

a history of mary prince

A History of Mary Prince: A Comprehensive Guide

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Summary: This guide provides a comprehensive exploration of *A History of Mary Prince*, a pivotal text in the abolitionist movement. It delves into the life of Mary Prince, the context of her narrative, its literary significance, and its lasting impact. We examine the historical accuracy, the challenges of interpreting a first-person slave narrative, and the ongoing relevance of Prince's story in contemporary discussions of race, gender, and colonialism. The guide also addresses common misconceptions and pitfalls associated with studying *A History of Mary Prince* and offers best practices for researchers and readers alike.

Keywords: *A History of Mary Prince*, Mary Prince, Slave Narrative, Abolitionist Movement, British Slavery, Caribbean Slavery, African Diaspora, Gender and Slavery, Postcolonial Literature, 19th

I. Understanding the Context of A History of Mary Prince

A History of Mary Prince, published in 1831, is a groundbreaking autobiography detailing the harrowing experiences of Mary Prince, a Bermudian woman enslaved in the West Indies and later in England. Its publication was a significant event, contributing powerfully to the growing abolitionist movement.

Understanding its context is crucial:

The Transatlantic Slave Trade: The narrative provides a visceral account of the brutality inherent in the system, shedding light on the daily realities of enslaved people beyond the often-sanitized depictions found in other accounts.

The British Empire and Colonialism: Prince's story reveals the interconnectedness of slavery and the broader project of British colonialism, exposing the exploitative nature of the empire's economic and political system.

Gender and Slavery: Mary Prince's experiences highlight the specific vulnerabilities faced by enslaved women, including sexual violence and the constant threat of family separation. This aspect is often overlooked in broader analyses of slavery.

The Abolitionist Movement: Prince's autobiography directly contributed to the momentum of the abolitionist campaign, providing powerful testimony that moved readers and spurred action.

II. Analyzing A History of Mary Prince: Best Practices

Effectively studying *A History of Mary Prince* requires a nuanced approach:

Historical Contextualization: Place the narrative within its historical context, considering the specific socio-political conditions of the time and the limitations faced by enslaved people in articulating their experiences.

Considering the Narrative Voice: Recognize that *A History of Mary Prince* is a first-person account, shaped by Prince's lived experiences and her personal perspective. Acknowledge potential biases and limitations inherent in such a narrative.

Intertextuality and Comparison: Compare *A History of Mary Prince* with other slave narratives, both British and American, to identify common themes, differing perspectives, and the unique aspects of Prince's story.

Literary Analysis: Analyze the narrative's literary techniques, such as its structure, language, and use of rhetorical strategies to effectively convey its message.

III. Common Pitfalls in Studying *A History of Mary Prince*

Several pitfalls should be avoided when studying *A History of Mary Prince*:

Romanticizing or Sensationalizing the Narrative: Avoid focusing solely on the most shocking aspects of the narrative at the expense of a comprehensive understanding of Prince's life and experiences.

Ignoring the Author's Agency: Recognize Mary Prince's active role in shaping her own narrative and her agency in seeking freedom and advocating for her rights.

Treating the Narrative as Unproblematic: Acknowledge potential biases and limitations in the text, considering the circumstances under which it was produced and the influence of its collaborators.

Lack of Interdisciplinary Approach: Avoid limiting analysis to literary criticism; incorporating historical, social, and cultural perspectives enriches understanding.

IV. The Lasting Legacy of *A History of Mary Prince*

A History of Mary Prince remains a powerful and relevant text in the 21st century. Its legacy extends across various fields:

Postcolonial Studies: It provides crucial insight into the lasting impacts of colonialism and slavery.

African Diaspora Studies: It contributes significantly to our understanding of the African Diaspora experience, particularly the experiences of enslaved women.

Gender Studies: The narrative continues to be a valuable resource in examining the intersections of gender and slavery.

Human Rights Activism: Prince's story continues to inspire human rights activism and the fight against oppression.

