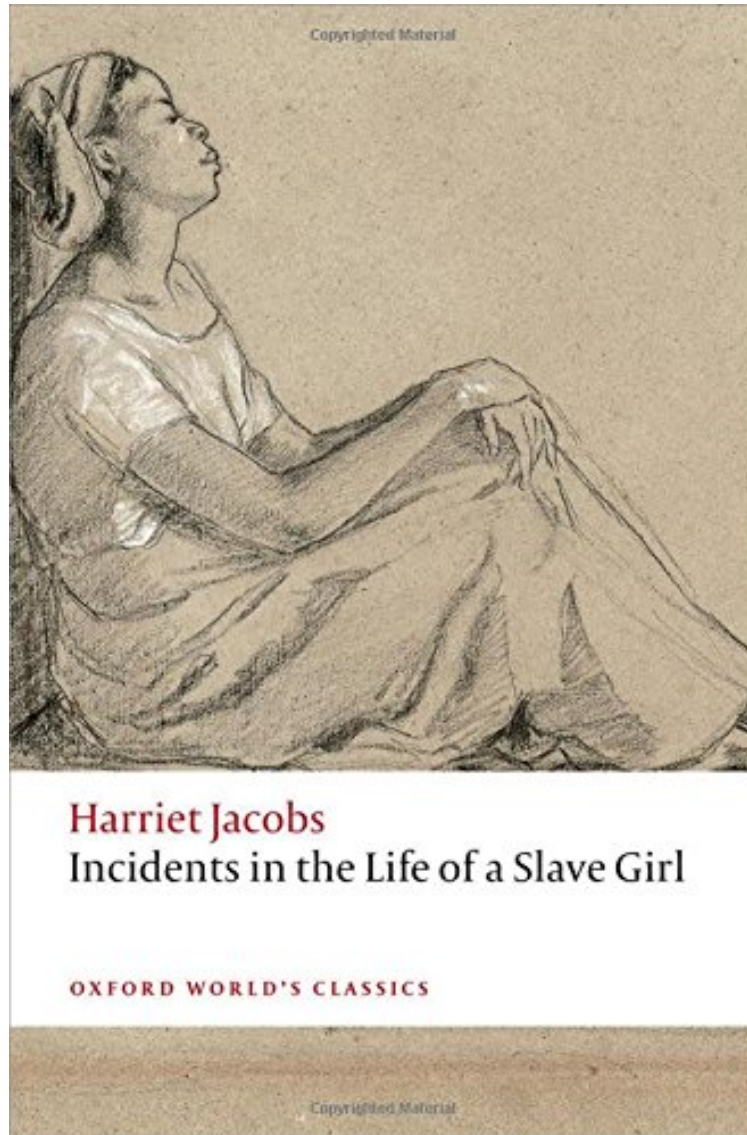


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Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl (Oxford World's Classics)

Harriet Jacobs

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Harriet Jacobs : Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl (Oxford World's Classics) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl (Oxford World's Classics):

63 of 65 people found the following review helpful. for they allow us to gain a better understanding of how far our society has come By Jayah This autobiography was assigned to me when I was a junior in high school. Three years later, as a sophomore in college, I was asked to read the book again for my class on Black Thought and Literature. I

wish that I had taken the time to slow down and analyze Frederick Douglass' narrative from a literal, analytical, and figurative perspective. Had I done that the first time around as opposed to treating the book as another required reading that I needed to speed-read through I believe that my understanding would have been more in-depth and meaningful. The emotion and conviction with which the author writes is not only poetic and moving, but captivating as well. The imagery, combined with Douglass' views on religion's role in the enslavement of black bodies, masterfully paints a story that (in combination with other narratives) has, unfortunately, been lost throughout time. In fact, many Black writers during this period refused to publish their experiences for fear that they will be caught and returned to slavery. In other cases, some writers used pen names to add some anonymity to their experiences. Nevertheless, such works should be cherished and valued; for they allow us to gain a better understanding of how far our society has come, and how much more needs to be done to ensure a future where everyone is equal (in the truest sense of the word). 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. What a Heart-breaker! By Donna Kelley I marvel that someone could have endured such deprivations and abuses of slavery and yet lived to tell it. I did not care for the long, run-on sentences which seem to be typical of that period in history. The poem at the end perfectly encapsulated the woes of slavery. I found the book so poignant that I could not have read it all in one sitting. My empathy could not withstand the mistreatment of the main character for long reading sessions. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Please read or reread By Customer Although there is difficulty in typing that a work like "Narrative of the Life of Fredrick Douglass, An American Slave" was enjoyable, I feel more humane after reading this text. And I enjoy the idea of this progression. With the types of difficulties we have today being American, there is also a feeling of reward accompanying the finishing of a text where ingenuity and the pursuit of learning are not portrayed as traits of the vain, but as the talents of those with the will to exist. Fredrick Douglass' narrative is uniquely American and inherently African American and anyone who feels pride belonging to one or both of these groups should read or reread this book.

'The degradations, the wrongs, the vices, that grow out of slavery, are more than I can describe.' Harriet Jacobs was born a slave in the American South and went on to write one of the most extraordinary slave narratives. First published pseudonymously in 1861, *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* describes Jacobs's treatment at the hands of her owners, her eventual escape to the North, and her perilous existence evading recapture as a fugitive slave. To save herself from sexual assault and protect her children she is forced to hide for seven years in a tiny attic space, suffering terrible psychological and physical pain. Written to expose the appalling treatment of slaves in the South and the racism of the free North, and to advance the abolitionist cause, *Incidents* is notable for its careful construction and literary effects. Jacobs's story of self-emancipation and a growing feminist consciousness is the tale of an individual and a searing indictment of slavery's inhumanity. This edition includes the short memoir by Jacobs's brother, John S. Jacobs, 'A True Tale of Slavery'. ABOUT THE SERIES: For over 100 years Oxford World's Classics has made available the widest range of literature from around the globe. Each affordable volume reflects Oxford's commitment to scholarship, providing the most accurate text plus a wealth of other valuable features, including expert introductions by leading authorities, helpful notes to clarify the text, up-to-date bibliographies for further study, and much more.

It's easy to be appalled at the notion of slavery, but this astonishing account, published in 1861, by Harriet Jacobs, born a slave in the American South, emphasises the personal experience. She makes us feel the minutiae of daily life as a slave. * Lesly McDowell, *The Sunday Herald* * Jacob's story is so dramatic, so illustrative of the horrors of slavery - the sickening violence, the waste of potential, the unpredictability of lives lived according to slave owner's caprices - that it almost reads as a novel * Victoria Segal, *The Guardian* * Few accounts of American slavery are as memorable as Jacobs' harrowing memoir. Born a slave in North Carolina in 1813, Harriet was in her teens when her owner, Dr James Norcom, first started to proposition her. Harriet was forced to take refuge in her grandmother's tiny attic for nearly seven years, before finally escaping to the North. R J Ellis's introduction to this latest edition is an insightful overview of the slave narrative for a new generation of readers. * Lesley McDowell, *Independent (Radar)* * About the Author R. J. Ellis's publications include Harriet Wilson's 'Our Nig': A Cultural Biography (2003), a co-edited collection of essays, *Becoming Visible: Women's Presence in Ninetenth-Century America* (2010) and editions of *Our Nig* (2011, with Henry Louis Gates), and Charles Chesnut's *The Colonel's Dream* (2015). He was President of the Society for the Study of American Women Writers from 2012 to 2015.