

from slavery to freedom free

from slavery to freedom free is a phrase that resonates with the powerful journey of individuals and communities who have struggled for liberation, justice, and equality. This article explores the historical realities of slavery, the courageous paths toward freedom, and the enduring impact of emancipation on society. Readers will gain insight into the origins and consequences of slavery, the pivotal moments and figures in the fight for freedom, and the continuing relevance of these stories today. We highlight the significance of education, remembrance, and cultural preservation in understanding the transition from bondage to independence. By examining the complexities of slavery and the triumphs of freedom, this comprehensive guide aims to deepen your understanding and appreciation for the resilience of those who overcame oppression. Whether you are a student, educator, or lifelong learner, the information here is designed to inform, inspire, and encourage further exploration of the journey from slavery to freedom free. Continue reading to discover the key chapters in this transformative history and their lasting legacy.

- Historical Context of Slavery
- The Fight for Freedom: Key Movements and Figures
- Legislation and the Path to Emancipation
- Cultural Impact and Legacy of Freedom
- Education and Preservation of History
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Historical Context of Slavery

Understanding the journey from slavery to freedom free requires a thorough examination of the origins and evolution of slavery. Throughout history, slavery has taken many forms—from ancient civilizations to the transatlantic slave trade, millions were deprived of their basic human rights and subjected to forced labor, separation from families, and psychological trauma. Slavery was not just an economic institution; it was deeply embedded in social, political, and cultural structures. The exploitation of enslaved people fueled economies and shaped societies, leaving a lasting impact on generations.

Origins and Expansion of Slavery

Slavery can be traced back thousands of years to societies such as Ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome. The practice evolved over time, with the transatlantic slave trade marking one of the most devastating periods in history. European colonial powers forcibly transported millions of Africans to the Americas, where they endured harsh conditions on plantations and in households. The scale and brutality of this system created immense suffering, but also fostered resistance and the desire for freedom.

Consequences and Social Implications

The legacy of slavery is evident in the social hierarchies, economic disparities, and cultural divisions that persist today. Enslaved individuals and their descendants faced discrimination, limited opportunities, and systemic barriers long after emancipation. The process of moving from slavery to freedom free was not immediate; it involved ongoing struggles for recognition, equality, and justice. Understanding these consequences is essential for appreciating the significance of emancipation and its transformative effects.

- Displacement of families and communities
- Loss of cultural identity and traditions
- Formation of resistance movements
- Long-term economic impacts
- Enduring social and racial inequalities

The Fight for Freedom: Key Movements and Figures

The transition from slavery to freedom free was marked by courageous individuals and collective actions. The fight for freedom included both organized abolitionist movements and spontaneous acts of resistance. By examining these key movements and figures, we gain insight into the determination and resilience required to overcome oppression.

Abolitionist Movements

Abolitionism was a powerful force in the campaign to end slavery. Activists

such as Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman, William Lloyd Garrison, and Sojourner Truth played pivotal roles in advocating for emancipation. These leaders used speeches, writings, and activism to challenge the status quo and demand justice. Abolitionist societies organized rallies, published literature, and lobbied governments to enact change.

Acts of Resistance

Enslaved people themselves were instrumental in the journey to freedom. Rebellions, escapes, and everyday acts of defiance undermined the institution of slavery and inspired others to seek liberation. The Underground Railroad, a network of secret routes and safe houses, helped countless individuals escape to free territories. These acts of resistance demonstrated incredible courage in the face of grave danger.

1. Organized abolitionist societies and publications
2. Notable slave rebellions (e.g., Nat Turner's Rebellion)
3. Underground Railroad operations
4. Legal challenges and petitions for freedom
5. International support for abolition

Legislation and the Path to Emancipation

Legal reforms were critical in the journey from slavery to freedom. Legislation at local, national, and international levels gradually dismantled the institution of slavery. The process was complex and often met with intense opposition, but landmark laws and declarations paved the way for freedom and civil rights.

Major Emancipation Laws

Significant legal milestones include the Emancipation Proclamation in the United States, which declared freedom for enslaved people in Confederate states in 1863. The Thirteenth Amendment, ratified in 1865, officially abolished slavery throughout the country. Internationally, the British Slavery Abolition Act of 1833 and similar legislation in other countries ended legal slavery and set important precedents for human rights.

Challenges in Implementation

Despite these legal victories, the transition to freedom was often fraught with challenges. Newly emancipated individuals faced discrimination, lack of resources, and violent backlash. Reconstruction efforts aimed to restore rights and integrate former slaves into society, but success was uneven and progress slow. Continued advocacy was necessary to secure true equality and justice.

Cultural Impact and Legacy of Freedom

The cultural legacy of the journey from slavery to freedom free is profound. Freed individuals and communities contributed to art, literature, music, and political thought, enriching national identities and challenging prevailing narratives. The stories of emancipation are celebrated and remembered through various forms of cultural expression.

Preservation of Heritage

Cultural heritage sites, museums, and memorials play a vital role in preserving the history of slavery and emancipation. These spaces offer educational opportunities, honor the memory of those who suffered, and inspire reflection on the values of freedom and dignity. Oral histories, traditions, and artistic works are also essential in keeping these stories alive.

Influence on Society

The impact of freedom is seen in the achievements of descendants of enslaved people, who have made significant contributions in various fields. The struggle for civil rights and equality continues to draw inspiration from the history of emancipation, shaping debates on justice and human rights worldwide.

Education and Preservation of History

Education is a cornerstone in understanding the transition from slavery to freedom free. Accurate and comprehensive teaching about slavery, resistance, and emancipation helps combat misinformation and fosters empathy. Preservation of historical records and artifacts supports research and informs future generations.

Importance of Curriculum Development

Schools, universities, and community organizations are increasingly recognizing the need to include slavery and emancipation in their curricula. Well-designed educational programs encourage critical thinking and promote awareness of historical injustices. These efforts contribute to a deeper understanding of social dynamics and the importance of freedom.

Role of Museums and Archives

Museums and archives safeguard documents, objects, and testimonies related to slavery and freedom. Their collections support scholarly research and public education, ensuring that the lessons of history remain accessible. Digital initiatives are expanding the reach of these resources, making them available to a global audience.