Conclusion

A History of Mary Prince stands as a testament to the resilience of the human spirit and the enduring power of testimony. By carefully studying this crucial text, while acknowledging its complexities and limitations, we can gain a deeper understanding of the horrors of slavery and the ongoing fight for justice and equality. Its legacy continues to inspire critical reflection and motivates the pursuit of a more equitable world.

FAQs

1. Who helped Mary Prince write her autobiography? Thomas Pringle and William Wilberforce provided assistance, but the narrative remains fundamentally Prince's own voice and experiences.
1. What was Mary Prince's life like after the publication of her autobiography? She continued to advocate for abolition and lived a relatively independent life, though her experiences left lasting scars.
1. What are the key themes explored in A History of Mary Prince? Key themes include brutality of slavery, family separation, resistance, resilience, gendered violence, and the fight for freedom.
1. How did the book contribute to the abolitionist movement? The book's graphic details shocked

readers and galvanized public support for abolition.

1. Is *A History of Mary Prince* historically accurate? While a firsthand account, it should be analyzed critically, considering potential biases and memory limitations. Further research corroborates many of her experiences.
1. How does *A History of Mary Prince* compare to other slave narratives? It shares common themes but uniquely highlights the experiences of an enslaved woman in Bermuda and England.
1. What is the literary significance of *A History of Mary Prince*? It is a powerful example of a slave narrative, showcasing effective use of language to convey suffering and resistance.
1. What are the primary sources available to further research Mary Prince's life? Besides her autobiography, researchers can examine abolitionist records, census data, and relevant legal documents.
1. How is *A History of Mary Prince* still relevant today? Its themes of oppression, resistance, and the fight for justice resonate deeply in contemporary discussions about race, gender, and colonialism.

Related Articles:

1. Mary Prince: A Life of Resistance: Explores Mary Prince's life beyond the autobiography, focusing on her activism and resilience.
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1. Comparing A History of Mary Prince and Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl: A comparative analysis highlighting similarities and differences between two key slave narratives.
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1. Mary Prince and the British Abolitionist Movement: Analyses Prince's contribution to the

abolitionist cause and its impact.

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1. Postcolonial Interpretations of A History of Mary Prince: Explores how contemporary postcolonial scholarship uses and interprets the narrative.

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a history of mary prince: The History of Mary Prince Mary Prince, 2012-04-26 Prince — a slave in the British colonies — vividly recalls her life in the West Indies, her rebellion against physical and psychological degradation, and her eventual escape in 1828 in England.

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a history of mary prince: Subjects of Slavery, Agents of Change Kari J. Winter, 2010-07-01 In *Subjects of Slavery, Agents of Change* Kari J. Winter compares the ways in which two marginalized genres of women's writing - female Gothic novels and slave narratives - represent the oppression of women and their resistance to oppression. Analyzing the historical contexts in which Gothic novels and slave narratives were written, Winter shows that both types of writing expose the sexual politics at the heart of patriarchal culture and both represent the terrifying aspects of life for women.

Female Gothic novelists such as Emily and Charlotte Brontë, Ann Radcliffe, and Mary Shelley uncover the terror of the familiar - the routine brutality and injustice of the patriarchal family and of conventional religion, as well as the intersecting oppressions of gender and class. They represent the world as, in Mary Wollstonecraft's words, a vast prison in which women are born slaves. Writing during the same period, Harriet Jacobs, Nancy Prince, and other former slaves in the United States expose the all-pervading corruption of southern slavery. Their narratives combine strident attacks on the patriarchal order with criticism of white women's own racism and classism. These texts challenge white women to repudiate their complicity in a racist culture and to join their black sisters in a war against the peculiar institution. Winter explores as well the ways that Gothic heroines and slave women resisted subjugation. Moments of escape from the horrors of patriarchal domination provide the protagonists with essential periods of respite from pain. Because this escape is never more than temporary, however, both types of narrative conclude tensely. The novelists refuse to affirm either hope or despair, thereby calling into question conventional endings of marriage or death. And although slave narratives were typically framed by white-authored texts, containment of the black voice did not diminish the inherent revolutionary conclusion of antislavery writing. According to Winter, both Gothic novels and slave narratives suggest that although women are victims and mediators of the dominant order they also can become agents of historical change.

