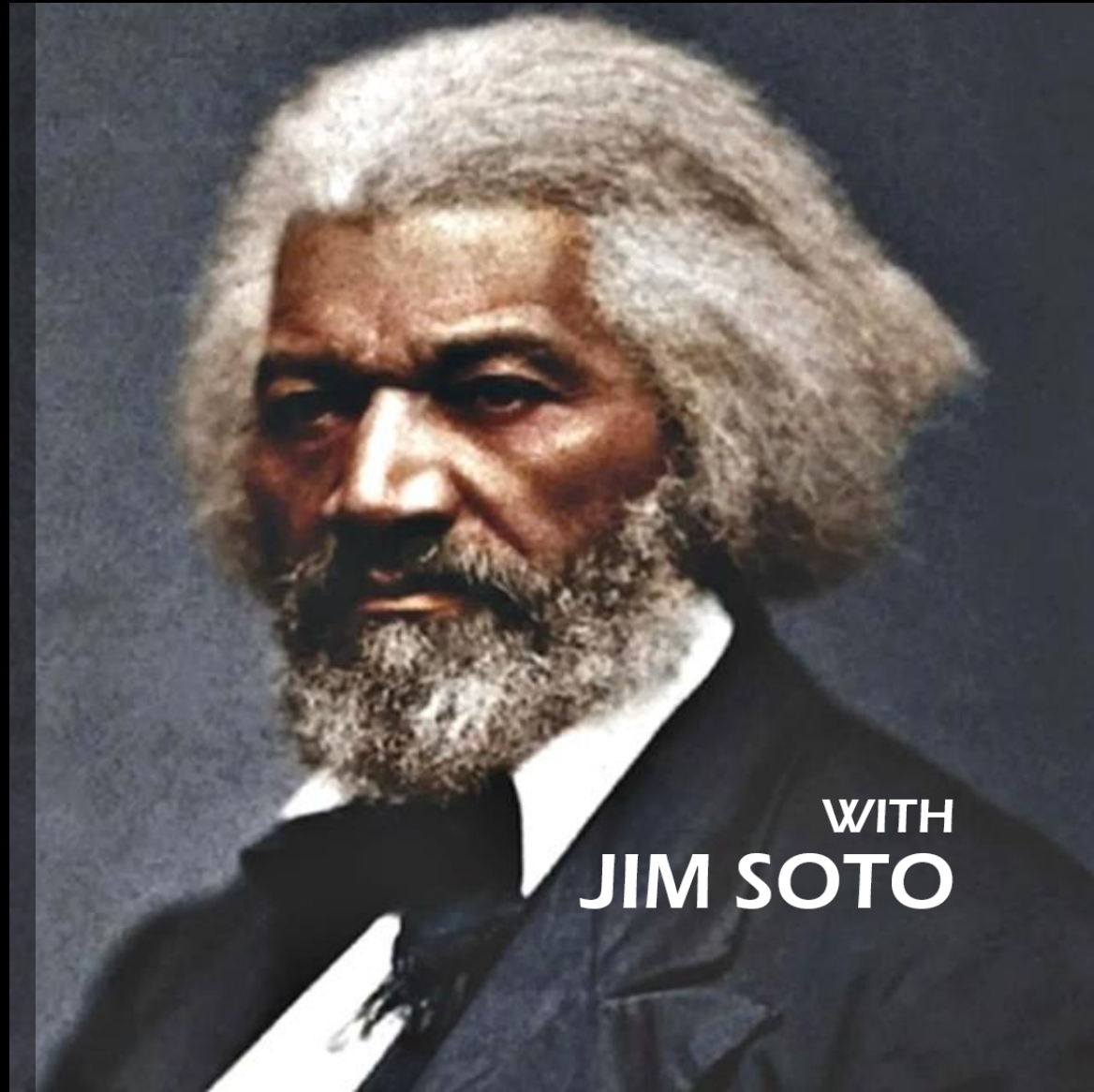


UNIT 3 A Nation Divided
Slavery and The Civil War 1850 to 1865

A STEIN WOOD
FROEBEL
BILINGUAL SCHOOL
Home of the Space Generation

Narrative of the Life of
Frederick Douglass,
an American Slave,
Written by Himself



WITH
JIM SOTO

SPEAK YOUR MIND

Slavery. It has been around for millennia.

You've heard about it.

You've read about it.

What do **you** have to say about it? Elaborate.

Take a minute to consider and answer the question.





The history of slavery is a tragic and cruel story that spans both centuries and continents. Although it is hard to pinpoint when exactly slavery began, historians trace the roots of this inhumane practice back roughly 11,000 years. **Slavery** is a state in which one human being is owned by another. Slaves are considered by law as property and deprived of the rights held by free persons.

SLAVERY IS ALIVE AND WELL, THANK YOU.

The International Labor Organization released a estimate of modern day slavery in the world in 2017. Around **40 million** people lived in slavery that year. So slavery is alive and well nowadays.

Every day, consumers like us buy slave-made goods and services for which victims toil in mines, farms, factories, or private homes. These goods can be found in common products and components that are sourced from countries around the world. This means that many of us are inadvertently supporting exploitative labor practices.

It's an interesting fact that labor trafficking is more prevalent throughout the world than sex trafficking, however, law enforcement arrests and prosecutes more offenders for sex trafficking than labor trafficking. Why could that be?



AN AMERICAN SLAVE

African Slavery was prevalent in the United States from its founding in 1776 until 1865, predominantly in the South. Born a slave in Maryland, **Frederick Douglass** (1818–1895) escaped to Massachusetts in 1838, where he associated with abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison and became an influential force in the fight to end slavery. Douglass published an autobiography: *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave*, in 1845.

Frederick Douglass published his autobiography in 1845, 16 years before the Civil War. Douglass's autobiography revealed to Northerners, in particular, the realities of slavery in a time in which laws in Southern states prohibited the education of African Americans, among other things.

Slaveholders believed that slaves who could read and write would be less obedient. Douglass, who had been introduced to reading and writing by a white mistress, was largely self-taught.

Slave communities used songs, sometimes in place of written communication, to discuss life, death, spiritual philosophies, and emotions: all of which helped individuals cope with the traumas of being enslaved. These songs were known as **Spirituals**.





Many Northerners, in particular, did not witness slavery firsthand and, as a result, formed false stereotypes about slaves and their conditions. Find the stereotype Douglass mentions in this excerpt, and note how he dispels it. In addition, trace how the tone of the narrative changes from beginning to end.

LITERARY ELEMENTS

Stereotype

Is an uncritically accepted fixed or conventional idea, particularly such an idea held about a whole group of people.

Tone

Refers to the emotional attitude toward the reader or toward the subject implied by a literary work. It may be expressed by word choice, imagery, and other techniques.



ASSESSMENT

After reading pages 183-190 in your book, complete the activities:

1. REFER TO TEXT &
2. REASON WITH TEXT
3. & ANALYZE LITERATURE
 - **Stereotype and Tone** - What stereotype about slaves does Douglass reject in his description of the slaves' singing? What is Douglass's nonstereotypical interpretation of the slaves' singing? Why might some Northerners have believed in the stereotype of the happy slave?
 - What tone does Douglass use at the beginning of the narrative to describe the organization and operation of the plantation? How does the tone change when he recalls the songs sung by the slaves? How does the changing tone of the narrative fit the change in topic?



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