Modern Reflections on Freedom and Equality

The journey from slavery to freedom free continues to shape contemporary discussions on human rights, justice, and equality. Societies around the world reflect on this history to address ongoing challenges and promote inclusion. Understanding the legacy of slavery is essential for building a more equitable future.

Current Challenges

Despite progress, issues such as racial discrimination, economic inequality, and social exclusion persist. Advocacy groups, policymakers, and educators work to address these challenges and advance the principles of freedom and justice. Ongoing dialogue and action are necessary to realize the full promise of emancipation.

Celebrating Progress

Commemorative events, recognition of achievements, and public discussions celebrate the progress made since emancipation. These activities honor the resilience of former slaves and their descendants and reinforce the value of freedom in society. Continued vigilance ensures that the journey from slavery to freedom free remains relevant and inspiring.

Q: What does the phrase "from slavery to freedom

free" signify?

A: "From slavery to freedom free" signifies the transformative journey of individuals and communities moving from a state of bondage and oppression to one of liberty, justice, and equality. It highlights historical struggles, legal victories, and cultural achievements associated with emancipation.

Q: Who were some key figures in the fight for freedom?

A: Key figures include Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth, and William Lloyd Garrison, among others. These leaders were instrumental in the abolitionist movement, advocating for the end of slavery and the rights of enslaved people.

Q: What were major legal milestones in the abolition of slavery?

A: Major legal milestones include the Emancipation Proclamation of 1863, the Thirteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution in 1865, and the British Slavery Abolition Act of 1833. These laws helped dismantle the legal framework of slavery.

Q: How did former slaves contribute to society after emancipation?

A: After emancipation, former slaves and their descendants contributed to art, literature, music, politics, and civil rights movements. Their achievements enriched cultural heritage and helped shape modern society.

Q: Why is education about slavery and freedom important?

A: Education about slavery and freedom is crucial for fostering understanding, empathy, and awareness of historical injustices. It helps prevent misinformation and encourages informed discussions about equality and justice.

Q: What is the role of museums and archives in preserving history?

A: Museums and archives preserve documents, artifacts, and oral histories related to slavery and emancipation. They support research, education, and public awareness, ensuring that the history is accurately remembered.

Q: How do modern societies reflect on the legacy of slavery?

A: Modern societies reflect on the legacy of slavery through commemorative events, educational programs, and advocacy for human rights. This reflection helps address ongoing challenges and promote social inclusion.

Q: What are some ongoing challenges faced after emancipation?

A: Ongoing challenges include racial discrimination, economic inequality, and social exclusion. Advocacy and policy efforts continue to address these issues and advance the principles of freedom and equality.

Q: How did acts of resistance contribute to the journey toward freedom?

A: Acts of resistance, such as slave rebellions, escapes, and the Underground Railroad, undermined the institution of slavery and inspired broader movements for liberation and justice.

Q: How can individuals honor the legacy of those who moved from slavery to freedom free?

A: Individuals can honor this legacy by learning about history, supporting educational initiatives, participating in commemorative events, and advocating for equality and justice in their communities.

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From Slavery to Freedom: A Journey of Resilience and the Ongoing Fight for Liberation

The phrase "from slavery to freedom" evokes a powerful image: a breaking of chains, a reclaiming of self, a triumph over oppression. But this journey, though often depicted as a singular event, is a complex and multifaceted narrative spanning centuries and cultures. This post delves into the historical realities of slavery, explores the diverse paths to freedom taken by individuals and communities, and examines the ongoing fight for liberation that continues to this day. We'll uncover the lasting impacts of slavery, celebrate the remarkable resilience of those who survived and fought

back, and highlight the crucial work that still needs to be done to achieve true equity and justice for all.

The Brutal Reality of Slavery: A Global Scourge

Slavery, in its myriad forms, has existed across civilizations and continents for millennia. It wasn't simply a matter of forced labor; it was a brutal system of dehumanization designed to subjugate and control entire populations.

The Transatlantic Slave Trade: A Pervasive Wound

The transatlantic slave trade, arguably the most horrific chapter in human history, forcibly transported millions of Africans across the ocean, tearing families apart and inflicting unimaginable suffering. The Middle Passage, the journey across the Atlantic, was notorious for its inhumane conditions, resulting in countless deaths. Upon arrival, enslaved people were subjected to brutal labor, systemic violence, and the constant threat of separation from loved ones.

Beyond the Transatlantic Trade: Other Forms of Enslavement

It's crucial to remember that the transatlantic slave trade was not the only form of slavery. Throughout history, various forms of forced labor and human trafficking have existed across the globe, reflecting different cultural contexts and power dynamics. From chattel slavery in the Americas to indentured servitude in various parts of the world, the common thread is the denial of basic human rights and the exploitation of vulnerable populations.

Paths to Freedom: Resistance and Rebellion

Despite the horrors they faced, enslaved people consistently demonstrated extraordinary resilience and courage. Resistance took many forms:

Open Rebellion: Armed Struggle for Liberation

Numerous slave rebellions throughout history, such as Nat Turner's rebellion in the United States and the Haitian Revolution, demonstrated the unwavering determination of enslaved people to fight

for their freedom. These uprisings, while often brutally suppressed, served as powerful symbols of resistance and inspired hope for future generations.

Subtle Acts of Resistance: Daily Acts of Defiance

Beyond large-scale rebellions, enslaved people employed subtle acts of resistance in their daily lives. These acts, ranging from feigning illness to sabotaging equipment, were crucial in undermining the system of slavery and maintaining a sense of agency in the face of oppression. These acts, often overlooked, were essential to survival and represented a constant challenge to the power structure.

The Underground Railroad: A Network of Hope

The Underground Railroad, a network of secret routes and safe houses, played a vital role in helping enslaved people escape to freedom in the United States. This clandestine operation relied on the courage and compassion of abolitionists who risked their lives to assist those seeking liberation.

The Legacy of Slavery and the Ongoing Fight for Freedom

The abolition of slavery, while a monumental achievement, did not erase its legacy. Systemic racism, economic inequality, and social injustice continue to plague societies that were once built on the backs of enslaved people.

The Fight for Civil Rights: A Continuation of the Struggle

The Civil Rights Movement in the United States, and similar movements across the globe, demonstrated the enduring fight for equality and justice. These movements built upon the foundations laid by earlier generations of activists and continued the struggle against discrimination and oppression.

