

# Frederick Douglass



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**Frederick Douglass** (born **Frederick Augustus Washington Bailey**, (born circa 1818 – February 20, 1895) was an American abolitionist, women's suffragist, editor, orator, author, statesman and reformer. Called "The Sage of Anacostia" and "The Lion of Anacostia", Douglass is one of the most prominent figures in African American and United States history.

He was a firm believer in the equality of all people, whether black, female, Native American, or recent immigrant. He was fond of saying, "I would unite with anybody to do right and with nobody to do wrong."

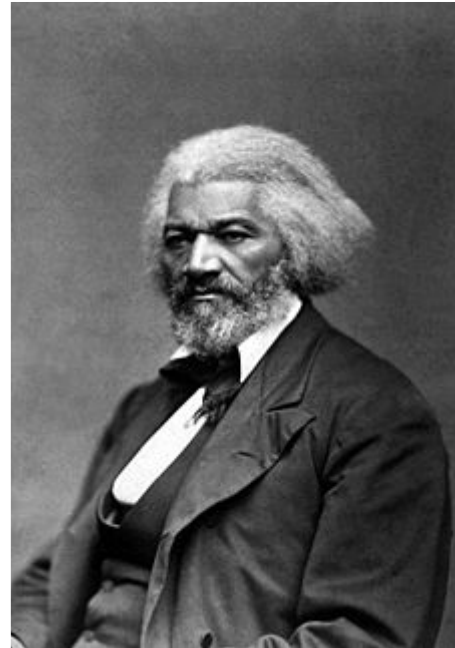
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## Life as a slave

Frederick Augustus Washington Bailey, who later became known as Frederick Douglass, was born a slave in Talbot County, Maryland, between Hillsboro and Cordova, in a shack east of Tappers Corner and

### Frederick Douglass



Frederick Douglass, c.1879.

<b>Born</b>	c. 1818 Talbot County, Maryland, United States
<b>Died</b>	February 20, 1895 (aged 77) Washington, D.C., United States
<b>Occupation</b>	Abolitionist, author, editor, diplomat
<b>Spouse(s)</b>	Anna Murray (c.1839) Helen Pitts (1884)
<b>Children</b>	Charles Remond Douglass Rosetta Douglass Lewis Henry Douglass Frederick Douglass Jr. Annie Douglass (died at 10)
<b>Parents</b>	Harriet Bailey and perhaps Aaron Anthony

### Signature

*Frederick Douglass*

Part of a series on

west of Tuckahoe Creek.<sup>[1]</sup> He was separated from his mother, Harriet Bailey, when he was still an infant. She died when Douglass was about seven and Douglass lived with his maternal grandmother Betty Bailey. His mother's ancestors likely had Native American heritage.

The identity of his father is obscure. Douglass originally stated that he was told his father was a white man, perhaps his owner Aaron Anthony. Later he said he knew nothing of his father's identity. At age seven, Douglass was separated from his grandmother and moved to the Wye House plantation, where Anthony worked as overseer.<sup>[2]</sup> When Anthony died, Douglass was given to Lucretia Auld, wife of Thomas Auld. She sent Douglass to serve Thomas' brother Hugh Auld in Baltimore.

When Douglass was about twelve, Hugh Auld's wife Sophia started teaching him the alphabet. She was breaking the law against teaching slaves to read. When Hugh Auld discovered this, he strongly disapproved, saying that if a slave learned to read, he would become dissatisfied with his condition and desire freedom. Douglass later referred to this statement as the "first decidedly antislavery lecture" he had ever heard.<sup>[3]</sup> As detailed in his autobiography *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave* (1845), Douglass succeeded in learning to read from white children in the neighborhood and by observing the writings of men with whom he worked.

As Douglass learned and began to read newspapers, political materials, and books of every description, he was exposed to a new realm of thought that led him to question and then condemn the institution of slavery. In later years, Douglass credited *The Columbian Orator*, which he discovered at about age twelve, with clarifying and defining his views on freedom and human rights.

When Douglass was hired out to a Mr. Freeman, he taught other slaves on the plantation how to read the *New Testament* at a weekly Sabbath school. As word spread, the interest among slaves in learning to read was so great that in any week more than 40 slaves would attend lessons. For about six months, their study went relatively unnoticed. While Freeman was complacent about their activities, other plantation owners became incensed that their slaves were being educated. One Sunday they burst in on the gathering, armed with clubs and stones to disperse the congregation permanently.