a history of mary prince: *The History of Mary Prince* Mary Prince, 2001-02-01 'I have been a slave - I have felt what a slave feels, and I know what a slave knows ...' Mary Prince recalls that in the slave market in Bermuda, where she was put up for sale, the buyers' talk 'fell like cayenne pepper into the fresh wounds of our hearts'. During her life as a slave she was taken from Bermuda to Turks Island and Antigua, eventually arriving in London where, in 1828, she reported the cruelty of her master and mistress to the Anti-Slavery Society. *The History of Mary Prince* (1831) was the first life of a black woman to be published in Britain. This extraordinary testament of ill-treatment and survival was a protest and a rallying-cry for emancipation that provoked two libel actions and ran into three editions in the year of its publication. This edition includes an introduction which discusses *The History* within the context of black writing, explanatory notes, a chronology, and supplementary material on enslavement and the case of Mary Prince.

a history of mary prince: *Behind the Scenes* Elizabeth Keckley, 1988 Part slave narrative, part memoir, and part sentimental fiction *Behind the Scenes* depicts Elizabeth Keckley's years as a slave and subsequent four years in Abraham Lincoln's White House during the Civil War. Through the eyes of this black woman, we see a wide range of historical figures and events of the antebellum South, the Washington of the Civil War years, and the final stages of the war.

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a history of mary prince: *Genius in Bondage* Vincent Carretta, Philip Gould, 2021-05-11 Until fairly recently, critical studies and anthologies of African American literature generally began with the 1830s and 1840s. Yet there was an active and lively transatlantic black literary tradition as early as the 1760s. *Genius in Bondage* situates this literature in its own historical terms, rather than treating it as a sort of prologue to later African American writings. The contributors address the shifting meanings of race and gender during this period, explore how black identity was cultivated within a capitalist economy, discuss the impact of Christian religion and the Enlightenment on definitions of freedom and liberty, and identify ways in which black literature both engaged with and rebelled against Anglo-American culture.

a history of mary prince: *Still Life* Zoë Wicomb, 2020-11-03 A New York Times Top Historical Fiction Pick of 2020 A stunningly original new novel exploring race, truth in authorship, and the legacy of past exploitation, from the Windham-Campbell lifetime achievement award winner When Zoë Wicomb burst onto the literary scene in 1987 with *You Can't Get Lost in Cape Town*, she was

hailed by her literary contemporaries and reviewers alike. Since then, her carefully textured writing has cemented her reputation as being among the most distinguished writers working today and earned her one of the inaugural Windham Campbell Prizes for Lifetime Achievement in Fiction Writing. Wicomb's majestic new novel *Still Life* juggles with our perception of time and reality as Wicomb tells the story of an author struggling to write a biography of long-forgotten Scottish poet Thomas Pringle, whose only legacy is in South Africa where he is dubbed the Father of South African Poetry. In her efforts to resurrect Pringle, the writer summons the specter of Mary Prince, the West Indian slave whose *History* Pringle had once published, along with Hinza, his adopted black South African son. At their side is Sir Nicholas Green, a seasoned time traveler (and a character from Virginia Woolf's *Orlando*). Their adventures, as they travel across space and time to unlock the mysteries of Pringle's life, offer a poignant exploration of colonial history and racial oppression.

a history of mary prince: History of Mary Prince Mary Prince, 2013-12-06 Mary Prince was born into slavery in Devonshire Parish, Bermuda. While she was later living in London, her autobiography, *The History of Mary Prince*, was the first account of the life of a black woman to be published in the United Kingdom. This edition of *The History of Mary Prince* is Volume 4 of the Black History Series. It is printed on high quality paper with a durable cover.

a history of mary prince: Obi William Earle, 2005-07-27 "Three-Fingered Jack," the protagonist of this 1800 novel, is based on the escaped slave and Jamaican folk hero Jack Mansong, who was believed to have gained his strength from the Afro-Caribbean religion of obeah, or "obi." His story, told in an inventive mix of styles, is a rousing and sympathetic account of an individual's attempt to combat slavery while defending family honour. Historically significant for its portrayal of a slave rebellion and of the practice of obeah, *Obi* is also a fast-paced and lively novel, blending religion, politics, and romance. This Broadview edition includes a critical introduction and a selection of contemporary documents, including historical and literary treatments of obeah and accounts of an eighteenth-century slave rebellion.

