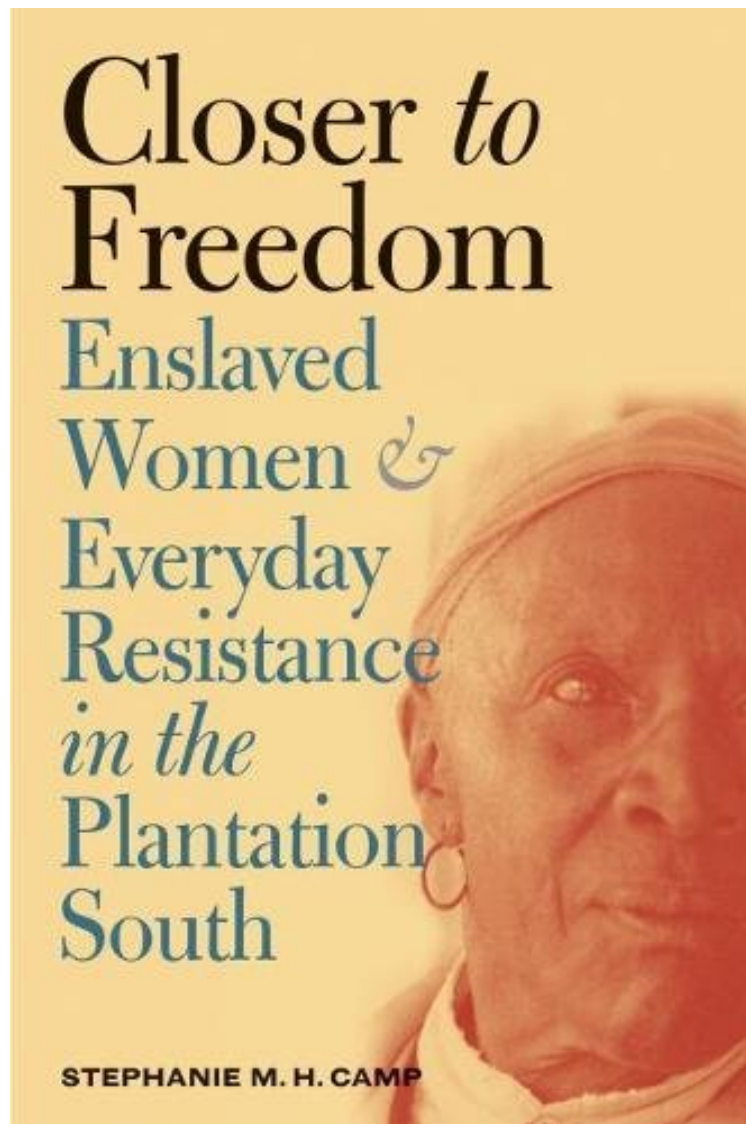


(Download pdf ebook) Closer to Freedom: Enslaved Women and Everyday Resistance in the Plantation South (Gender and American Culture)

Closer to Freedom: Enslaved Women and Everyday Resistance in the Plantation South (Gender and American Culture)

Stephanie M. H. Camp
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Stephanie M. H. Camp : Closer to Freedom: Enslaved Women and Everyday Resistance in the Plantation South (Gender and American Culture) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Closer to Freedom: Enslaved Women and Everyday Resistance in the Plantation South (Gender and American Culture):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. An excellent work that gives substance and depth to the experience ...By R JamesAn excellent work that gives substance and depth to the experience of slavery from the perspective, especially, of enslaved African women. Professor Camp's work discloses features of slavery and southern society that normally are not made explicit - humanising the enslaved in the process and connecting their efforts to the dramatic events following the Civil War.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Clarisse McClellanWonderful new integrations of southern US and African African history.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Generally good BookBy Kelly RobinsonCan be repetitive in some sections. Overall, generally a good book. Would recommend buying the paperback because the kindle version doesn't have page numbers.