Modern Slavery: A Persistent Threat

While chattel slavery has been formally abolished in most countries, modern forms of slavery, such as human trafficking and forced labor, persist. These contemporary forms of exploitation highlight

the ongoing need for vigilance and action to combat human rights abuses.

Conclusion

The journey from slavery to freedom is not a linear path; it's a continuous struggle marked by both profound suffering and remarkable resilience. Understanding the history of slavery, acknowledging its lasting impacts, and actively engaging in the fight for justice are essential steps in building a more equitable and just world. The legacy of slavery compels us to confront the injustices of the past and work tirelessly towards a future where freedom and equality are not merely ideals, but realities for all.

FAQs

1. What were some common methods of resistance used by enslaved people? Enslaved people employed a wide range of resistance methods, from open rebellion and sabotage to feigning illness, slowing down work, and secretly learning to read and write. They also used cultural expressions, such as music and storytelling, to maintain their identity and spirit.
2. How did the Underground Railroad function? The Underground Railroad was a network of secret routes and safe houses facilitated by abolitionists who provided food, shelter, and guidance to those fleeing slavery. It wasn't a literal railroad, but a system of support and assistance.
3. What are some examples of modern slavery? Modern slavery encompasses various forms of exploitation, including human trafficking for forced labor, sex trafficking, debt bondage, and forced marriage. It occurs across many industries and globally.
4. What can individuals do to combat modern slavery? Individuals can support organizations working to combat human trafficking, educate themselves about the issue, be aware of potential signs of exploitation, and support ethical and sustainable consumption practices.
5. How does the legacy of slavery continue to impact society today? The legacy of slavery manifests in various ways, including systemic racism, economic inequality, and disparities in healthcare, education, and housing. These disparities are deeply rooted in historical injustices and require ongoing efforts to address.

from slavery to freedom free: *FROM SLAVERY TO FREEDOM*. JOHN HOPE. FRANKLIN, 1950

from slavery to freedom free: *Disposable People* Kevin Bales, 2012-04-23 Slavery is illegal throughout the world, yet more than twenty-seven million people are still trapped in one of history's oldest social institutions. Kevin Bales's disturbing story of slavery today reaches from brick kilns in Pakistan and brothels in Thailand to the offices of multinational corporations. His investigation of conditions in Mauritania, Brazil, Thailand, Pakistan, and India reveals the tragic emergence of a new

slavery, one intricately linked to the global economy. The new slaves are not a long-term investment as was true with older forms of slavery, explains Bales. Instead, they are cheap, require little care, and are disposable. Three interrelated factors have helped create the new slavery. The enormous population explosion over the past three decades has flooded the world's labor markets with millions of impoverished, desperate people. The revolution of economic globalization and modernized agriculture has dispossessed poor farmers, making them and their families ready targets for enslavement. And rapid economic change in developing countries has bred corruption and violence, destroying social rules that might once have protected the most vulnerable individuals. Bales's vivid case studies present actual slaves, slaveholders, and public officials in well-drawn historical, geographical, and cultural contexts. He observes the complex economic relationships of modern slavery and is aware that liberation is a bitter victory for a child prostitute or a bonded miner if the result is starvation. Bales offers suggestions for combating the new slavery and provides examples of very positive results from organizations such as Anti-Slavery International, the Pastoral Land Commission in Brazil, and the Human Rights Commission in Pakistan. He also calls for researchers to follow the flow of raw materials and products from slave to marketplace in order to effectively target campaigns of naming and shaming corporations linked to slavery. Disposable People is the first book to point the way to abolishing slavery in today's global economy. All of the author's royalties from this book go to fund anti-slavery projects around the world.

from slavery to freedom free: *Free at Last* Ira Berlin, 1997-03-01 Summary: Brings together letters, along with personal testimony, official transcripts, and other records documenting the story of how black Americans achieved their freedom.

from slavery to freedom free: *Between Slavery and Freedom* Julie Winch, 2014-04-04 In *Between Slavery and Freedom*, Julie Winch explores the complex world of those people of African birth or descent who occupied the "borderlands" between slavery and freedom in the 350 years from the founding of the first European colonies in what is today the United States to the start of the Civil War. However they had navigated their way out of bondage – through flight, through military service, through self-purchase, through the working of the law in different times and in different places, or because they were the offspring of parents who were themselves free – they were determined to enjoy the same rights and liberties that white people enjoyed. In a concise narrative and selected primary documents, noted historian Julie Winch shows the struggle of black people to gain and maintain their liberty and lay claim to freedom in its fullest sense. Refusing to be relegated to the margins of American society and languish in poverty and ignorance, they repeatedly challenged their white neighbors to live up to the promises of "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" enshrined in the Declaration of Independence. Winch's accessible, concise, and jargon-free book, including primary sources and the latest scholarship, will benefit undergraduate students of American history and general readers alike by allowing them to judge the evidence for themselves and evaluate the authors' conclusions.

from slavery to freedom free: *Becoming Free in the Cotton South* Susan Eva O'Donovan, 2010-04-10 *Becoming Free in the Cotton South* challenges our most basic ideas about slavery and freedom in America. Instead of seeing emancipation as the beginning or the ending of the story, as most histories do, Susan Eva O'Donovan explores the perilous transition between these two conditions, offering a unique vision of both the enormous changes and the profound continuities in black life before and after the Civil War. This boldly argued work focuses on a small place—the southwest corner of Georgia—in order to explicate a big question: how did black men and black women's experiences in slavery shape their lives in freedom? The reality of slavery's demise is harsh: in this land where cotton was king, the promise of Reconstruction passed quickly, even as radicalism crested and swept the rest of the South. Ultimately, the lives former slaves made for themselves were conditioned and often constrained by what they had endured in bondage. O'Donovan's significant scholarship does not diminish the heroic efforts of black Americans to make their world anew; rather, it offers troubling but necessary insight into the astounding challenges they faced. *Becoming Free in the Cotton South* is a moving and intimate narrative, drawing upon a

multiplicity of sources and individual stories to provide new understanding of the forces that shaped both slavery and freedom, and of the generation of African Americans who tackled the passage that lay between.

