among us still suffer from the former enslavement of a large portion of our predecessors. The freedom of the free, the growth of freedom experienced in the American Revolution depended more than we like to admit on the enslavement of more than 20 percent of us at that time. How republican freedom came to be supported, at least in large part, by its opposite, slavery, is the subject of this book. *American Slavery, American Freedom* is a study of the tragic contradiction at the core of America. Morgan finds the keys to this central paradox, "the marriage of slavery and freedom," in the people and the politics of the state that was both the birthplace of the Revolution and the largest slaveholding state in the country.

Twelve Years a Slave is an 1853 memoir and slave narrative by American Solomon Northup as told to and edited by David Wilson. Northup, a black man who was born free in New York state, details his being tricked to go to Washington,

D.C., where he was kidnapped and sold into slavery in the Deep South. After having been kept in bondage for 12 years in Louisiana by various masters, Northup was able to write to friends and family in New York, who in turn secured his release with the aid of the state. Northup's account provides extensive details on the slave markets in Washington, D.C. and New Orleans, and describes at length cotton and sugar cultivation and slave treatment on major plantations in Louisiana. The work was published eight years before the Civil War by Derby & Miller of Auburn, New York, soon after Harriet Beecher Stowe's best-selling novel about slavery, *Uncle Tom's Cabin* (1852), to which it lent factual support. Northup's book, dedicated to Stowe, sold 30,000 copies, making it a bestseller in its own right. After being published in several editions in the 19th century and later cited by specialist scholarly works on slavery in the United States, the memoir fell into public obscurity for nearly 100 years. It was re-discovered on separate occasions by two Louisiana historians, Sue Eakin (Louisiana State University at Alexandria) and Joseph Logsdon (University of New Orleans). In the early 1960s, they researched and retraced Solomon Northup's journey and co-edited a historically annotated version that was published by Louisiana State University Press (1968). The memoir has been adapted as two film versions, produced as the 1984 PBS television movie *Solomon Northup's Odyssey* and the Oscar-winning 2013 film *12 Years a Slave*. In his home town of Saratoga, New York, Solomon Northup, a free negro who was a skilled carpenter and violinist, was approached by two circus promoters. They offered him a brief, high-paying job as a musician with their traveling circus. Without informing his wife, who was away at work in a nearby town, he traveled with the strangers to downstate New York and Washington, D.C. Soon after arriving in the capital, he awoke to find himself drugged, bound, and in the cell of a slave pen. When Northup asserted his rights as a free man, he was beaten and warned never again to mention his free life in New York. Transported by ship to New Orleans, Northup and other enslaved blacks contracted smallpox and one died. In transit, Northup implored a sympathetic sailor to send a letter to his family. The letter arrived safely, but, lacking knowledge of his final destination, Northup's family was unable to effect his rescue.

A New York Times Notable Book of 2019 A unique exploration of the life and work of Rudyard Kipling in Gilded Age America, from a celebrated scholar of American literature At the turn of the twentieth century, Rudyard Kipling towered over not just English literature but the entire literary world. At the height of his fame in 1907, he was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature, becoming its youngest winner. His influence on major figures—including Freud and William James—was pervasive and profound. But in recent decades Kipling's reputation has suffered a strange eclipse. Though his body of work still looms large, and his monumental poem "If—" is quoted and referenced by politicians, athletes, and ordinary readers alike, his unabashed imperialist views have come under increased scrutiny. In *If*, scholar Christopher Benfey brings this fascinating and complex writer to life and, for the first time, gives full attention to Kipling's intense engagement with the United States—a rarely discussed but critical piece of evidence in our understanding of this man and his enduring legacy. Benfey traces the writer's deep involvement with America over one crucial decade, from 1889 to 1899, when he lived for four years in Brattleboro, Vermont, and sought deliberately to turn himself into a specifically American writer. It was his most prodigious and creative period, as well as his happiest, during which he wrote *The Jungle Book* and *Captains Courageous*. Had a family dispute not forced his departure, Kipling almost certainly would have stayed. Leaving was the hardest thing he ever had to do, Kipling said. "There are only two places in the world where I want to live," he lamented, "Bombay and Brattleboro. And I can't live in either." In this fresh examination of Kipling, Benfey hangs a provocative "what if" over Kipling's American years and maps the imprint Kipling left on his adopted country as well as the imprint the country left on him. *If* proves there is relevance and magnificence to be found in Kipling's work.

"Blow after blow was inflicted on my naked body. When his unrelenting arm grew tired, he stopped and asked if I still insisted I was a free man. I did insist upon it, and then the blows were renewed, faster and more energetically, if possible, than before." Solomon Northup enduring horribly violent conditions. Northup was freed in 1853 with help from colleagues and friends. His experiences are the subject of the book and film *12 Years a Slave*. This is no fiction, no exaggeration. If I have failed in anything, it has been in presenting to the reader too prominently the bright side of the picture. I doubt not hundreds have been as unfortunate as myself; that hundreds of free citizens have been kidnapped and sold into slavery, and are at this moment wearing out their lives on plantations... -Solomon Northup, 1853, *Twelve Years a Slave*

This unforgettable memoir was the basis for the Academy Award-winning film *12 Years a Slave*. This is the true story of Solomon Northup, who was born and raised as a freeman in New York. He lived the American dream, with a house and a loving family - a wife and two kids. Then one day he was drugged, kidnapped, and sold into slavery in the deep south. These are the true accounts of his twelve hard years as a slave - many believe this memoir is even more graphic and disturbing than the film. His extraordinary journey proves the resiliency of hope and the human spirit despite the most grueling and formidable of circumstances.

Twelve Years a Slave Prabhat Prakashan

"Having been born a freeman, and for more than thirty years enjoyed the blessings of liberty in a free State—and having at the end of that time been kidnapped and sold into Slavery, where I remained, until happily rescued in the month of January, 1853, after a bondage of twelve years—it has been suggested that an account of my life and fortunes would not be uninteresting to the public." -an excerpt

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