Recent scholarship on slavery has explored the lives of enslaved people beyond the watchful eye of their masters. Building on this work and the study of space, social relations, gender, and power in the Old South, Stephanie Camp examines the everyday containment and movement of enslaved men and, especially, enslaved women. In her investigation of the movement of bodies, objects, and information, Camp extends our recognition of slave resistance into new arenas and reveals an important and hidden culture of opposition. Camp discusses the multiple dimensions to acts of resistance that might otherwise appear to be little more than fits of temper. She brings new depth to our understanding of the lives of enslaved women, whose bodies and homes were inevitably political arenas. Through Camp's insight, truancy becomes an act of pursuing personal privacy. Illegal parties ("frolics") become an expression of bodily freedom. And bondwomen who acquired printed abolitionist materials and posted them on the walls of their slave cabins (even if they could not read them) become the subtle agitators who inspire more overt acts. The culture of opposition created by enslaved women's acts of everyday resistance helped foment and sustain the more visible resistance of men in their individual acts of running away and in the collective action of slave revolts. Ultimately, Camp argues, the Civil War years saw revolutionary change that had been in the making for decades.

"Sensitive, bold, and imaginative, *Closer to Freedom* is the first book to place black women at the center of everyday resistance to bondage." - Douglas R. Egerton, Le Moyne College" This slim volume makes a substantial and often ingenious contribution to slavery studies and to women's and southern history. Taking pleasure seriously, studying space without getting trapped in the 'public versus private' debate, finding new information in much-mined sources, and complicating our knowledge of enslaved women's resistance are valuable in themselves. They are also potent hints at what Camp and those who follow her lead will accomplish in the coming years.--American Historical Very readable yet analytically sophisticated. . . . Camp seamlessly integrates a wide array of sources . . . into an engaging book that does more than recount women's experiences as slaves in the plantation South. . . . An excellent study of bondwomen and a penetrating look at the rival geographies created by enslaved people."-Journal of Southern HistoryThrough the lens of geography, Camp successfully introduces a new language to describe and interpret everyday resistance among enslaved women and men. Scholars interested in a different approach to this important topic will find *Closer to Freedom* refreshing.--Civil War HistoryWonderfully evocative. . . . A provocative book full of astonishing, sometimes unforgettable moments.--Virginia MagazineThe book is well written throughout, and Camp really does seem to get inside the minds of enslaved women. . . . This is a promising first book and an interesting and innovative addition to the historiography of the lives of the enslaved.--Georgia Historical QuarterlyAn appealing and creative approach to understanding everyday slave resistance.--Southern HistorianThe author's attention to a 'spatial history of American slavery' reveals contests over physical space as a hitherto unappreciated dimension of the everyday politics of plantation life. This book skillfully brings into view clandestine pockets--ephemeral but resilient--in which slave women, in particular, struggled to sustain a 'rival geography' in which powers of mastery could be held at bay.--Julie Saville, University of ChicagoStephanie Camp's brilliant study draws upon numerous fields of scholarship--feminist theory, anthropology, sociology--to produce an innovative reinterpretation of enslaved women in the plantation South. Sensitive, bold, and imaginative, *Closer to Freedom* is the first book to place black women at the center of everyday resistance to bondage.--Douglas R. Egerton, Le Moyne College This elegant and often profound monograph casts a fresh eye on the daily acts of self-preservation and disguised defiance that historians of slavery have called 'everyday resistance.' . . . Illuminating both the texture of enslaved women's lives and the concept of everyday resistance, *Closer to Freedom* is both a welcome teaching text and an accessible study for general readers.--North Carolina Historical Deepens our understanding of resistance as both an individual and collective endeavor. [Camp] argues forcefully. . . . Intriguing and interesting.--The Journal of Interdisciplinary HistoryCamp's creative and elegant work reinforces the interconnectedness of North and South, slave and free, in the lives of enslaved people.--SignsCamp has written a provocative book full of astonishing, sometimes unforgettable moments. Moreover, she has raised important questions about the way slave women resisted their owners. Ultimately no one will be able to answer the questions that Camp asks without coming to grips with the world she describes.--Virginia Magazine of History and BiographyFrom the Inside FlapFocusing on female slaves' everyday forms of resistance--such as truancy, theft, and illegal parties--Camp argues that the Civil War years saw revolutionary change that had been in the making for decades, as slaves broke

rules, spoke their minds, and ran away.