In 1833, Thomas Auld took Douglass back from Hugh after a dispute ("[A]s a means of punishing Hugh," Douglass wrote). Dissatisfied with Douglass, Thomas Auld then sent him to work for Edward Covey, a poor farmer who had a reputation as a "slave-breaker." There Douglass was whipped regularly. The sixteen-year-old Douglass was indeed nearly broken psychologically by his ordeal under Covey, but he finally rebelled against the beatings and fought back. After losing a confrontation with Douglass, Covey never tried to beat him again.

In 1837, Douglass met Anna Murray, a free black in Baltimore. They married soon after he obtained his freedom.

## From slavery to freedom

Douglass first unsuccessfully tried to escape from Mr. Freeman, who had hired him out from his owner Colonel Lloyd. In 1836, he tried to escape from his new owner Covey, but failed again.

## Slavery

### Early history

History · Antiquity · Aztec · Ancient Greece · Rome · Medieval Europe · Thrall · Kholop · Serfdom · Spanish New World colonies

### Religion

The Bible · Judaism · Christianity · Islam

### By country or region

Africa · Atlantic · Arab · Coastwise · Angola · Britain and Ireland · British Virgin Islands · Brazil · Canada · India · Iran · Japan · Libya · Mauritania · Romania · Sudan · Swedish · United States

### Contemporary slavery

Modern Africa · Debt bondage · Penal labour · Sexual slavery · Unfree labour

### Opposition and resistance

Timeline · Abolitionism · Compensated emancipation · Opponents of slavery · Slave rebellion · Slave narrative

On September 3, 1838, Douglass successfully escaped by boarding a train to Havre de Grace, Maryland. He was dressed in a sailor's uniform and carried identification papers provided by a free black seaman. He crossed the Susquehanna River by ferry at Havre de Grace, then continued by train to Wilmington, Delaware. From there he went by steamboat to "Quaker City" — Philadelphia, Pennsylvania — and eventually reached New York; the whole journey took less than 24 hours.

## Abolitionist activities

Douglass continued traveling up to Massachusetts. There he joined various organizations in New Bedford, including a black church, and regularly attended abolitionist meetings. He subscribed to William Lloyd Garrison's weekly journal *The Liberator*, and in 1841 heard Garrison speak at a meeting of the Bristol Anti-Slavery Society. At one of these meetings, Douglass was unexpectedly asked to speak.

After he told his story, he was encouraged to become an anti-slavery lecturer. Douglass was inspired by Garrison and later stated that "no face and form ever impressed me with such sentiments [of the hatred of slavery] as did those of William Lloyd Garrison." Garrison was likewise impressed with Douglass and wrote of him in *The Liberator*. Several days later, Douglass delivered his first speech at the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society's annual convention in Nantucket. Then 23 years old, Douglass said later that his legs were shaking but he conquered his nervousness and gave an eloquent speech about his rough life as a slave.

In 1843, Douglass participated in the American Anti-Slavery Society's Hundred Conventions project, a six-month tour of meeting halls throughout the Eastern and Midwestern United States. He participated in the Seneca Falls Convention, the birthplace of the American feminist movement, and signed its Declaration of Sentiments.

## Autobiography

Douglass' best-known work is his first autobiography *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave*, published in 1845. At the time, some skeptics attacked the book and questioned whether a black man could have produced such an eloquent piece of literature. The book received generally positive reviews and it became an immediate bestseller. Within three years of its publication, the autobiography had been reprinted nine times with 11,000 copies circulating in the United States; it was also translated into French and Dutch and published in Europe.

The book's success had an unfortunate side effect: Douglass' friends and mentors feared that the publicity would draw the attention of his ex-owner, Hugh Auld, who might try to get his "property" back. They encouraged Douglass to tour Ireland, as many other former slaves had done. Douglass set sail on the *Cambria* for Liverpool on August 16, 1845, and arrived in Ireland as the Irish Potato Famine was beginning.