a history of mary prince: Representations of Internarrative Identity L. Way, 2014-11-25 Based upon Ajit Maan's groundbreaking theory of Internarrative Identity, this collection focuses upon redefining self, slave narrative, the black Caribbean diaspora, and cyberspace to explore the interconnection between identity and life experience as expressed through personal narrative.

a history of mary prince: *The History of Mary Prince, a West Indian slave. Related by herself. With a supplement by the editor (T. Pringle). To which is added, the Narrative of Asa-Asa, a captured African* MARY PRINCE, 1831

a history of mary prince: Dear Nobody Gillian McCain, Legs McNeil, 2014-04-01 A rare, no-holds-barred documentation of an American teenager's life. —Publishers Weekly Told through the actual diary entries of a real teenage girl, *Dear Nobody* chronicles Mary Rose's struggles with drug addiction, bullying, and a deadly secret in this raw, authentic book. Her story will inspire you—and remind you that you're not alone. They call me a freak. I'm sick of it. It makes me want dangerous, bad things. Drugs—hard drugs—and people who are bad for me, but I don't care, because I'm so lonely and no matter what their intentions are at least they're talking to me... They say that high school is supposed to be the best time of your life. But what if that's just not true? More than anything, Mary Rose wants to fit in. To be heard. To be loved. And she'll do whatever it takes to make that happen. Even if it costs her her life. Compelling and unflinchingly honest, *Dear Nobody* is perfect for readers looking for: contemporary young adult nonfiction true stories about drug addiction books like *Go Ask Alice* and *Lucy in the Sky* stories that spark conversation about issues teens face

a history of mary prince: Mary Prince, Slavery, and Print Culture in the Anglophone Atlantic World Juliet Shields, 2021-05-06 This study examines a network of writers that coalesced around the publication of *The History of Mary Prince* (1831), which recounts Prince's experiences as an enslaved person in the West Indies and the events that brought her to seek assistance from the Anti-Slavery Society in London. It focuses on the three writers who produced the text - Mary Prince, Thomas Pringle, and Susanna Moodie - with glances at their pro-slavery opponent, James MacQueen,

and their literary friends and relatives. The History connects the Black Atlantic, a diasporic formation created through the colonial trade in enslaved people, with the Anglophone Atlantic, created through British migration and colonial settlement. It also challenges Romantic ideals of authorship as an autonomous creative act and the literary text as an aesthetically unified entity. Collaborating with Prince on the History's publication impacted Moodie's and Pringle's attitudes towards slavery and shaped their own accounts of migration and settlement.

a history of mary prince: *The Whip* Juliet Gilkes Romero, 2020-02-01 Winner of the 2020 Alfred Fagon Award. As the 19th Century dawns in London, politicians of all parties gather to abolish the slave trade once and for all. But the price of freedom turns out to be a multi-billion pound bailout for slave owners rather than those enslaved. As morality and cunning compete amongst men thirsty for power, two women navigate their way to the true seat of political influence, challenging members of parliament who dare deny them their say. In this provocative new play by Juliet Gilkes Romero, the personal collides with the political to ask, what is the right thing to do and how much must it cost?

a history of mary prince: From a Prince to a Slave Webster Gregg, 2009 The Hill family has an almost unbelievable history. Their ancestors were royalty in the Zulu nation in Africa before being sold into slavery on a plantation in the American south. However, after centuries of hard work and perseverance, one family member overcame the odds to serve on the cabinet of a president of the United States. Sound too incredible to be true? It gets better. Some of the Hills are black; some are white. From a Prince to a Slave is a heartwarming book about a diverse family who fought to find one another after centuries of separation and forgive, reconnect, and reconcile under the banner of God's grace and love.

a history of mary prince: Women's Slave Narratives Annie L. Burton, 2012-03-02 Authentic recollections of hardship, frustration, and hope — from Mary Prince's groundbreaking account of a lone woman's tribulations and courage, to Annie Burton's eulogy of black motherhood.