from slavery to freedom free: The Free Negro in North Carolina, 1790-1860 John Hope Franklin, 2000-11-09 John Hope Franklin has devoted his professional life to the study of African Americans. Originally published in 1943 by UNC Press, *The Free Negro in North Carolina, 1790-1860* was his first book on the subject. As Franklin shows, freed slaves in the antebellum South did not enjoy the full rights of citizenship. Even in North Carolina, reputedly more liberal than most southern states, discriminatory laws became so harsh that many voluntarily returned to slavery.

from slavery to freedom free: *Free!* Lorene Cary, 2005 Lorene Cary adapted these tales from narratives and records that were first told by William Still who was one of the key organizers of the underground railroad.

from slavery to freedom free: *To Plead Our Own Cause* Kevin Bales, Zoe Trodd, 2013-09-30 Boys strapped to carpet looms in India, women trafficked into sex slavery across Europe, children born into bondage in Mauritania, and migrants imprisoned at gunpoint in the United States are just a few of the many forms slavery takes in the twenty-first century. There are twenty-seven million slaves alive today, more than at any point in history, and they are found on every continent in the world except Antarctica. *To Plead Our Own Cause* contains ninety-five narratives by slaves and former slaves from around the globe. Told in the words of slaves themselves, the narratives movingly and eloquently chronicle the horrors of contemporary slavery, the process of becoming free, and the challenges faced by former slaves as they build a life in freedom. An editors' introduction lays out the historical, economic, and political background to modern slavery, the literary tradition of the slave narrative, and a variety of ways we can all help end slavery today. Halting the contemporary slave trade is one of the great human-rights issues of our time. But just as slavery is not over, neither is the will to achieve freedom, plead the cause of liberation, and advocate abolition. Putting the slave's voice back at the heart of the abolitionist movement, *To Plead Our Own Cause* gives occasion for both action and hope.

from slavery to freedom free: *Making Freedom* R. J. M. Blackett, 2013-09-30 The 1850 Fugitive Slave Law, which mandated action to aid in the recovery of runaway slaves and denied fugitives legal rights if they were apprehended, quickly became a focal point in the debate over the future of slavery and the nature of the union. In *Making Freedom*, R. J. M. Blackett uses the experiences of escaped slaves and those who aided them to explore the inner workings of the Underground Railroad and the enforcement of the Fugitive Slave Law, while shedding light on the political effects of slave escape in southern states, border states, and the North. Blackett highlights the lives of those who escaped, the impact of the fugitive slave cases, and the extent to which slaves planning to escape were aided by free blacks, fellow slaves, and outsiders who went south to entice them to escape. Using these stories of particular individuals, moments, and communities, Blackett shows how slave flight shaped national politics as the South witnessed slavery beginning to collapse and the North experienced a threat to its freedom.

from slavery to freedom free: *From Slavery to Freedom* Seymour Drescher, 1999-05-17 The entries in this volume focus upon the rise and fall of the Atlantic slave system in comparative perspective. The subjects range from the rise of the slave trade in early modern Europe to a comparison of slave trade and the Holocaust of the twentieth century, dealing with both the history and historiography of slavery and abolition. They include essays on British, French, Dutch, and Brazilian abolition, as well as essays on the historiography of slavery and abolition since the publication of Eric Williams's *Capitalism and Slavery* more than fifty years ago.

from slavery to freedom free: *Almost Free* Eva Sheppard Wolf, 2012-06-01 In *Almost Free*, Eva Sheppard Wolf uses the story of Samuel Johnson, a free black man from Virginia attempting to free his family, to add detail and depth to our understanding of the lives of free blacks in the South. There were several paths to freedom for slaves, each of them difficult. After ten years of elaborate dealings and negotiations, Johnson earned manumission in August 1812. An illiterate "mulatto" who

had worked at the tavern in Warrenton as a slave, Johnson as a freeman was an anomaly, since free blacks made up only 3 percent of Virginia's population. Johnson stayed in Fauquier County and managed to buy his enslaved family, but the law of the time required that they leave Virginia if Johnson freed them. Johnson opted to stay. Because slaves' marriages had no legal standing, Johnson was not legally married to his enslaved wife, and in the event of his death his family would be sold to new owners. Johnson's story dramatically illustrates the many harsh realities and cruel ironies faced by blacks in a society hostile to their freedom. Wolf argues that despite the many obstacles Johnson and others faced, race relations were more flexible during the early American republic than is commonly believed. It could actually be easier for a free black man to earn the favor of elite whites than it would be for blacks in general in the post-Reconstruction South. Wolf demonstrates the ways in which race was constructed by individuals in their day-to-day interactions, arguing that racial status was not simply a legal fact but a fluid and changeable condition. Almost Free looks beyond the majority experience, focusing on those at society's edges to gain a deeper understanding of the meaning of freedom in the slaveholding South. A Sarah Mills Hodge Fund Publication

from slavery to freedom free: A Question of Freedom William G. Thomas, 2020-11-24 The story of the longest and most complex legal challenge to slavery in American history For over seventy years and five generations, the enslaved families of Prince George's County, Maryland, filed hundreds of suits for their freedom against a powerful circle of slaveholders, taking their cause all the way to the Supreme Court. Between 1787 and 1861, these lawsuits challenged the legitimacy of slavery in American law and put slavery on trial in the nation's capital. Piecing together evidence once dismissed in court and buried in the archives, William Thomas tells an intricate and intensely human story of the enslaved families (the Butlers, Queens, Mahoneys, and others), their lawyers (among them a young Francis Scott Key), and the slaveholders who fought to defend slavery, beginning with the Jesuit priests who held some of the largest plantations in the nation and founded a college at Georgetown. A Question of Freedom asks us to reckon with the moral problem of slavery and its legacies in the present day.