Douglass published three versions of his autobiography during his lifetime (and revised the third of these), each time expanding on the previous one. The 1845 *Narrative*, which was his biggest seller, was followed by *My Bondage and My Freedom* in 1855. In 1881, after the Civil War, Douglass published *Life and Times of Frederick Douglass*, which he revised in 1892.



The home and meetinghouse of the Johnsons, where Douglass lived in New Bedford



Frederick Douglass as a young man

## Travels to Ireland and Great Britain

Starting in August 1845, Douglass spent two years in Great Britain and Ireland, where he gave many lectures, mainly in Protestant churches or chapels. His draw was such that some facilities were "crowded to suffocation"; an example was his hugely popular London Reception Speech, which Douglass delivered at Alexander Fletcher's Finsbury Chapel in May 1846. Douglass remarked that in England he was treated not "as a color, but as a man." He met and befriended the Irish nationalist Daniel O'Connell.

It was during this trip that Douglass became officially free, when his freedom was purchased from his owner by British supporters.<sup>[4]</sup> British sympathizers led by Ellen Richardson of Newcastle upon Tyne collected the money needed to purchase his freedom. Douglass roused tumultuous crowds with his speeches about slavery and his experiences, and he met with acclaim. In 1846 Douglass was able to meet with Thomas Clarkson, one of the last survivors of the abolitionists who had persuaded Parliament to abolish slavery in Great Britain and its colonies.<sup>[5]</sup>



Mural featuring Frederick Douglass in Belfast, Northern Ireland.

After his return to the US, Douglass produced some regular abolitionist newspapers: *The North Star*, *Frederick Douglass Weekly*, *Frederick Douglass' Paper*, *Douglass' Monthly* and *New National Era*. The motto of *The North Star* was "Right is of no Sex — Truth is of no Color — God is the Father of us all, and we are all brethren."

Douglass believed that education was key for African Americans to improve their lives. For this reason, he was an early advocate for desegregation of schools. In the 1850s, he was especially outspoken in New York. While the ratio of African American to white students there was 1 to 40, African Americans received education funding at a ratio of only 1 to 1,600. This meant that the facilities and instruction for African-American children were vastly inferior. Douglass criticized the situation and called for court action to open all schools to all children. He stated that inclusion within the educational system was a more pressing need for African Americans than political issues such as suffrage.

Douglass' work spanned the years prior to and during the Civil War. He was acquainted with the radical abolitionist John Brown but disapproved of Brown's plan to start an armed slave rebellion in the South. Brown visited Douglass' home two months before he led the raid on the federal armory in Harpers Ferry. After the raid, Douglass fled for a time to Canada, fearing guilt by association and arrest as a co-conspirator. Douglass believed that the attack on federal property would enrage the American public. Douglass later shared a stage at a speaking engagement in Harpers Ferry with Andrew Hunter, the prosecutor who successfully convicted Brown.

Douglass conferred with President Abraham Lincoln in 1863 on the treatment of black soldiers, and with President Andrew Johnson on the subject of black suffrage. His early collaborators were the white abolitionists William Lloyd Garrison and Wendell Phillips. In the early 1850s, however, Douglass split with those who supported Garrison over the issue of interpretation of the United States Constitution. He believed it provided all that was necessary to gain the freedom of African Americans and guarantee their rights.

## Civil War years

### Before the Civil War

In 1851, Douglass merged the *North Star* with Gerrit Smith's *Liberty Party Paper* to form *Frederick Douglass' Paper*, which was published until 1860. Douglass came to agree with Smith and Lysander

Spooner that the United States Constitution was an anti-slavery document. This reversed his earlier belief that it was pro-slavery.

At one time he had shared the views of William Lloyd Garrison, who was concerned that support for slavery was part of the fabric of the Constitution. Garrison had publicly expressed his opinion by burning copies of the document. Further contributing to their growing separation, Garrison was worried that the *North Star* competed with his own *National Anti-Slavery Standard* and Marius Robinson's *Anti-Slavery Bugle*.

Douglass' change of position on the Constitution was one of the most notable incidents of the division in the abolitionist movement after the publication of Spooner's book *The Unconstitutionality of Slavery* in 1846. This shift in opinion, and other political differences, created a rift between Douglass and Garrison. Douglass further angered Garrison by saying that the Constitution could and should be used as an instrument in the fight against slavery. With this, Douglass began to assert his independence from Garrison and his supporters.