a history of mary prince: The Portable Nineteenth-Century African American Women Writers Hollis Robbins, Henry Louis Gates, Jr., 2017-07-25 A landmark collection documenting the social, political, and artistic lives of African American women throughout the tumultuous nineteenth century. Named one of NPR's Best Books of 2017. The Portable Nineteenth-Century African American Women Writers is the most comprehensive anthology of its kind: an extraordinary range of voices offering the expressions of African American women in print before, during, and after the Civil War. Edited by Hollis Robbins and Henry Louis Gates, Jr., this collection comprises work from forty-nine writers arranged into sections of memoir, poetry, and essays on feminism, education, and the legacy of African American women writers. Many of these pieces engage with social movements like abolition, women's suffrage, temperance, and civil rights, but the thematic center is the intellect and personal ambition of African American women. The diverse selection includes well-known writers like Sojourner Truth, Hannah Crafts, and Harriet Jacobs, as well as lesser-known writers like Ella Sheppard, who offers a firsthand account of life in the world-famous Fisk Jubilee Singers. Taken together, these incredible works insist that the writing of African American women writers be read, remembered, and addressed. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

a history of mary prince: Black Cosmopolitanism Ifeoma Kiddoe Nwankwo, 2005-07-13 Through readings of slave narratives, fiction, poetry, nonfiction, newspaper editorials, and government documents including texts by Frederick Douglass and freed West Indian slave Mary Prince, Ifeoma Kiddoe Nwankwo explicates the growing interrelatedness of people of African descent through the Americas in the nineteenth century.

a history of mary prince: Telling West Indian Lives S. Thomas, 2014-07-10 Telling West Indian

Lives: Life Narrative and the Reform of Plantation Slavery Cultures 1804-1834 draws historical and literary attention to life story and narration in the late plantation slavery period. Drawing on new archival research, it highlights the ways written narrative shaped evangelical, philanthropic, and antislavery reform projects.

a history of mary prince: *How the Word Is Passed* Clint Smith, 2021-06-01 This “important and timely” (Drew Faust, Harvard Magazine) #1 New York Times bestseller examines the legacy of slavery in America—and how both history and memory continue to shape our everyday lives. Beginning in his hometown of New Orleans, Clint Smith leads the reader on an unforgettable tour of monuments and landmarks—those that are honest about the past and those that are not—that offer an intergenerational story of how slavery has been central in shaping our nation's collective history, and ourselves. It is the story of the Monticello Plantation in Virginia, the estate where Thomas Jefferson wrote letters espousing the urgent need for liberty while enslaving more than four hundred people. It is the story of the Whitney Plantation, one of the only former plantations devoted to preserving the experience of the enslaved people whose lives and work sustained it. It is the story of Angola, a former plantation-turned-maximum-security prison in Louisiana that is filled with Black men who work across the 18,000-acre land for virtually no pay. And it is the story of Blandford Cemetery, the final resting place of tens of thousands of Confederate soldiers. A deeply researched and transporting exploration of the legacy of slavery and its imprint on centuries of American history, *How the Word Is Passed* illustrates how some of our country's most essential stories are hidden in plain view—whether in places we might drive by on our way to work, holidays such as Juneteenth, or entire neighborhoods like downtown Manhattan, where the brutal history of the trade in enslaved men, women, and children has been deeply imprinted. Informed by scholarship and brought to life by the story of people living today, Smith's debut work of nonfiction is a landmark of reflection and insight that offers a new understanding of the hopeful role that memory and history can play in making sense of our country and how it has come to be. Winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award for Nonfiction Winner of the Stowe Prize Winner of 2022 Hillman Prize for Book Journalism A New York Times 10 Best Books of 2021