from slavery to freedom free: Ending Slavery Kevin Bales, 2007-09-28 None of us is truly free while others remain enslaved. The continuing existence of slavery is one of the greatest tragedies facing our global humanity. Today we finally have the means and increasingly the conviction to end this scourge and to bring millions of slaves to freedom. Read Kevin Bales's practical and inspiring book, and you will discover how our world can be free at last.—Desmond Tutu Ever since the Emancipation Proclamation, Americans have congratulated themselves on ending slavery once and for all. But did we? Kevin Bales is a powerful and effective voice in pointing out the appalling degree to which servitude, forced labor and outright slavery still exist in today's world, even here. This book is a valuable primer on the persistence of these evils, their intricate links to poverty, corruption and globalization—and what we can do to combat them. He's a modern-day William Lloyd Garrison.—Adam Hochschild, author of Bury the Chains: Prophets and Rebels in the Fight to Free an Empire's Slaves I know modern slavery from the inside, and since coming to freedom I am committed to end it forever. This book shows us how to make a world where no more childhoods will be stolen and sold as mine was.—Given Kachepa, former U.S. slave, recipient of the Yoshiyama Award Kevin Bales does not just pontificate from behind a desk. From the charcoal pits of Brazil to the brothels of Thailand, he has seen the victims of modern day slavery. In Ending Slavery, Bales gives us an update on what's happening (and not happening), and a controversial plan to abolish slavery in the 21st century. This is a must read for anyone who wants to learn about the great human rights issue of our times.—Ambassador John Miller, former director of the U.S. State Department's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons

from slavery to freedom free: Slavery and Freedom in the Mid-Hudson Valley Michael E. Groth, 2017-04-17 Explores the long-neglected rural dimensions of northern slavery and emancipation in New York's Mid-Hudson Valley. Slavery and Freedom in the Mid-Hudson Valley focuses on the largely forgotten history of slavery in New York and the African American freedom

struggle in the central Hudson Valley prior to the Civil War. Slaves were central actors in the drama that unfolded in the region during the Revolution, and they waged a long and bitter battle for freedom during the decades that followed. Slavery in the countryside was more oppressive than slavery in urban environments, and the agonizingly slow pace of abolition, constraints of rural poverty, and persistent racial hostility in the rural communities also presented formidable challenges to free black life in the central Hudson Valley. Michael E. Groth explores how Dutchess County's black residents overcame such obstacles to establish independent community institutions, engage in political activism, and fashion a vibrant racial consciousness in antebellum New York. By drawing attention to the African American experience in the rural Mid-Hudson Valley, this book provides new perspectives on slavery and emancipation in New York, black community formation, and the nature of black identity in the Early Republic. □ Groth provides a systematic overview focused on the history of African Americans in the Mid-Hudson Valley during the decades before the American Revolution through emancipation and during the national political struggle for abolition and the regional struggle for civil rights. □ □ Andor Skotnes, author of *A New Deal for All? Race and Class Struggle in Depression-Era Baltimore*

from slavery to freedom free: Self-Taught Heather Andrea Williams, 2009-11-20 In this previously untold story of African American self-education, Heather Andrea Williams moves across time to examine African Americans' relationship to literacy during slavery, during the Civil War, and in the first decades of freedom. *Self-Taught* traces the historical antecedents to freedpeople's intense desire to become literate and demonstrates how the visions of enslaved African Americans emerged into plans and action once slavery ended. Enslaved people, Williams contends, placed great value in the practical power of literacy, whether it was to enable them to read the Bible for themselves or to keep informed of the abolition movement and later the progress of the Civil War. Some slaves devised creative and subversive means to acquire literacy, and when slavery ended, they became the first teachers of other freedpeople. Soon overwhelmed by the demands for education, they called on northern missionaries to come to their aid. Williams argues that by teaching, building schools, supporting teachers, resisting violence, and claiming education as a civil right, African Americans transformed the face of education in the South to the great benefit of both black and white southerners.

from slavery to freedom free: *The Archaeology of Northern Slavery and Freedom* James A. Delle, 2019-06-05 Investigating what life was like for African Americans north of the Mason-Dixon Line during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, James Delle presents the first overview of archaeological research on the topic in this book, debunking the notion that the "free" states of the Northeast truly offered freedom and safety for African Americans. Excavations at cities including New York and Philadelphia reveal that slavery was a crucial part of the expansion of urban life as late as the 1840s. Slaves cleared forests, loaded and unloaded ships, and manufactured charcoal to fuel iron furnaces. The case studies in this book also show that enslaved African-descended people frequently staffed suburban manor houses and agricultural plantations. Moreover, for free blacks, racist laws such as the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850 limited the experience of freedom in the region. Delle explains how members of the African diaspora created rural communities of their own and worked in active resistance against the institution of slavery, assisting slaves seeking refuge and at times engaging in violent conflicts. The book concludes with a discussion on the importance of commemorating these archaeological sites, as they reveal an important yet overlooked chapter in African American history. Delle shows that archaeology can challenge dominant historical narratives by recovering material artifacts that express the agency of their makers and users, many of whom were written out of the documentary record. Emphasizing that race-based slavery began in the Northeast and persisted there for nearly two centuries, this book corrects histories that have been whitewashed and forgotten. A volume in the series *The American Experience in Archaeological Perspective*, edited by Michael S. Nassaney

from slavery to freedom free: *As If She Were Free* Erica L. Ball, Tatiana Seijas, Terri L. Snyder, 2020-10-08 A groundbreaking collective biography narrating the history of emancipation

through the life stories of women of African descent in the Americas.

from slavery to freedom free: Freedom's Frontier Stacey L. Smith, 2013-08-12 Most histories of the Civil War era portray the struggle over slavery as a conflict that exclusively pitted North against South, free labor against slave labor, and black against white. In *Freedom's Frontier*, Stacey L. Smith examines the battle over slavery as it unfolded on the multiracial Pacific Coast. Despite its antislavery constitution, California was home to a dizzying array of bound and semibound labor systems: African American slavery, American Indian indenture, Latino and Chinese contract labor, and a brutal sex traffic in bound Indian and Chinese women. Using untapped legislative and court records, Smith reconstructs the lives of California's unfree workers and documents the political and legal struggles over their destiny as the nation moved through the Civil War, emancipation, and Reconstruction. Smith reveals that the state's anti-Chinese movement, forged in its struggle over unfree labor, reached eastward to transform federal Reconstruction policy and national race relations for decades to come. Throughout, she illuminates the startling ways in which the contest over slavery's fate included a western struggle that encompassed diverse labor systems and workers not easily classified as free or slave, black or white.

