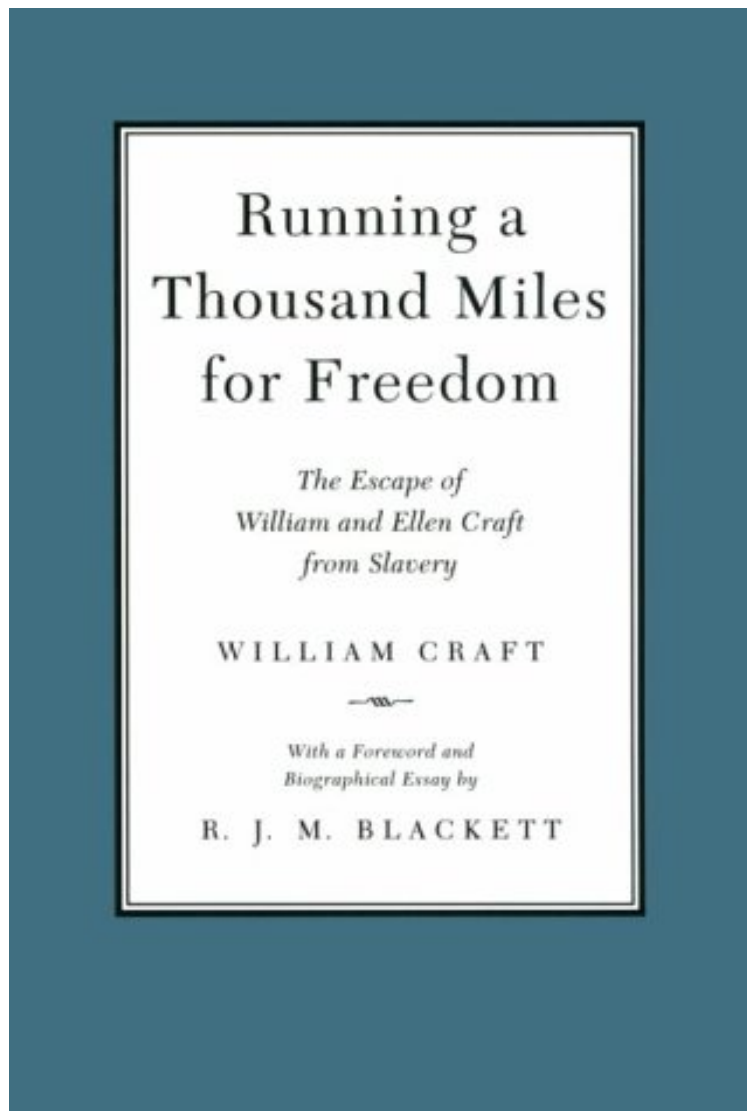


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## Running a Thousand Miles for Freedom: The Escape of William and Ellen Craft from Slavery

*William Craft*

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**William Craft : Running a Thousand Miles for Freedom: The Escape of William and Ellen Craft from Slavery** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Running a Thousand Miles for Freedom: The Escape of William and Ellen Craft from Slavery:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. THIS ONLY CONTAINS THE FIRST PART OF THE NOVEL. ...By CustomerTHIS ONLY CONTAINS THE FIRST PART OF THE NOVEL. DO NOT BUY THIS IF YOU WANT TO READ IT. SCAM SCAM SCAM!!!! (But the book itself is definitely worth reading).1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Brought Me to TearsBy Christina G. AguileraI am an elementary school teacher and I already had the children's version of this book entitled, "Two Tickets To Freedom: The True Story of William and Ellen Craft, Fugitive Slaves" by Florence B. Freedman. So I was compelled to get the original version, written in the first person by William Craft himself. Reading the account, and all the sad personal side stories that he witnessed regarding the life of slaves and the unfathomably inhumane United States laws that kept African Americans slaves, I was moved to tears, and more importantly, moved to shame that this is what our "American freedom" was founded upon. How ironic, that what early Americans fought for in the Revolution just 100 years earlier, they felt it their right, as even some ministers of the day testified, to hold another human in bondage. Craft's friend, Rev. Samuel May of Boston, said it best, "Is America the 'land of the free, and the home of the brave'? God knows it is not; and we know it too. A brave young man and a virtuous young woman must fly the American shores, and seek, under the shadow of the British throne, the enjoyment of 'life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.'" Even American President Millard Fillmore thought that Craft and his wife should be returned to slavery! I believe this personal account is a must for every teacher of history, social sciences, literature and humanities. I encourage educators all over this country to read this book and share the stark realities of our history with our students, so that this wretched institution is never, ever again repeated.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Should be required public school reading.By VoltaireShould be required public school reading. The US kept slavery long before most other countries gave it up. What does this say?

Husband and wife William and Ellen Craft's break from slavery in 1848 was perhaps the most extraordinary in American history. Numerous newspaper reports in the United States and abroad told of how the two -- fair-skinned Ellen disguised as a white slave master and William posing as her servant -- negotiated heart-pounding brushes with discovery while fleeing Macon, Georgia, for Philadelphia and eventually Boston. No account, though, conveyed the ingenuity, daring, good fortune, and love that characterized their flight for freedom better than the couple's own version, published in 1860, a remarkable authorial accomplishment only twelve years beyond illiteracy. Now their stirring first-person narrative and Richard Blackett's excellent interpretive pieces are brought together in one volume to tell the complete story of the Crafts.

Running a Thousand Miles for Freedom is the most significant fugitive slave narrative to come out of Georgia. I know of no other account that provides as riveting an account of an actual escape experience. It offers so much more in its treatment of gender and racial role-reversals, of husband-wife and master-slave relations, and of abolitionist activity on both sides of the Mason-Dixon line. (Georgia Historical Quarterly)About the AuthorRichard J. M. Blackett is the Andrew Jackson Professor of History at Vanderbilt University and the author of several books about nineteenth-century history, including *Divided Hearts: Britain and the American Civil War*.