a history of mary prince: *The Prince and the Pilgrim* Mary Stewart, 2012-02-02 Alexander the Fatherless: nephew of the villainous King March of Cornwall, who murdered his father. Burning with vengeance, Alexander sets out on a journey to Camelot to seek justice from King Arthur. His path will lead him to the Dark Tower, where the sorceress Morgan le Fay lies in wait. Morgan seduces Alexander and sends him on a quest to Jerusalem to recover the Holy Grail - which she believes will help her take the throne. Alice the Pilgrim: daughter of a man who has sworn to journey to Jerusalem every three years, Alice grows to womanhood on the pilgrim's trail. And then she meets a boy who carries a cup - which he claims is the Holy Grail. Alice and her father will move heaven and earth to bring the Grail back to Britain. And Alexander will do anything to find it. Their quests will bring them together, and the day that Alexander and Alice meet will go down in legend. *The Prince & the Pilgrim* is the final installment of Mary Stewart's classic Arthurian Saga, a must-read for all fans of history, fantasy and great literature alike.

a history of mary prince: Slave Narrative Six Pack 4 Ida B. Wells Barnett, William Wells Brown, Charles Sumner, Lydia Maria Child, 2015-11-16 *Slave Narrative Six Pack 4* is a mixed bag of narratives, biographies and eye-witness accounts from ex-slaves and abolitionists: *The History of Mary Prince, a West Indian Slave* by Mary Prince. *The Narrative of William W. Brown, a Fugitive Slave* by William Wells Brown. *White Slavery in the Barbary States* by Charles Sumner. *The Freedmen's Book* by Lydia Maria Child. *Lucretia Mott* by William Still. *Lynch Law* by Ida B. Wells Barnett.

a history of mary prince: Slavery and the Politics of Place Elizabeth A. Bohls, 2014-10-23 This book analyzes representations of the places of British slavery - Africa, the Caribbean, and Britain - in writings by planters, slaves and travellers.

a history of mary prince: *A Narrative of the Adventures and Escape of Moses Roper from American Slavery* Moses Roper, 2009-11 Moses Roper (c. 1815-1891) was a mulatto slave who wrote

one of the major early books about life as a slave in the United States - *A Narrative of the Adventures and Escape of Moses Roper From American Slavery* (1838). Moses was born in Caswell County, North Carolina. He grew up with his mother and was trained as a domestic slave until he was about seven years old when his father exchanged him and his mother for other slaves. Roper struggled tremendously when he was put to work in the fields and forests of the South-receiving harsher treatment for his inefficiency from his overseers and masters. Throughout his time in slavery, Moses attempted escape on at least 16 occasions, most of them while under his cruelest master, Mr. Gooch. He became quite famous in England because of his grand escape from American slavery and the book he later wrote about his life as a slave. In his book, he made sure to include explicit examples of the torture methods used by slave holders.

a history of mary prince: *Thirty Years a Slave* Louis Hughes, 2006-05-22 I was born in Virginia, in 1832, near Charlottesville, in the beautiful valley of the Rivanna river. My father was a white man and my mother a negress, the slave of one John Martin. I was a mere child, probably not more than six years of age, as I remember, when my mother, two brothers and myself were sold to Dr. Louis, a practicing physician in the village of Scottsville. We remained with him about five years, when he died, and, in the settlement of his estate, I was sold to one Washington Fitzpatrick, a merchant of the village. He kept me a short time when he took me to Richmond, by way of canal-boat, expecting to sell me; but as the market was dull, he brought me back and kept me some three months longer, when he told me he had hired me out to work on a canal-boat running to Richmond, and to go to my mother and get my clothes ready to start on the trip. I went to her as directed, and, when she had made ready my bundle, she bade me good-by with tears in her eyes, saying: My son, be a good boy; be polite to every one, and always behave yourself properly.

a history of mary prince: *Pioneer Work in Opening the Medical Profession to Women* Elizabeth Blackwell, 1895 Elizabeth Blackwell, though born in England, was reared in the United States and was the first woman to receive a medical degree here, obtaining it from the Geneva Medical College, Geneva, New York, in 1849. A pioneer in opening the medical profession to women, she founded hospitals and medical schools for women in both the United States and England. She was a lecturer and writer as well as an able physician and organizer. -- H.W. Orr.