from slavery to freedom free: Gateway to Freedom: The Hidden History of the Underground Railroad Eric Foner, 2015-01-19 The dramatic story of fugitive slaves and the antislavery activists who defied the law to help them reach freedom. More than any other scholar, Eric Foner has influenced our understanding of America's history. Now, making brilliant use of extraordinary evidence, the Pulitzer Prize-winning historian once again reconfigures the national saga of American slavery and freedom. A deeply entrenched institution, slavery lived on legally and commercially even in the northern states that had abolished it after the American Revolution. Slaves could be found in the streets of New York well after abolition, traveling with owners doing business with the city's major banks, merchants, and manufacturers. New York was also home to the North's largest free black community, making it a magnet for fugitive slaves seeking refuge. Slave catchers and gangs of kidnappers roamed the city, seizing free blacks, often children, and sending them south to slavery. To protect fugitives and fight kidnappings, the city's free blacks worked with white abolitionists to organize the New York Vigilance Committee in 1835. In the 1840s vigilance committees proliferated throughout the North and began collaborating to dispatch fugitive slaves from the upper South, Washington, and Baltimore, through Philadelphia and New York, to Albany, Syracuse, and Canada. These networks of antislavery resistance, centered on New York City, became known as the underground railroad. Forced to operate in secrecy by hostile laws, courts, and politicians, the city's underground-railroad agents helped more than 3,000 fugitive slaves reach freedom between 1830 and 1860. Until now, their stories have remained largely unknown, their significance little understood. Building on fresh evidence—including a detailed record of slave escapes secretly kept by Sydney Howard Gay, one of the key organizers in New York—Foner elevates the underground railroad from folklore to sweeping history. The story is inspiring—full of memorable characters making their first appearance on the historical stage—and significant—the controversy over fugitive slaves inflamed the sectional crisis of the 1850s. It eventually took a civil war to destroy American slavery, but here at last is the story of the courageous effort to fight slavery by practical abolition, person by person, family by family.

from slavery to freedom free: From Slavery to Freedom: Narrative Of The Life, Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl, Up From Slavery, The Souls of Black Folk. Illustrated Frederick Douglass, Harriet Ann Jacobs, Booker Taliaferro Washington, W. E. B. Du Bois, 2021-01-08 African American history is the part of American history that looks at the past of African Americans or Black Americans. Of the 10.7 million Africans who were brought to the Americas until the 1860s, 450 thousand were shipped to what is now the United States. Most African Americans are descended from Africans who were brought directly from Africa to America and became slaves. The future slaves were originally captured in African wars or raids and transported in the Atlantic slave trade. Our collection includes the following works: *Narrative Of The Life* by Frederick Douglass. The impassioned abolitionist and eloquent orator provides graphic descriptions of his childhood and

horrifying experiences as a slave as well as a harrowing record of his dramatic escape to the North and eventual freedom. Incidents In The Life Of A Slave Girl by Harriet Jacobs. Powerful by portrayal of the brutality of slave life through the inspiring tale of one woman's dauntless spirit and faith. Up From Slavery by Booker T. Washington. Washington rose to become the most influential spokesman for African Americans of his day. He describes events in a remarkable life that began in slavery and culminated in worldwide recognition. The Souls of Black Folk by W. E. B. Du Bois. W. E. B. Du Bois was an American sociologist, socialist, historian, civil rights activist, Pan-Africanist, author, writer and editor. Contents: 1. Frederick Douglass: Narrative Of The Life 2. Harriet Ann Jacobs: Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl 3. Booker Taliaferro Washington: Up From Slavery 4. W. E. B. Du Bois: The Souls of Black Folk

from slavery to freedom free: Claiming Freedom Karen Cook Bell, 2018-02-22 An exploration of the political and social experiences of African Americans in transition from enslaved to citizen. Claiming Freedom is a noteworthy and dynamic analysis of the transition African Americans experienced as they emerged from Civil War slavery, struggled through emancipation, and then forged on to become landowners during the Reconstruction and post-Reconstruction period in the Georgia lowcountry. Karen Cook Bell's work is a bold study of the political and social strife of these individuals as they strived for and claimed freedom during the nineteenth century. Bell begins by examining the meaning of freedom through the delineation of acts of self-emancipation prior to the Civil War. Consistent with the autonomy that they experienced as slaves, the emancipated African Americans from the rice region understood citizenship and rights in economic terms and sought them not simply as individuals for the sake of individualism, but as a community for the sake of a shared destiny. Bell also examines the role of women and gender issues, topics she believes are understudied but essential to understanding all facets of the emancipation experience. It is well established that women were intricately involved in rice production, a culture steeped in African traditions, but the influence that culture had on their autonomy within the community has yet to be determined. A former archivist at the National Archives and Records Administration, Bell has wielded her expertise in correlating federal, state, and local records to expand the story of the all-black town of 1898 Burroughs, Georgia, into one that holds true for all the American South. By humanizing the African American experience, Bell demonstrates how men and women leveraged their community networks with resources that enabled them to purchase land and establish a social, political, and economic foundation in the rural and urban post-war era.

from slavery to freedom free: Jamaica in Slavery and Freedom Kathleen E. A. Monteith, Glen Richards, 2002 Jamaica's rich history has been the subject of many books, articles and papers. This collection of eighteen original essays considers aspects of Jamaican history not covered in more general histories of the island, and illuminates more recent developments in Jamaican and West Indian history. Unique in its interdisciplinary approach, the collection emphasizes the relevance of history to everyday life and the development of a national identity, culture and economy. The essays are organized in three sections: Historiography and Sources; Society, Culture and Heritage; and Economy, Labour and Politics, with contributions from scholars in the Departments of History, Literatures in English and Political Sciences and from the Main Library, University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica. -- Book Jacket.

from slavery to freedom free: The Underground Railroad from Slavery to Freedom Wilbur Henry Siebert, 2016-01-09 First published in 1898, this comprehensive history was the first documented survey of a system that helped fugitive slaves escape from areas in the antebellum South to regions as far north as Canada. Comprising fifty years of research, the text includes interviews and excerpts from diaries, letters, biographies, memoirs, speeches, and a large number of other firsthand accounts. Together, they shed much light on the origins of a system that provided aid to runaway slaves, including the degree of formal organization within the movement, methods of procedure, geographical range, leadership roles, the effectiveness of Canadian settlements, and the attitudes of courts and communities toward former slaves.

from slavery to freedom free: Slavery, Freedom, and Expansion in the Early American West