Frederick Douglass stood up to speak in favor of women's right to vote.

In 1848, Douglass attended the first women's rights convention, the Seneca Falls Convention, as the only African American.<sup>[6]</sup> Elizabeth Cady Stanton asked the assembly to pass a resolution asking for women's suffrage.<sup>[7]</sup> Many of those present opposed the idea, including influential Quakers James and Lucretia Mott. Douglass stood and spoke eloquently in favor; he said that he could not accept the right to vote himself as a black man if woman could not also claim that right. Douglass projected that the world would be a better place if women were involved in the political sphere. "In this denial of the right to participate in government, not merely the degradation of woman and the perpetuation of a great injustice happens, but the maiming and repudiation of one-half of the moral and intellectual power of the government of the world."<sup>[8]</sup> Douglass's powerful words rang true with enough attendees that the resolution passed.<sup>[9]</sup>

In March 1860, Douglass' youngest daughter Annie died in Rochester, New York, while he was still in England. Douglass returned from England the following month. He took a route through Canada to avoid detection.

By the time of the Civil War, Douglass was one of the most famous black men in the country, known for his orations on the condition of the black race and on other issues such as women's rights. His eloquence gathered crowds at every location. His reception by leaders in England and Ireland added to his stature.

## Fight for emancipation

Douglass and the abolitionists argued that because the aim of the war was to end slavery, African Americans should be allowed to engage in the fight for their freedom. Douglass publicized this view in his newspapers and several speeches.

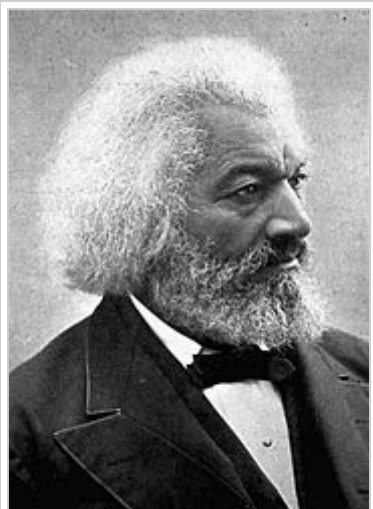
President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, which took effect on January 1, 1863, declared the freedom of all slaves in Confederate-held territory.<sup>[10]</sup> Douglass described the spirit of those awaiting the proclamation: "We were waiting and listening as for a bolt from the sky...we were watching...by the dim light of the stars for the dawn of a new day...we were longing for the answer to the agonizing prayers of centuries."<sup>[11]</sup>

With the North no longer obliged to return slaves to their owners in the South, Douglass fought for equality for his people. He made plans with Lincoln to move the liberated slaves out of the South. During the war, Douglass helped the Union by serving as a recruiter for the 54th Massachusetts

Regiment. His son Frederick Douglass Jr. also served as a recruiter and his other son, Lewis Douglass, fought for the 54th Massachusetts Regiment at the Battle of Fort Wagner.

Slavery everywhere in the United States was outlawed by the post-war (1865) ratification of the 13th Amendment. The 14th Amendment provided for citizenship and equal protection under the law. The 15th Amendment protected all citizens from being discriminated against in voting because of race.

## Lincoln's death



Frederick Douglass

At the unveiling of the Emancipation Memorial in Washington's Lincoln Park, Douglass was in the audience while a tribute to Lincoln was being given by a prominent lawyer. Some of the audience felt it did not do him justice and asked Douglass to speak. Reluctantly, Douglass stood up and spoke. With no preparation, he gave an eloquent tribute to the assassinated President, a speech for which he received much respect.

In the speech, Douglass spoke frankly about Lincoln, balancing the good and the bad in his account. He called Lincoln "the white man's president" and cited his tardiness in joining the cause of emancipation. He noted that Lincoln initially opposed the expansion of slavery but did not support its elimination. But Douglass also stated, "Can any colored man, or any white man friendly to the freedom of all men, ever forget the night which followed the first day of January 1863, when the world was to see if Abraham Lincoln would prove to be as good as his word?"<sup>[12]</sup>

The crowd, roused by his speech, gave him a standing ovation. A witness later said, "I have heard Clay speak and many fantastic men, but never have I heard a speech as impressive as that." A long-told anecdote claims that the widow Mary Lincoln gave Douglass Lincoln's favorite walking stick in appreciation. Lincoln's walking stick still rests in Douglass' house known as Cedar Hill. It is both a testimony and a tribute to the effect of Douglass' powerful oratory.