a history of mary prince: *The Classic Slave Narratives* Henry Louis Gates (Jr.), 2002 This collection of four first-hand accounts of slavery were chosen from the experiences of more than 6,000 ex-slaves, who by 1944 had written moving stories of their captivity. This volume includes portraits of the lives of Olaudah Equiano, Frederick Douglass, Mary Prince, and Harriet Jacobs.

a history of mary prince: *A Kick in the Belly* Stella Dadzie, 2021-10-12 The story of the enslaved West Indian women in the struggle for freedom The forgotten history of women slaves and their struggle for liberation. Enslaved West Indian women had few opportunities to record their stories for posterity. In this riveting work of historical reclamation, Stella Dadzie recovers the lives of women who played a vital role in developing a culture of slave resistance across the Caribbean. Dadzie follows a savage trail from Elmina Castle in Ghana and the horrors of the Middle Passage, as slaves were transported across the Atlantic, to the sugar plantations of Jamaica and beyond. She reveals women who were central to slave rebellions and liberation. There are African queens, such as Amina, who led a 20,000-strong army. There is Mary Prince, sold at twelve years old, never to see her sisters or mother again. Asante Nanny the Maroon, the legendary obeah sorceress, who guided the rebel forces in the Blue Mountains during the First Maroon War. Whether responding to the horrendous conditions of plantation life, the sadistic vagaries of their captors or the "peculiar burdens of their sex," their collective sanity relied on a highly subversive adaptation of the values and cultures they smuggled from their lost homes. By sustaining or adapting remembered cultural practices, they ensured that the lives of chattel slaves retained both meaning and purpose. *A Kick in the Belly* makes clear that subtle acts of insubordination and conscious acts of rebellion came to undermine the very fabric of West Indian slavery.

a history of mary prince: *Black Women Abolitionists* Shirley J. Yee, 1992 Looks at how the pattern was set for Black female activism in working for abolitionism while confronting both sexism

and racism.

a history of mary prince: *Slave Life in Virginia and Kentucky* C. L. Innes, 2010-11 In 1854, faced with the threat of yet another brutal beating, a fifty-year-old slave in Mason County, Kentucky, decided to try to escape. He joined the hundreds of other fugitive slaves fleeing across the Ohio River and north to Canada on the Underground Railroad. After his arrival in Toronto he discarded his master's surname (Parker), renamed himself Francis Fedric, and married an Englishwoman. In 1857, he traveled with his wife to Great Britain, where he lectured on behalf of the antislavery cause and published two versions of his life story. Together the two works present a mesmerizing and distinct perspective on slavery in the South. Long forgotten and never before published in the United States, Fedric's narratives, collected here for the first time, are certain to take their rightful place alongside the most recognizable accounts in the canon of slave memoirs.

a history of mary prince: *The Intimate Empire* Gillian Whitlock, 2000-02-01 By means of contextualized readings, this work argues that autobiographic writing allows an intimate access to processes of colonization and decolonization, incorporation and resistance, and the formation and reformation of identities which occurs in postcolonial space. The book explores the interconnections between race, gender, autobiography and colonialism and uses a method of reading which looks for connections between very different autobiographical writings to pursue constructions of blackness and whiteness, femininity and masculinity, and nationality. Unlike previous studies of autobiography which focus on a limited Euro American canon, the book brings together contemporary and 19th-century women's autobiographies and travel writing from Canada, the Caribbean, Kenya, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand. With emphasis on the reader of autobiography as much as the subject, it argues that colonization and resistance are deeply embedded in thinking about the self.

a history of mary prince: *Cabin, Quarter, Plantation* Clifton Ellis, Rebecca Ginsburg, 2010 This important work brings together the best writing in the field, including classic pieces on slave landscapes by W.E.B. DuBois and Dell Upton, alongside new essays on such topics as the building methods that Africans brought to the American South and information about slave family units and spiritual practices that can be gathered from archaeological remains. Through deep analysis of the built environment the authors invite us to reconsider antebellum buildings, landscapes, cabins, yards, and garden plots, and what these sites can teach us about the real conditions of enslavement. The starting point in any study of slavery and the built environment, this anthology makes an essential contribution to the cultural history of the United States. --Résumé de l'éditeur.

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