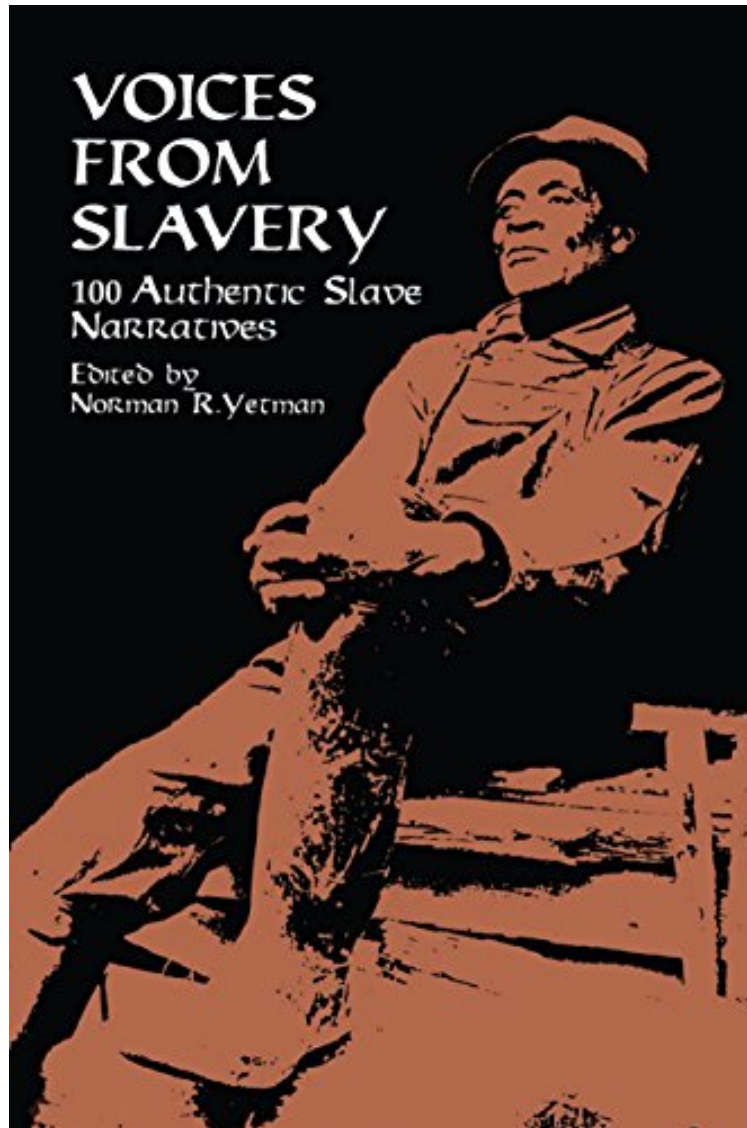


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Voices from Slavery: 100 Authentic Slave Narratives (African American)

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From Dover Publications : **Voices from Slavery: 100 Authentic Slave Narratives (African American)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised **Voices from Slavery: 100 Authentic Slave Narratives (African American)**:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A must read for anyone who wants to know about slave life. By Geo. D
The seller was super-fast in delivery of the book. The book was in great shape. I have only read a few of the

narratives so far, but am happy with it. I guess I was looking for more in depth stories from the folks whose history is taken. But over all, it gives me the glimpse of that time frame. Sad commentary on our past (and present) that we still haven't been able to leave the racial hatred behind. All men are created equal, except if you're black or some other nonwhite Anglo-Saxon Christian. The bigotry is alive and present all around us, yet we refuse to confront it where and when we see it. Let's walk a mile in the other man's shoes and see how much we like it. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. It's a sad story of how badly America treated such a promising ...By Maretha WatkinsIt's incredible to read these first person accounts of life during slavery time, and the many hardships that people endured for the hope of freedom that seems to take forever before it comes to them. When they are freed, many don't know what to do with themselves, or where to go, or how to survive. It's a sad story of how badly America treated such a promising group of people who had the potential to greatness if only they were given the same opportunities as others of their day. 7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Poignant Stories from Those Who Endured SlaveryBy Steve VranaFirst of all, I have been teaching "Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" in the high school classroom for thirty years. For about the last twenty years, I have also used Julius Lester's book "To Be a Slave" to provide the students with a clearer understanding of slavery as it existed in the last couple decades leading up to the Civil War. Lester's book generously uses excerpts from many of the Federal Writers' Project interviews of former slaves that were conducted in the 1930's. About six years ago, I decided to seek out some of these interviews. "Voices from Slavery" compiles 100 of these narratives and presents them in alphabetical order. [I also use the collection "When I Was a Slave," which has only 34 narratives and twelve of those are also included here.] Both of these collections provide the ex-slave's name, where the interview took place, who conducted the interview, and the age at which the ex-slave was interviewed. The main difference, of course, is that "Voices from Slavery" offers nearly three times as many narratives. Each entry is a mini-biography filled with specific details of the ex-slaves' lives. While "To Be a Slave" did an excellent job of providing an overview of the slave experience, the slave narratives contained in this collection gives a more in-depth look at each individual--even though each narrative is relatively short. Some are very short; Frank Bell's is barely two pages. Most are about four pages, and none are longer than seven pages. And yet in those few pages you hear the authentic voices of ex-slaves who better than anyone else are able to tell their stories. I use this collection to assign each student one of the narratives and at the conclusion of reading "To Be a Slave," I ask them to provide a dramatic reading for the rest of the class. While there are similarities among these narratives, each is a unique experience and adds to the better understanding of the impact slavery continues to have after almost a century and a half since the end of the Civil War. If you have any interest at all of this part of our nation's past, "Voices From Slavery" will be a real eye-opener. **VERY HIGHLY RECOMMENDED**

In the late 1930s, the Federal Writers' Project of the Works Progress Administration embarked upon a project to interview 100 former American slaves. The result of that unique undertaking is this collection of authentic firsthand accounts documenting the lives of men and women once held in bondage in the antebellum South. In candid, often blunt narratives, elderly former slaves recall what it was like to wake before sunrise and work until dark, enduring whippings, branding, and separations from ones spouse and children, suffer the horrors of slave auctions and countless other indignities, and finally to witness the arrival of Northern troops and experience the first days of ambiguous freedom. Included here are vivid descriptions of good masters and bad ones and treatment that ran the gamut from indulgent and benevolent supervision to the harshest exploitation and cruelty. These and many other unforgettable sometimes unspeakable aspects of slave life are recalled in simple, often poignant language that brings home with dramatic impact the true nature of slavery. Accompanied by 32 starkly compelling photographs, the text includes a new preface and additional essay by Norman R. Yetman, a specialist in American studies. A valuable resource for students and scholars of African-American history, this thoroughly engrossing book will be of great interest as well to general readers.