## Reconstruction era

After the Civil War, Douglass was appointed to several important political positions. He served as President of the Reconstruction-era Freedman's Savings Bank; as marshal of the District of Columbia; as minister-resident and consul-general to the Republic of Haiti (1889–1891); and as chargé d'affaires for the Dominican Republic. After two years, he resigned from his ambassadorship because of disagreements with U.S. government policy. In 1872, he moved to Washington, D.C., after his house on South Avenue in Rochester, New York burned down; arson was suspected. Also lost was a complete issue of *The North Star*.



*Cedar Hill*, Douglass' house in Washington, D.C.

In 1868, Douglass supported the presidential campaign of Ulysses S. Grant. President Grant signed into law the Klan Act and the second and third Enforcement Acts. Grant used their provisions vigorously, suspending *habeas corpus* in South Carolina and sending troops there and into other states; under his leadership over 5,000 arrests were made and the Ku Klux Klan received a serious blow. Grant's vigor in disrupting the Klan made him unpopular among many whites, but Frederick Douglass praised him. An associate of Douglass wrote of Grant that African Americans "will ever cherish a grateful remembrance of his name, fame and great services."

In 1872, Douglass became the first African American nominated for Vice President of the United

States, as Victoria Woodhull's running mate on the Equal Rights Party ticket. He was nominated without his knowledge. During the campaign, he neither campaigned for the ticket nor acknowledged that he had been nominated.

Douglass continued his speaking engagements. On the lecture circuit, he spoke at many colleges around the country during the Reconstruction era, including Bates College in Lewiston, Maine in 1873. He continued to emphasize the importance of voting rights and exercise of suffrage.

White insurgents had quickly arisen in the South after the war, organizing first as secret vigilante groups like the Ku Klux Klan. Through the years, armed insurgency took different forms, the last as powerful paramilitary groups such as the White League and the Red Shirts during the 1870s in the Deep South. They operated as "the military arm of the Democratic Party", turning out Republican officeholders and disrupting elections.<sup>[13]</sup> Their power continued to grow in the South; more than 10 years after the end of the war, white Democrats regained political power in every state of the former Confederacy and began to reassert white supremacy. They enforced this by a combination of violence, late 19th c. laws imposing segregation and a concerted effort to disfranchise African Americans. From 1890-1908, white Democrats passed new constitutions and statutes in the South that created requirements for voter registration and voting that effectively disfranchised most blacks and tens of thousands of poor whites.<sup>[14]</sup> This disfranchisement and segregation were enforced for more than six decades into the 20th century.

## Family life

Douglass and Anna had five children: Charles Remond Douglass, Rosetta Douglass, Lewis Henry Douglass, Frederick Douglass Jr., and Annie Douglass (died at the age of ten). The two oldest, Charles and Rossetta, helped produce his newspapers.

Douglass was an ordained minister of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

In 1877, Douglass bought his final home in Washington D.C., on a hill above the Anacostia River. He named it *Cedar Hill* (also spelled *CedarHill*). He expanded the house from 14 to 21 rooms, and included a china closet. One year later, he expanded his property to 15 acres (61,000 m<sup>2</sup>) by buying adjoining lots. The home has been designated the Frederick Douglass National Historic Site.

After the disappointments of whites' regaining power in the South after Reconstruction, many African Americans, called Exodusters, moved to Kansas to form all-black towns where they could be free. Douglass spoke out against the movement, urging blacks to stick it out. He was condemned and booed by black audiences.

In 1877, Douglass was appointed a United States Marshal. In 1881, he was appointed Recorder of Deeds for the District of Columbia. His wife, Anna Murray Douglas, died in 1882, leaving him depressed. His association with the activist Ida B. Wells brought meaning back into his life.

