

# Or Thirty Years Slave And Four Years In The White House Illustrated: A Must-Read for History Buffs and Anyone Interested in the Life of Frederick Douglass

Frederick Douglass was one of the most important figures in American history. Born into slavery in Maryland, he escaped to freedom in 1845 and became a leading abolitionist. He was a powerful orator and writer, and his autobiography, *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave*, is considered one of the most important works of American literature.

In 1855, Douglass published a revised and expanded version of his autobiography, entitled *My Bondage and My Freedom*. This new version included an account of his experiences as a free man, including his work as an abolitionist and his time spent in the White House as an advisor to President Abraham Lincoln.



## Behind the Scenes: Or, Thirty Years a Slave and Four Years in the White House (Illustrated) by Elizabeth Keckley

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 1708 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 154 pages  
Lending : Enabled



In 1894, Douglass published a third and final version of his autobiography, entitled *Life and Times of Frederick Douglass*. This version was further expanded and included an account of Douglass's later years, including his work as a diplomat and his role in the civil rights movement.

*Or Thirty Years Slave And Four Years In The White House Illustrated* is a beautifully illustrated edition of Douglass's third autobiography. The book includes over 100 illustrations, including photographs, engravings, and paintings. These illustrations help to bring Douglass's story to life and provide a visual record of his experiences.

*Or Thirty Years Slave And Four Years In The White House Illustrated* is a must-read for anyone interested in American history, African American history, or the life of Frederick Douglass. It is a powerful and moving narrative that offers a unique glimpse into the life of one of the most important figures in American history.

## **Key Themes**

*Or Thirty Years Slave And Four Years In The White House Illustrated* explores a number of key themes, including:

- **Slavery:** Douglass's autobiography provides a firsthand account of the horrors of slavery. He describes the brutal treatment that he and other slaves endured, and he argues that slavery is a crime against humanity.

- **Abolition:** Douglass was a leading abolitionist, and his autobiography is a powerful call for the end of slavery. He argues that slavery is morally wrong and that it must be abolished.
- **Race:** Douglass was a strong advocate for racial equality. He believed that all people, regardless of their race, are created equal and that they should have the same rights and opportunities.
- **Freedom:** Douglass's autobiography is a celebration of freedom. He describes the joy that he felt when he escaped from slavery, and he argues that freedom is a precious gift that should be cherished.

## Characters

*Or Thirty Years Slave And Four Years In The White House Illustrated* features a number of important characters, including:

- **Frederick Douglass:** The main character of the autobiography, Frederick Douglass was a slave who escaped to freedom and became a leading abolitionist.
- **Harriet Tubman:** A famous abolitionist who helped hundreds of slaves escape to freedom.
- **William Lloyd Garrison:** A leading abolitionist who founded the American Anti-Slavery Society.
- **Abraham Lincoln:** The 16th President of the United States, who issued the Emancipation Proclamation.

## Historical Context

*Or Thirty Years Slave And Four Years In The White House Illustrated* is set against the backdrop of the American Civil War. The book provides a

firsthand account of the war and its impact on the lives of slaves and free people.

The book also provides a glimpse into the political and social climate of the United States in the 19th century. Douglass's autobiography is a valuable historical document that offers a unique perspective on one of the most important periods in American history.

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