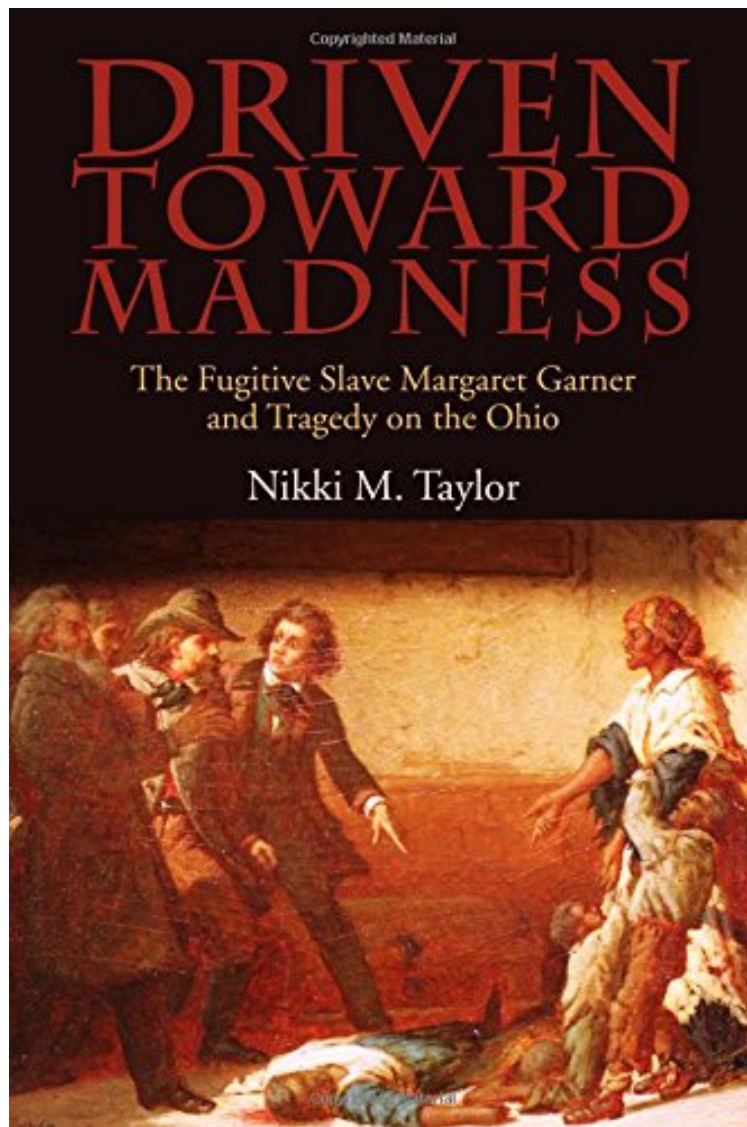


[Ebook free] Driven toward Madness: The Fugitive Slave Margaret Garner and Tragedy on the Ohio (New Approaches to Midwestern History)

Driven toward Madness: The Fugitive Slave Margaret Garner and Tragedy on the Ohio (New Approaches to Midwestern History)

Nikki M. Taylor

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Nikki M. Taylor : Driven toward Madness: The Fugitive Slave Margaret Garner and Tragedy on the Ohio (New Approaches to Midwestern History) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Driven toward Madness: The Fugitive Slave Margaret Garner and Tragedy on the Ohio (New Approaches to Midwestern History):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Juan Manuel GalvanDeeply moving!2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Instant Classic!!By CustomerDriven Toward Madness is a wonderfully written and brilliantly crafted book. I have yet to read a history book with such strong insight and a unique perspective. This is an instant classic and leaves the reader with room to make some tough conclusions about the Margaret Garner narrative. A must read for years to come!

Taylor crafts a book that should be read by all who have an interest in understanding the roots of slavery and oppression of women during the preCivil War era. Library Journal (starred review) The story of Margaret Garnerthe runaway slave who, when confronted with capture, slit the throat of her toddler daughter rather than have her face a life in slaveryhas inspired Toni Morrisons *Beloved*, a film based on the novel starring Oprah Winfrey, and an opera. Garners story has defied solid historical treatment and Nikki M. Taylors fierce, poetic history of Garner brilliantly captures her circumstances and her transformation from a murdering mother to an icon of tragedy, resistance, and motherhood. As an enslaved woman, Garner left only faint traditional historical footprints: she could not read or write, and left no diary, letters, or personal papers, obliterating the opportunity to know with certainty what she thought or believed. Although she is one of the few runaway slaves ever to testify at her own hearing, there are no extant official transcripts. Local papers covered it, but summarized her testimony. In the wake of the killing, various factions appropriated her as differing symbols, each with its own audience and purpose (from hero of slave resistance to black bogeyman). A black feminist interpretation of Garners lifeas an enslaved woman, wife, and motheroffers a more holistic picture of who she truly was and what drove her to kill. Taylorthe first African American woman to write a history of Garnergrounds her work in this interpretation and also melds trauma studies and literary criticism with history to account for shortcomings in the written record. In so doing, she rejects distortions and fictionalized images; probes slaverys legacies of sexual and physical violence and psychic trauma in new ways; and finally fleshes out a figure who had been rendered an apparition.

Taylor vividly portrays the sufferings Garner and her family endured under slavery and in their attempt to escape from it, placing their experiences in the wider context of the antebellum Midwest. . . . Readers of [*Toni Morrisons Beloved*] will . . . appreciate the ways that Taylor illuminates the gendered experience of enslavement. Publishers Weekly