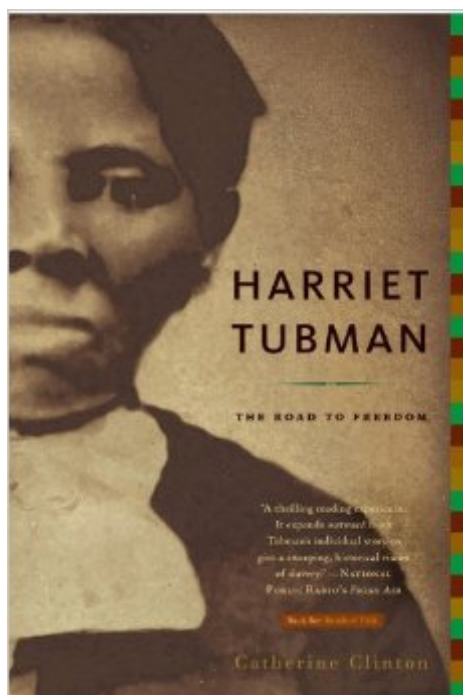


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Harriet Tubman: The Road To Freedom



Synopsis

Celebrated for her courageous exploits as a conductor on the Underground Railroad, Harriet Tubman has entered history as one of nineteenth-century America's most enduring and important figures. But just who was this remarkable woman? To John Brown, leader of the Harpers Ferry slave uprising, she was General Tubman. For the many slaves she led north to freedom, she was Moses. To the slaveholders who sought her capture, she was a thief and a trickster. To abolitionists, she was a prophet. Now, in a biography widely praised for its impeccable research and its compelling narrative, Harriet Tubman is revealed for the first time as a singular and complex character, a woman who defied simple categorization.

Book Information

Paperback: 304 pages

Publisher: Back Bay Books; Reprint edition (January 5, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0316155942

ISBN-13: 978-0316155946

Product Dimensions: 5.6 x 0.8 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

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Customer Reviews

Harriet Tubman is possibly one of the best known women outside of America, and it is ironic that she was born a slave and not considered important enough to even note her arrival except as property in Southern America of the 1820's, yet she rose to be one of the most important women of her time - or do I mean influential. I digress through. I loved this biography. I thought Catherine Clinton did a fine job in making an enormously readable and well researched biography. I liked the simple spare text and Clinton's able explanations which allowed me to understand context with the minimum of fuss. Harriet Tubman was a woman of whom it can be said there were many firsts. She was the first to black, and first woman, to be a conductor on the underground railway, the organisation which took slaves from the Southern plantations and guided them to safety in the North. Later she guided them all the way to Canada. Until Harriet Tubman came along all the

conductors had been white men. Her stoic courage and her sheer hardwork under all circumstances are extraordinary. So little remains on record of those days. The underground Railway was after all an illegal institution and the government of the day included slave owners who at various times passed laws to make their work more difficult. So there is not a great deal of documentary evidence available. What is there Clinton has done a great job searching out. We are lucky that Tubman did leave an autobiography as without that there would be slim reference to her in history. What I most enjoyed about this book was that I had read some biographies of Harriet Tubman as a child, but this one allowed me, as an adult to understand so much more about her.

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