John Craig Hammond, 2020-11-20 Most treatments of slavery, politics, and expansion in the early American republic focus narrowly on congressional debates and the inaction of elite founding fathers such as Thomas Jefferson and James Madison. In *Slavery, Freedom, and Expansion in the Early American West*, John Craig Hammond looks beyond elite leadership and examines how the demands of western settlers, the potential of western disunion, and local, popular politics determined the fate of slavery and freedom in the West between 1790 and 1820. By shifting focus away from high politics in Philadelphia and Washington, Hammond demonstrates that local political contests and geopolitical realities were more responsible for determining slavery's fate in the West than were the clashing proslavery and antislavery proclivities of Founding Fathers and politicians in the East. When efforts to prohibit slavery revived in 1819 with the Missouri Controversy it was not because of a sudden awakening to the problem on the part of northern Republicans, but because the threat of western secession no longer seemed credible. Including detailed studies of popular political contests in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Missouri that shed light on the western and popular character of conflicts over slavery, Hammond also provides a thorough analysis of the Missouri Controversy, revealing how the problem of slavery expansion shifted from a local and western problem to a sectional and national dilemma that would ultimately lead to disunion and civil war.

from slavery to freedom free: *Neither Fugitive Nor Free* Edlie L. Wong, 2009-07 Studies lawsuits to gain freedom for slaves on the grounds of their having traveled to free territory, starting with *Somerset v. Stewart* (England, 1772), *Commonwealth v. Aves* (Massachusetts, 1836), *Dred Scott v. Sanford*, and cases brought questioning the legitimacy of Negro Seamen Acts in the antebellum coastal South. These lawsuits and accounts of them are compared to fugitive slave narratives to shed light on both. The differing impact of freedom obtained from such suits for men and women (women could claim that their children were free, once they were judged free) is examined.

from slavery to freedom free: *Running a Thousand Miles for Freedom* William Craft, Ellen Craft, 2011-03-15 In 1848 William and Ellen Craft made one of the most daring and remarkable escapes in the history of slavery in America. With fair-skinned Ellen in the guise of a white male planter and William posing as her servant, the Crafts traveled by rail and ship--in plain sight and relative luxury--from bondage in Macon, Georgia, to freedom first in Philadelphia, then Boston, and ultimately England. This edition of their thrilling story is newly typeset from the original 1860 text. Eleven annotated supplementary readings, drawn from a variety of contemporary sources, help to place the Crafts' story within the complex cultural currents of transatlantic abolitionism.

from slavery to freedom free: *Free Boy* Lorraine McConaghy, Judy Bentley, 2015-07-20 *Free Boy* is the story of a 13-year-old slave who escaped from Washington Territory to freedom in Canada on the West's underground railroad. When James Tilton came to Washington Territory as surveyor-general in the 1850s he brought with his household young Charles Mitchell, a slave he had likely received as a wedding gift from a Maryland cousin. The story of Charlie's escape in 1860 on a steamer bound for Victoria and the help he received from free blacks reveals how national issues on the eve of the Civil War were also being played out in the West. Written with young adults in mind, the authors provide the historical context to understand the lives of both Mitchell and Tilton and the time in which the events took place. The biography explores issues of race, slavery, treason, and secession in Washington Territory, making it both a valuable resource for teachers and a fascinating story for readers of all ages. A V Ethel Willis White Book

from slavery to freedom free: Slavery Today Kevin Bales, Becky Cornell, 2008 Discusses worldwide modern slavery and its effects, including the types of modern slavery, its relationship with globalization, and how the world can end slavery.

from slavery to freedom free: *The 1619 Project Book* University Press, 2021-11-03 University Press returns with another short and captivating book - a brief history of *The 1619 Project*. In August of 1619, a pirate ship sailed its way through the still-warm waters of The Atlantic Ocean, heading north along the coast of North America, a continent that was then known to most Europeans

as the New World. The ship arrived at Jamestown in the British colony of Virginia, carrying an expensive cargo that the pirates hoped to sell to the colonists - Africans. The ship's crew had stolen the 20 or 30 Africans from a Portuguese slave ship. And that slave ship had captured the men and women from an area of west Africa that would one day be Angola. Thus began a 250-year history of slavery in a land that would later become the United States of America. In August of 2019, on the 400-year anniversary of the introduction of African slavery to America, The New York Times Magazine released a 100-page spread called The 1619 Project, a collection of essays and profiles that discusses the history and legacy of slavery in America and, in the words of its authors, aims to reframe the country's history by placing the consequences of slavery and the contributions of Black Americans at the very center of the United States' national narrative. But this bold reframing of America's history has attracted withering criticism, generated intense controversy, and stimulated a fierce national debate. This short book peels back the veil and provides a clear-eyed glimpse into the explosive history of The 1619 Project - a glimpse that you can read in about an hour.

from slavery to freedom free: South to Freedom Alice L Baumgartner, 2020-11-10 A brilliant and surprising account of the coming of the American Civil War, showing the crucial role of slaves who escaped to Mexico. The Underground Railroad to the North promised salvation to many American slaves before the Civil War. But thousands of people in the south-central United States escaped slavery not by heading north but by crossing the southern border into Mexico, where slavery was abolished in 1837. In *South to Freedom*, historian Alice L. Baumgartner tells the story of why Mexico abolished slavery and how its increasingly radical antislavery policies fueled the sectional crisis in the United States. Southerners hoped that annexing Texas and invading Mexico in the 1840s would stop runaways and secure slavery's future. Instead, the seizure of Alta California and Nuevo México upset the delicate political balance between free and slave states. This is a revelatory and essential new perspective on antebellum America and the causes of the Civil War.

from slavery to freedom free: Henry's Freedom Box Ellen Levine, 2016-03-29 A stirring, dramatic story of a slave who mails himself to freedom by a Jane Addams Peace Award-winning author and a Coretta Scott King Award-winning artist. Henry Brown doesn't know how old he is. Nobody keeps records of slaves' birthdays. All the time he dreams about freedom, but that dream seems farther away than ever when he is torn from his family and put to work in a warehouse. Henry grows up and marries, but he is again devastated when his family is sold at the slave market. Then one day, as he lifts a crate at the warehouse, he knows exactly what he must do: He will mail himself to the North. After an arduous journey in the crate, Henry finally has a birthday -- his first day of freedom.

