Born A Slave Portraits of Ex-Slaves An Introduction to the Slave Narratives From The Federal Writers' Project, 1936-1938

Born a Slave: Portraits of Ex-Slaves

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BORN A SLAVE: PORTRAITS OF EX-SLAVES



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Createspace, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 254 x 178 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.BORN A SLAVE - Portraits of Ex-Slaves - An Introduction to the Slave Narratives From The Federal Writers Project, 1936-1938. Fragments of the Narratives complimented with a Photograph of the ex-slave giving testimony of their days in bondage. In the 1930s, the Works Progress Administration sponsored a Federal Writers Project dedicated to chronicling the experience of slavery as remembered by former slaves. African-American men and women born into slavery were interviewed. Their stories were recorded and transcribed. Over 2,300 former slaves from across the American South were interviewed by writers from the Works Progress Administration (WPA) and the Federal Writers Project. These exslaves provided first-hand accounts of their experiences and knowledge of life on southern plantations. Their narratives remain a potent resource for understanding how America s slaves lived and died. These fragments of slave life offer a broad view of slavery in North America, allowing readers to explore and research areas of slavery such as work, sickness, punishments, resistance, escape, family life, food, marriage, relationships with masters, overseers and religious beliefs. Before the American Civil War, some authors wrote fictional accounts of slavery to create support for abolitionism. The prime example is Uncle Tom s Cabin (1852) by Harriet Beecher Stowe. The success of her novel and the social tensions of the time brought a response by white southern writers, such as William Gilmore Simms and Mary Eastman, who published what were called anti-Tom novels. Both kinds of novels were bestsellers in the 1850s. A total of about 600,000 enslaved people were imported into the Thirteen Colonies and the U.S, constituting 5 of the twelve million enslaved people brought from Africa to the Americas. The great majority...

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