

# STOLEN INTO SLAVERY THE TRUE STORY OF SOLOMON NORTHUP

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**What happened to the people who kidnapped Solomon Northup?** The D.C. government did not pursue the case. Those who had kidnapped and enslaved Northup received no punishment. In his first year of freedom, Northup wrote and published a memoir, *Twelve Years a Slave* (1853).

**How was Solomon Northup tricked into slavery?** In 1841 Solomon Northup was recruited by two men, supposedly to join their circus act as a fiddler. The three traveled from New York to Washington, D.C., where Northup was drugged and awoke in shackles. He was sold at a slave market in New Orleans and spent 12 years in slavery in central Louisiana.

**Who sold Solomon into slavery?** In 1841 Solomon Northup, a free black New Yorker, was kidnapped in Washington, DC, and sold to slave trader James Birch. Renaming Northup "Platt Hamilton," Birch created a fictitious backstory for Platt before shipping him south via the brig *Orleans* to his partner Theophilus Freeman in New Orleans.

**What does Solomon Northup's narrative reveal about the relation between slavery and social institutions such as marriage and the family?** *Twelve Years a Slave*, in particular, supports the antislavery argument that the institution of slavery undermined and perverted the institutions of marriage and the family. Solomon Northup was a free black man who was kidnapped from his home in the North and sold into slavery in the South.

**Did Solomon Northup reunite with his wife?** Right: Solomon Northup is reunited with his wife and children at the end of his 1853 memoir.

**What happened to Solomon Northup at the end?** After he was freed, Northup filed kidnapping charges against the men who had defrauded him, but the lengthy trial that followed was ultimately dropped because of legal technicalities, and he received no remuneration. Little is known about Northup's life after the trial, but he is believed to have died in 1863.

**Why did Ford sell Solomon?** Ford faces financial troubles and must sell Solomon to Tibeats. Tibeats and Solomon go to work at another plantation owned by Ford, which is overseen by the reasonable Mr. Chapin. One morning, Tibeats becomes angry with Solomon even though Solomon has done exactly what Tibeats asked.

**Why did Armsby betray Solomon?** Armsby betrayed Northup by telling Epps that Northup was trying to write a letter to his friends in New York. Armsby (Garret Dillahunt) was trying to obtain a position as an overseer with Epps, which is presumably why he ratted out Northup's attempts to write home.

**When did slavery start?** Slavery was institutionalized by the time the first civilizations emerged (such as Sumer in Mesopotamia, which dates back as far as 3500 BC). Slavery features in the Mesopotamian Code of Hammurabi (c. 1750 BC), which refers to it as an established institution.

**What is a famous quote from Solomon Northup?** Life is dear to every living thing; the worm that crawls upon the ground will struggle for it.

**Who owned the first 11 slaves?** Leslie Harris: The first 11 enslaved people, all male, who came to New Amsterdam, were brought by the Dutch West Indian Company. They were owned by the company, not by individuals. So they're company slaves. And they're bought by the company for the purpose of building the colony.

**How did Northup finally gain his freedom?** Northup finally won his freedom when a visiting white carpenter from Canada wrote letters to family, friends and a kindly storekeeper. As unbelievable as Northup's story is, it was not uncommon – historians have documented hundreds of such kidnappings of free African-American men and women.

**What did Solomon Northup say about slavery?** Extreme violence is central in Northup's narrative; he emphasizes that the slave owner's authority was only maintained by terrorizing enslaved black people they owned with relentless physical and psychological violence.

**Why was Solomon Northup's story so unique to history?** As Frederick Douglass' Paper described the book upon its release in 1853: "It is a strange history, its truth is far stranger than fiction." This dichotomy between "truth" and "fiction" was at the center of Solomon Northup's story, in part because of the direct corollaries between his narrative and the best selling ...

**What are the differences between Frederick Douglass and Solomon Northup?** Douglass was born a slave, taught himself to read and write, realized that he should be free and escaped, while Northup was born free and was kidnapped into slavery, where he remained for twelve years until his rescue.

**Did Solomon Northup have kids?** On December 25, 1829, Solomon Northup married Anne Hampton, and the couple had three children: Elizabeth, Margaret, and Alonzo. The Northup family sold the family farm and moved to Glens Falls, New York where he worked numerous seasonal jobs around their county of residence.