In 1884, Douglass married Helen Pitts, a white feminist from Honeoye, New York. Pitts was the daughter of Gideon Pitts, Jr., an abolitionist colleague and friend of Douglass. Pitts was a graduate of Mount Holyoke College (then called Mount Holyoke Female Seminary). She had worked on a radical feminist publication named *Alpha* while living in Washington, D.C. The couple faced a storm of controversy with their marriage, since she was both white and nearly 20 years younger than he. Her family stopped speaking to her; his was bruised, as his children felt his marriage was a repudiation of their mother. But feminist Elizabeth Cady Stanton congratulated the



Frederick Douglass with his second wife Helen Pitts Douglass (sitting). The woman standing is her sister Eva Pitts.

couple.<sup>[15]</sup> The new couple traveled to England, France, Italy, Egypt and Greece from 1886 to 1887.

At the 1888 Republican National Convention, Douglass became the first African American to receive a vote for President of the United States in a major party's roll call vote.<sup>[16][17][18]</sup>

In 1892 the Haitian government appointed Douglass as its commissioner to the Chicago World's Columbian Exposition. He spoke for Irish Home Rule and the efforts of leader Charles Stewart Parnell in Ireland. He briefly revisited Ireland in 1886. Also in 1892, he constructed rental housing for blacks in the Fells Point area of Baltimore. Now known as Douglass Place, it was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2003.<sup>[19][20]</sup>

## Death

On February 20, 1895, Douglass attended a meeting of the National Council of Women in Washington, D.C. During that meeting, he was brought to the platform and given a standing ovation by the audience. Shortly after he returned home, Frederick Douglass died of a massive heart attack or stroke in his adopted hometown of Washington, D.C. He is buried in Mount Hope Cemetery in Rochester, New York.

In 1921, members of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity designated Frederick Douglass as an honorary member. Theirs was the first African-American intercollegiate fraternity. Douglass was the only man to receive an honorary membership posthumously.<sup>[21]</sup>



Gravestone of Frederick Douglass located in Mount Hope Cemetery, Rochester, New York

In 2002, scholar Molefi Kete Asante named Frederick Douglass to his list of 100 Greatest African Americans.<sup>[22]</sup>

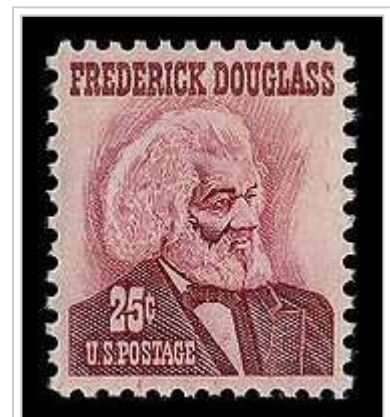
## Establishing date of birth

In successive autobiographies, Douglass gave more precise estimates of when he was born, his final estimate being 1817. He adopted February 14 as his birthday because his mother Harriet Bailey used to call him her "little valentine". Douglass was born at 38.8845°N 75.958°W<sup>[1]</sup> on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, where slaves were punished for learning to read or write and so could not keep records. Historian Dickson Preston examined the records of Douglass' former owner Aaron Anthony and determined that February 1818 was when Douglass was born.<sup>[23]</sup>

## Works

### Writings

- *A Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave* (1845)
- "The Heroic Slave." *Autographs for Freedom*. Ed. Julia Griffiths, Boston: Jewett and Company, 1853. pp. 174-239.
- *My Bondage and My Freedom* (1855)
- *Life and Times of Frederick Douglass* (1881, revised 1892)
- Douglass also was editor of the abolitionist newspaper *The North Star* from 1847 to 1851. He merged *The North Star* with another paper to create the *Frederick Douglass' Paper*.



1965 US Postage Stamp, published during the upsurge of the Civil Rights Movement

## Speeches

- "The Church and Prejudice"
- *Self-Made Men*

## Cultural representation

- The 1989 film *Glory* featured Frederick Douglass as a friend of Francis George Shaw, attending a party where he encouraged Shaw's son Robert and reviewing the new unit of Black Union Army soldiers. He was played by Raymond St. Jacques.
- The 2004 mockumentary *C.S.A.: The Confederate States of America* featured Douglass.
- Frederick Douglass is a major character in the alternate history novel *How Few Remain* by Harry Turtledove.
- Douglass is the protagonist of the novel *Riversmeet* (Richard Bradbury, Muswell Press, 2007), a fictionalized account of his 1845 speaking tour of the British Isles. <sup>[24]</sup>
- Frederick Douglass appears as a Great Humanitarian in the 2008 strategy video game *Civilization Revolution*. <sup>[25]</sup>

## See also

- The Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass
- List of African-American abolitionists
- Slave narrative
- African-American literature
- The Columbian Orator

## Sources

- Parts of this article are drawn from Houston A. Baker, Jr., introduction to the 1986 Penguin edition of *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*.