from slavery to freedom free: Troubling Freedom Natasha Lightfoot, 2015-11-19 In 1834 Antigua became the only British colony in the Caribbean to move directly from slavery to full emancipation. Immediate freedom, however, did not live up to its promise, as it did not guarantee any level of stability or autonomy, and the implementation of new forms of coercion and control made it, in many ways, indistinguishable from slavery. In *Troubling Freedom* Natasha Lightfoot tells the story of how Antigua's newly freed black working people struggled to realize freedom in their everyday lives, prior to and in the decades following emancipation. She presents freedpeople's efforts to form an efficient workforce, acquire property, secure housing, worship, and build independent communities in response to elite prescriptions for acceptable behavior and oppression. Despite its continued efforts, Antigua's black population failed to convince whites that its members were worthy of full economic and political inclusion. By highlighting the diverse ways freedpeople defined and created freedom through quotidian acts of survival and occasional uprisings, Lightfoot complicates conceptions of freedom and the general narrative that landlessness was the primary constraint for newly emancipated slaves in the Caribbean.

from slavery to freedom free: Escape from Slavery Francis Bok, Edward Tivnan, 2007-04-01 In this groundbreaking modern slave narrative, Francis Bok shares his remarkable story with grace, honesty, and a wisdom gained from surviving ten years in captivity. May, 1986: Selling his mother's eggs and peanuts near his village in southern Sudan, seven year old Francis Bok's life was shattered

when Arab raiders on horseback, armed with rifles and long knives, burst into the quiet marketplace, murdering men and women and gathering the young children into a group. Strapped to horses and donkeys, Francis and others were taken north, into lives of slavery under wealthy Muslim farmers. For ten years, Francis lived alone in a shed near the goats and cattle that were his responsibility. Fed with scraps from the table, slowly learning bits of an unfamiliar language and religion, the boy had almost no human contact other than his captor's family. After two failed attempts to escape—each bringing severe beatings and death threats—Francis finally escaped at age seventeen, a dramatic breakaway on foot that was his final chance. Yet his slavery did not end there, for even as he made his way toward the capital city of Khartoum, others sought to deprive him of his freedom. Determined to avoid that fate and discover what had happened to his family on that terrible day in 1986, the teenager persevered through prison and refugee camps for three more years, winning the attention of United Nations officials and being granted passage to America. Now a student and an anti-slavery activist, Francis Bok has made it his life mission to combat world slavery. His is the first voice to speak for an estimated twenty seven million people held against their will in nearly every nation, including our own. Escape from Slavery is at once a riveting adventure, a story of desperation and triumph, and a window revealing a world that few have survived to tell.

from slavery to freedom free: *Finding Charity's Folk* Jessica Millward, 2015-12-15 *Finding Charity's Folk* highlights the experiences of enslaved Maryland women who negotiated for their own freedom, many of whom have been largely lost to historical records. Based on more than fifteen hundred manumission records and numerous manuscript documents from a diversity of archives, Jessica Millward skillfully brings together African American social and gender history to provide a new means of using biography as a historical genre. Millward opens with a striking discussion about how researching the life of a single enslaved woman, Charity Folks, transforms our understanding of slavery and freedom in Revolutionary America. For African American women such as Folks, freedom, like enslavement, was tied to a bondswoman's reproductive capacities. Their offspring were used to perpetuate the slave economy. Finding loopholes in the law meant that enslaved women could give birth to and raise free children. For Millward, Folks demonstrates the fluidity of the boundaries between slavery and freedom, which was due largely to the gendered space occupied by enslaved women. The gendering of freedom influenced notions of liberty, equality, and race in what became the new nation and had profound implications for African American women's future interactions with the state.

from slavery to freedom free: *The Empire of Necessity* Greg Grandin, 2014-01-14 From the acclaimed author of *Fordlandia*, the story of a remarkable slave rebellion that illuminates America's struggle with slavery and freedom during the Age of Revolution and beyond. One morning in 1805, off a remote island in the South Pacific, Captain Amasa Delano, a New England seal hunter, climbed aboard a distressed Spanish ship carrying scores of West Africans he thought were slaves. They weren't. Having earlier seized control of the vessel and slaughtered most of the crew, they were staging an elaborate ruse, acting as if they were humble servants. When Delano, an idealistic, anti-slavery republican, finally realized the deception, he responded with explosive violence. Drawing on research on four continents, *The Empire of Necessity* explores the multiple forces that culminated in this extraordinary event—an event that already inspired Herman Melville's masterpiece *Benito Cereno*. Now historian Greg Grandin, with the gripping storytelling that was praised in *Fordlandia*, uses the dramatic happenings of that day to map a new transnational history of slavery in the Americas, capturing the clash of peoples, economies, and faiths that was the New World in the early 1800s.

from slavery to freedom free: *Becoming Free, Becoming Black* Alejandro de la Fuente, Ariela J. Gross, 2020-01-16 Shows that the law of freedom, not slavery, determined the way that race developed over time in three slave societies.

from slavery to freedom free: *How Free Is Free?* Leon F. Litwack, 2009-02-27 This title traces continuing racial inequality and the ongoing fight for freedom for African American's in America. It tells how despite two major efforts to reconstruct race relations, injustices remain.

from slavery to freedom free: Freedom River Doreen Rappaport, 2014-06-30 Describes an incident in the life of John Parker, an ex-slave who became a successful businessman in Ripley, Ohio, and who repeatedly risked his life to help other slaves escape to freedom.

from slavery to freedom free: *The Freedom of Speech* Miles Ogborn, 2019-10-14 The institution of slavery has always depended on enforcing the boundaries between slaveholders and the enslaved. As historical geographer Miles Ogborn reveals in *The Freedom of Speech*, across the Anglo-Caribbean world the fundamental distinction between freedom and bondage relied upon the violent policing of the spoken word. Offering a compelling new lens on transatlantic slavery, this book gathers rich historical data from Barbados, Jamaica, and Britain to delve into the complex relationships between voice, slavery, and empire. From the most quotidian encounters to formal rules of what counted as evidence in court, the battleground of slavery lay in who could speak and under what conditions. But, as Ogborn shows through keen attention to both the traces of talk and the silences in the archives, if enslavement as a legal status could be made by words, it could be unmade by them as well. A deft interrogation of the duality of domination, *The Freedom of Speech* offers a rich interpretation of oral cultures that both supported and constantly threatened to undermine the slave system.

from slavery to freedom free: *The Fire of Freedom* David S. Cecelski, 2012 Examines the life of a former slave who became a radical abolitionist and Union spy, recruiting black soldiers for the North, fighting racism within the Union Army and much more.

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