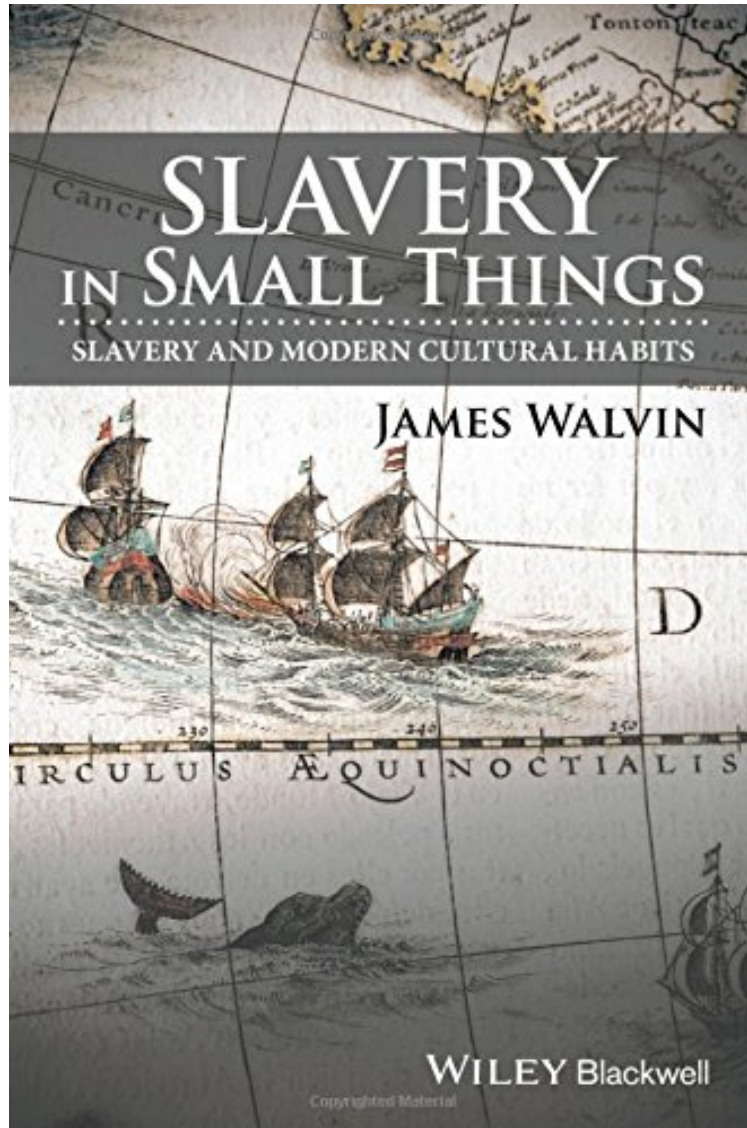


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Slavery in Small Things: Slavery and Modern Cultural Habits

James Walvin

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James Walvin : Slavery in Small Things: Slavery and Modern Cultural Habits before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Slavery in Small Things: Slavery and Modern Cultural Habits:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Everyone should read thisBy Laurie A. BrownSlavery in Small Things examines how slavery changed the world in ways that most of us don't think about- or even know about because it's ignored in textbooks. It was through slavery that cane sugar, tobacco, and cotton plantations came about.

That changed peoples dietary habits, created smoking habits all over the world, and changed how people dressed. Slavery allowed huge mahogany forests to be cut down and made into very popular furniture- furniture that started out only in the homes of the very wealthy, and now can be found in the homes of all economic strata. Cities in England changed, with factories springing up to make that cheap cotton into fabric and to forge the chains that held the slaves. Armed ports developed on the coast of Africa, where slaves from the interior were held for the disgusting slave ships to come get them. The western world economy changed because of this exploitation and torture of people. This is a short, fast read, in easy to understand language. Things did get repeated at times, almost like the chapters were first written as separate articles, but I don't think this is the case. I feel this book should be in all high school curriculum. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Important insights into the importance of slavery over the past 400 years. By Robert C Ross. This book opened my eyes to aspects of slavery that I had never considered, or even realized, even though I had done a fair amount of Civil Rights work over the years. So many of the "finer" things in life owed their creation and popularity to unpaid labor of millions of Africans -- sugar, tea, coffee, great houses in England and Europe, iron manufacture -- for ships, forts along the western coast essentially holding jails, shackles, much more. Each chapter has new insights for the main topic of the chapter. The most amazing to me was the story of the cowrie shells, created by snails in the middle of the Indian Ocean, and then carried by the barrel full to Europe and on to Africa as part of the stock in trade of slavers. The sellers of slaves accepted the shells as currency because they were light, impossible to counterfeit, beautiful, easy to display as a sign of wealth -- and all part of an amazing international trade, much more complex than the tripartite trade I was taught in high school. And, today, in Harlem, I saw cowrie shell jewelry, now no longer a symbol or currency for slavery, but apparently a symbol of Africa and African pride. Amazing book. Robert C. Ross. August 2017. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Highly recommended. By J. Arena. Insightful, penetrating examination of the slave trade in ways I had not previously examined carefully before. I highly recommend this book to anyone desiring a knowledge of this system that entrapped so many. This volume is well researched and presented in an entertaining manner.

Slavery in Small Things: Slavery and Modern Cultural Habits is the first book to explore the long-range cultural legacy of slavery through commonplace daily objects. Offers a new and original approach to the history of slavery by an acknowledged expert on the topic. Traces the relationship between slavery and modern cultural habits through an analysis of commonplace objects that include sugar, tobacco, tea, maps, portraiture, print, and more. Represents the only study that utilizes common objects to illustrate the cultural impact and legacy of the Atlantic slave trade. Makes the topic of slavery accessible to a wider public audience.

Suggestions from the author: Richard Rabinowitz, American History Workshop, 588 Seventh Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11215-3707 - CONTACTED 03/04/2017 Caryl Phillips, Dept of English, Yale University, P.O. Box 208302, New Haven, CT 06520-8302. - SENT 03/04/2017 David Blight, Gilder Lehrman Center, Yale University, P.O. Box 208206, 230 Prospect St, New Haven CT 065205-8206. - CONTACTED 03/04/2017 Professor James Horn, Director, Historic Jamestown, 1368 Colonial Parkway, Jamestown, Virginia VA 23081. Ted Maris-Wolf, Vice-President and Director of Research, Colonial Williamsburg, P.O. Box 1776, Williamsburg, VA 23185. Paul Ley, Editor, History Today, 2nd Floor, 9 Staple Inn, London WC1V 7QH - CONTACTED 03/04/2017 Rob Attar, BBC History Magazine, Tower House, Fairfax St, Bristol, BS1 3BN. - CONTACTED 03/04/2017 Professor John Oldfield, Director, Wilberforce Institute for the Study of Slavery, University of Hull, Oriel Chambers, 27 High St, Hull, HU1 1NE, UK - REVIEWED BOOK AS MANUSCRIPT Professor Gad Heuman, Editor, Slavery and Abolition, Dept of History, University of Warwick, Coventry, CV4 7VL, UK. - SENT 04/04/2017 About the Author James Walvin is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, Professor Emeritus at the University of York, and formerly a Visiting Fellow at Yale University. His books include *Black Ivory: Slavery in the British Empire*, 2E (2001); *The Trader, The Owner, The Slave: Parallel Lives in the Age of Slavery* (2007); *A Short History of Slavery* (2007); *Britain's Slave Empire* (2008); *The Zong: A Massacre, the Law and the End of Slavery* (2011); *The Slave Trade* (2011); and *Crossings: Africa, the Americas and the Atlantic Slave Trade* (2013).