Juneteenth: The Story Behind the Celebration



Juneteenth: The Story Behind the Celebration

by Edward T. Cotham

★★★★ 4.7 out of 5

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Juneteenth is a holiday that commemorates the end of slavery in the United States. It is celebrated on June 19th, the day that the Emancipation Proclamation was finally read in Texas in 1865.

The Emancipation Proclamation was a document that was signed by President Abraham Lincoln on January 1, 1863. It declared that all slaves in the United States were free. However, the proclamation did not immediately end slavery in all of the states. In some states, slave owners refused to free their slaves, and it took several years for the proclamation to be fully enforced.

In Texas, slavery was not officially abolished until June 19, 1865, when Union troops arrived in Galveston and read the Emancipation Proclamation to the slaves. This day is now celebrated as Juneteenth.

Juneteenth is a day of celebration and remembrance. It is a day to celebrate the freedom of the slaves and to remember the long and difficult struggle that they endured. It is also a day to learn about the history of slavery and to recommit ourselves to the fight for freedom and equality for all.

How to Celebrate Juneteenth

There are many ways to celebrate Juneteenth. Some popular ways include:

- Attending a Juneteenth festival
- Participating in a Juneteenth parade
- Reading about the history of Juneteenth
- Watching a movie or documentary about Juneteenth
- Spending time with family and friends
- Donating to a charity that supports the fight for freedom and equality

Juneteenth is a special day that is celebrated by millions of Americans. It is a day to reflect on the past and to look forward to the future. It is a day to celebrate freedom and to recommit ourselves to the fight for equality for all.

Here are some additional ways to celebrate Juneteenth:

- Visit a historical site that is associated with the history of slavery
- Volunteer at a local museum or historical society that is dedicated to preserving the history of slavery
- Attend a lecture or workshop on the history of slavery

- Support businesses that are owned by African Americans
- Educate yourself and others about the history of slavery and the fight for freedom

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