**Why did African Americans stay in the South?** Since the second Great Migration ended in 1970, many Black people have moved back to the South. This is largely due to improved race relations and an improvement of the economy in the South. Primary destinations are states such as Texas, Georgia, North Carolina, Maryland, Virginia, Tennessee, and Florida.

**What are scars on a slave's back considered evidence of?** Sometimes a man or woman was taken back to the small house in the yard, stripped, and inspected more minutely. Scars upon a slave's back were considered evidence of a rebellious or unruly spirit, and hurt his sale.

**When was Solomon Northup rescued?** Book/Printed Material Twelve years a slave. Narrative of Solomon Northup, a citizen of New-York, kidnapped in Washington city in 1841, and rescued in 1853, from a cotton plantation near the Red River in Louisiana.

**Who did Northup write his account for?** With the help of co-writer David Wilson, Northup publishes his famous book of his experiences. He dedicates his book to Harriet Beecher Stowe, the author of Uncle Tom's Cabin. His book sold more than 30,000 copies in the first three months.

**What happened to Edwin Epps?** Epps and his wife died in 1867, two years after Abraham Lincoln (which by extension means they lived to see slavery abolished) of unknown circumstances, though many speculate it was due to Yellow Fever. Patsey was taken from Epps' plantation roughly a decade after Solomon was freed.

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**How many children did Solomon Northup have?** His father, Mintus Northup, an emancipated slave, was a farm owner, voted in local elections, and valued education for his sons, Solomon and elder brother Joseph. On December 25, 1829, Solomon Northup married Anne Hampton, and the couple had three children: Elizabeth, Margaret, and Alonzo.

**Why does Theophilus Freeman refuse to sell Emily Berry to Northup's master?** Northup offers a price to buy Emily and her mother, preventing the two from being separated and allowing them to have a better life. However Theophilus Freeman refuses to sell, because he does not believe that slaves should be treated well and because he has other plans for Emily.

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### **1. Vocabulary and Grammar**

- **Q1: Define the term 'colloquialism'.**
- **A1:** An informal word or expression used in everyday speech.
- **Q2: Identify the past perfect tense of the verb 'write'.**
- **A2:** Had written

## 2. Reading Comprehension

- **Q3: Summarize the main idea of the paragraph on 'The Benefits of Reading'.**
- **A3:** Reading enhances cognitive skills, broadens perspectives, and provides entertainment.
- **Q4: Identify the supporting evidence for the statement "Reading improves focus and attention".**
- **A4:** Reading requires sustained concentration, improving focus and attention.

## 3. Writing Skills

- **Q5: Write a paragraph describing a memorable childhood experience.**
- **A5:** (Example) My most vivid childhood memory is playing hide-and-seek in my grandmother's sprawling garden. The scent of honeysuckle filled the air as I stealthily crept behind the rose bushes, the laughter of my siblings echoing through the greenery.

- **Q6: Identify the topic sentence of the following paragraph:**

**Paragraph:** The internet has revolutionized communication. We can now connect with people across the globe instantly and share information in real-time.

**A6:** The internet has transformed communication on a global scale.

#### 4. Listening Skills

- **Q7: Transcribe the following audio clip:**

**Audio:** Excuse me, could you tell me where the library is?

**A7:** "Excuse me, could you tell me where the library is?"

- **Q8: Identify the main topic of a conversation about 'Sustainable Living'.**

- **A8:** Practices that minimize environmental impact while promoting social and economic well-being.

#### 5. Speaking Skills

- **Q9: Prepare a short presentation on the importance of education.**
- **A9:** (Example) Education unlocks opportunities, empowers individuals, and contributes to societal progress. It provides the knowledge and skills necessary for personal growth and economic stability.
- **Q10: Engage in a group discussion about the benefits and challenges of technology.**

- **A10:** Explore the positive impacts, such as improved communication and access to information, while acknowledging concerns about privacy, addiction, and job displacement.

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**Q: What is SPONS Estimating Costs for Electrical Works?** A: SPONS is a comprehensive software solution designed to streamline the estimation process for electrical works. It provides unit rates and project costs, enabling contractors to accurately estimate the costs of their projects.

**Q: How does SPONS estimate costs?** A: SPONS utilizes industry-standard unit rates and labor costs, which are adjusted based on location and project specifications. It also considers factors such as material costs, equipment rentals, and overhead expenses to provide a comprehensive estimate.

**Q: What are the benefits of using SPONS?** A: SPONS offers numerous benefits, including:

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- Time-saving estimation process
- Reduced risk of cost overruns
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