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- Webber, Thomas, *Deep Like Rivers: Education in the Slave Quarter Community 1831-1865*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc. (1978).
- Woodson, C.G., *The Education of the Negro Prior to 1861: A History of the Education of the Colored People of the United States from the Beginning of Slavery to the Civil War*. New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, (1915); Indy Publ. (2005) ISBN 1421926709

### For young readers

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- Weidt, Maryann N. *Voice of Freedom: a Story about Frederick Douglass*. Illus. by Jeni Reeves. Lerner Publications, (2001). ISBN 1-575-05553-8

### Documentary films

- *Frederick Douglass and the White Negro* [videorecording] / Writer/Director John J Doherty, produced by Camel Productions, Ireland. Irish Film Board/TG4/BCI.; 2008
- *Frederick Douglass* [videorecording] / produced by Greystone Communications, Inc. for A&E Network ; executive producers, Craig Haffner and Donna E. Lusitana.; 1997
- *Frederick Douglass: When the Lion Wrote History* [videorecording] / a co-production of ROJA Productions and WETA-TV.
- *Frederick Douglass, Abolitionist Editor* [videorecording]/a production of Schlessinger Video Productions.
- *Race to Freedom* [videorecording] : the story of the underground railroad / an Atlantis

## External links

### Douglass' sources online

- The Frederick Douglass Papers Edition : A Critical Edition of Douglass' Complete Works, including speeches, autobiographies, letters, and other writings.
- Works by Frederick Douglass at Internet Archive (scanned books original editions illustrated)
- Works by Frederick Douglass at Project Gutenberg
- Works by Frederick Douglass at Online Books Page
- Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave. Written by Himself. Boston: Anti-Slavery Office, 1845.
- The Heroic Slave. From Autographs for Freedom, Ed. Julia Griffiths. Boston: John P. Jewett and Company. Cleveland, Ohio: Jewett, Proctor, and Worthington. London: Low and Company., 1853.
- My Bondage and My Freedom. Part I. Life as a Slave. Part II. Life as a Freeman. New York: Miller, Orton & Mulligan, 1855.
- Life and Times of Frederick Douglass: His Early Life as a Slave, His Escape from Bondage, and His Complete History to the Present Time. Hartford, Conn.: Park Publishing Co., 1881.
- Frederick Douglass lecture on Haiti - Given at the World's Fair in Chicago, January 1893.
- Fourth of July Speech

### Resource Guides

- Frederick Douglass: Online Resources from the Library of Congress

### Biographical information

- *Frederick Douglass Project* at the University of Rochester.
- Frederick Douglass (American Memory, Library of Congress) Includes timeline.
- Timeline of Frederick Douglass and family
- Frederick Douglas Timeline
- Timeline of "The Life of Frederick Douglas" - Features key political events
- Read more about Frederick Douglass
- Frederick Douglass NHS - Douglass' Life
- Frederick Douglass NHS - Cedar Hill National Park Service site
- Frederick Douglass Western New York Suffragists
- Mr. Lincoln and Freedom: Frederick Douglass
- Mr. Lincoln's White House: Frederick Douglass

## Memorials to Frederick Douglass

- Frederick Douglas National Historic Site The Washington, DC home of Frederick Douglass
- Frederick Douglass Gardens at Cedar Hill Frederick Douglass Gardens
- The Frederick Douglass Prize A national book prize
- Lewis N. Douglas as a Sergeant Major in the 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry

Preceded by <i>None</i>	<b>United States Equal Rights Party Vice-Presidential Nominee</b> 1872	Succeeded by <b>Marietta Stow</b> ( <i>National Equal Rights Party</i> )
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