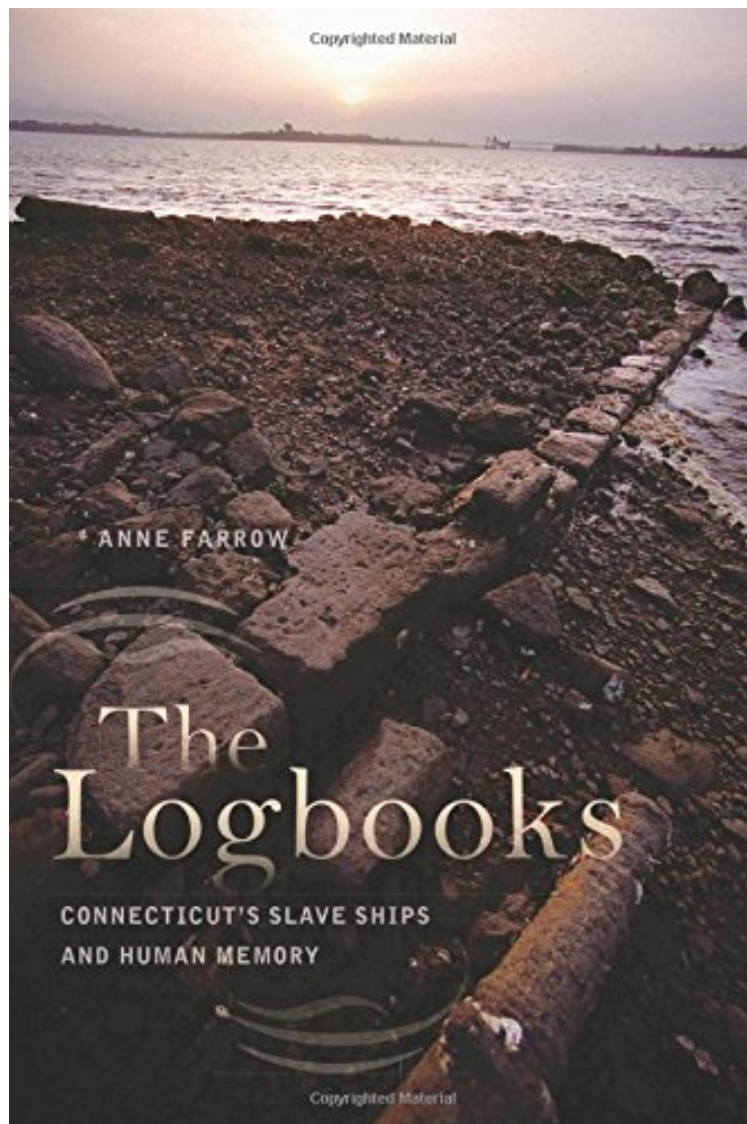


[PDF] The Logbooks: Connecticut's Slave Ships and Human Memory (The Driftless Connecticut Series Garnet Books)

## The Logbooks: Connecticut's Slave Ships and Human Memory (The Driftless Connecticut Series Garnet Books)

Anne Farrow

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Anne Farrow : The Logbooks: Connecticut's Slave Ships and Human Memory (The Driftless Connecticut Series Garnet Books) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Logbooks: Connecticut's Slave Ships and Human Memory (The Driftless Connecticut Series Garnet Books):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. What We've Forgotten about the Pre-abolitionist Acceptance of

Slave Trade and Why We Need to Start Remembering

By Gram1950 Anne Farrow takes logbooks kept by Dudley Saltonstall, a young man from a prominent Connecticut merchant family, and uses them to illustrate the cruelty of the slave trade. This Connecticut trader thought of his captives as he did any other item he transported for profits and had no shame and felt no remorse. Saltonstall was commercially successful. Slave sales helped springboard the family to the upper strata of American wealth. Ms. Farrow's point in writing the book is that America has forgotten how integral slavery was to our economy and growth. She uses her mother's Alzheimers as a metaphor for our flawed memory of slavery. Ms. Farrow argues that modern racism is a legacy from our unwillingness to honestly face what we as a nation did to captive people for money.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. This is a remarkable book!

By Occidental Tourist I read this book straight through -- except for the times when I had to stop and let what I had read flow over me in waves of sorrow and amazement. Ms Farrow is a beautifully effective writer with a deep understanding of what lies at the heart of our history and an unusually moving willingness to let us into the heart of her exploration of it and life. If you wonder why anyone today should think about slavery, read this book. If it is a topic that has concerned you all your life, read this book.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This book reads like a memoir.

By Customer Fascinating and well researched, this book reads like a memoir, both of the author's and the slave trader's son who kept the logs. I loved that she wove her mother's loss of memory into the book, relating it to our collective loss of memory as a nation. Anyone interested in the slave trade or American history should read this book.

In 1757, a sailing ship owned by an affluent Connecticut merchant sailed from New London to the tiny island of Bence in Sierra Leone, West Africa, to take on fresh water and slaves. On board was the owner's son, on a training voyage to learn the trade. *The Logbooks* explores that voyage, and two others documented by that young man, to unearth new realities of Connecticut's slave trade and question how we could have forgotten this part of our past so completely. When writer Anne Farrow discovered the significance of the logbooks for the Africa and two other ships in 2004, her mother had been recently diagnosed with dementia. As Farrow bore witness to the impact of memory loss on her mother's sense of self, she also began a journey into the world of the logbooks and the Atlantic slave trade, eventually retracing part of the Africa's long-ago voyage to Sierra Leone. As the narrative unfolds in *The Logbooks*, Farrow explores the idea that if our history is incomplete, then collectively we have forgotten who we are a loss that is in some ways similar to what her mother experienced. Her meditations are well rounded with references to the work of writers, historians, and psychologists. Fortright, well researched, and warmly recounted, Farrow's writing is that of a novelist, with an eye for detail. Using a wealth of primary sources, she paints a vivid picture of the eighteenth-century Connecticut slavers. The multiple narratives combine in surprising and effective ways to make this an intimate confrontation with the past, and a powerful meditation on how slavery still affects us.

A powerful story, heartbreaking, revealing, and redemptive. *The Logbooks* invites us to join a voyage of discovery into the triangles of the trans-Atlantic slave trade a deeply personal and empathetic exploration of history, memory, and identity. To lose our grasp on the past, Farrow reminds us, is to become unmoored from our selves.

John Wood Sweet,  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill