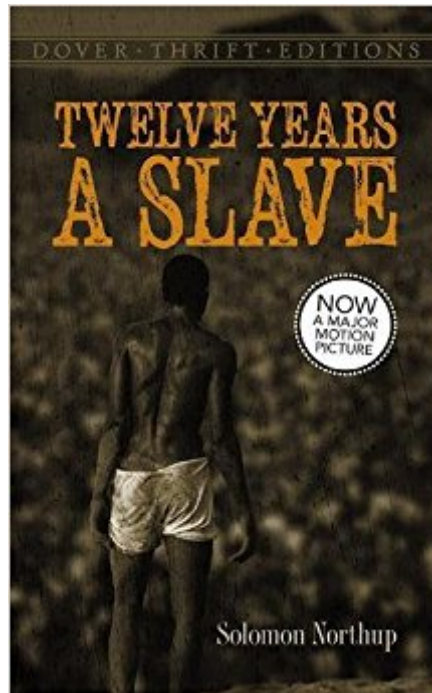




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# Twelve Years A Slave (Dover Thrift Editions)



## Synopsis

The basis for the Academy Award®-winning movie!"A moving, vital testament to one of slavery's 'many thousand gone' who retained his humanity in the bowels of degradation." —*Saturday Review*

Born a free man in New York State in 1808, Solomon Northup was kidnapped in Washington, DC, in 1841. He spent the next 12 harrowing years of his life as a slave on a Louisiana cotton plantation. During this time he was frequently abused and often afraid for his life. After regaining his freedom in 1853, Northup decided to publish this gripping autobiographical account of his captivity. As an educated man, Northup was able to present an exceptionally detailed and accurate description of slave life and plantation society. Indeed, this book is probably the fullest, most realistic picture of the "peculiar institution" during the three decades before the Civil War. Moreover, Northup tells his story both from the viewpoint of an outsider, who had experienced 30 years of freedom and dignity in the United States before his capture, and as a slave, reduced to total bondage and submission. Very few personal accounts of American slavery were written by slaves with a similar history. Published in 1853, Northup's book found a ready audience and almost immediately became a bestseller. Aside from its vivid depiction of the detention, transportation, and sale of slaves, *Twelve Years a Slave* is admired for its classic accounts of cotton and sugar production, its uncannily precise recall of people, times, and places, and the compelling details that re-create the daily routine of slaves in the Gulf South. 7 illustrations. Index.®

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Solomon Northup was a free-born African American from New York, the son of a freed slave. A farmer and violinist, he owned a property in Hebron. In 1841 he was kidnapped by slave-traders, having been enticed with a job offer as a violinist. When he accompanied his supposed employers to Washington, DC, they drugged him and sold him as a slave. He was shipped to New Orleans where he was sold to a plantation owner in Louisiana. He was held in the Red River region of Louisiana by several different owners for 12 years, during which time his friends and family had no word of him. He made repeated attempts to escape and get messages out of the plantation. Eventually he got news to his family, who contacted friends and enlisted the Governor of New York, Washington Hunt, to his cause. He regained his freedom in January 1853 and returned to his family in New York. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

This is a great book--I like that it was written in an autobiographical style and that it is factual. Anyone that enjoys history, especially of the civil war era, would enjoy this book.

Good delivery time. Having watched the movie was interested in reading the book. It is not graphic as some might expect, it alludes to some of the abuses slaves had to endure. It proved to me once again how wrong slavery is and cannot imagine a world where these heinous acts were accepted as the norm. Regardless of the level of abuse by masters, just considering another human being property is wrong. Very good movie as it followed the book pretty well, and book was enlightening also and an easy read too.

Wow --- amazing story which surprisingly the Academy Award winning movie follows quite nicely. What an incredible journey this free man endured after being tricked into leaving his fine life to be sold into slavery. His chilling account of his twelve years as a slave is unforgettable. I went to the movie and then read the book, but it would work just as nicely if you read the book and then went to the movie. Bob O'Connor, Author

this book was an excellent journal of the life of a slave in the deep south. he was a free man of the state of new york and kidnaped and sold into slavery. he endured extremely harsh treatment that no human being should have to endure. Many a slave owner or overseer will most likely burn in hell, unless they repent and ask forgiveness.

I came from slaves. At 83 I was not aware that free men from northern states had been captured and sold as slaves. Along with my tears for the suffering described for all the slaves, I gave thanks to God for all those who showed compassion. A book to keep and read again and again as a constant reminder of my ancestors.

This book came in the mail perfect, not worn or torn at all! It seemed as if it was never even open. Small size, perfect for students not wanting to carry around a huge book. Overall great quality and price, can't wait to read it!

Loved the history & the fact that this book illustrates both the evil and the good in mankind. And that it was written by the man who suffered the evil and did not become bitter.

Spellbinding partial biography of a stolen man, sold into slavery, who was lucky to escape. Well written. Only shortcoming was the cessation of his tale after he returned home. We wanted to learn more about the rest of his life.

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