

# Harriet Tubman : The Woman Who Changed Slavery



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BLST 103



# Early Life of Harriet Tubman

- Harriet Tubman was born in the year 1820 (Harriet Tubman Timeline)
- Her birth name was Araminta Ross
- Born into slavery by her parents Harriet Green, and Benjamin Ross.
- At the age of 6 she began her work as a slave (Michals 2015)
- She was sent by her master to work for other slave masters
- At a young age Harriet was whipped and beaten for breaking rules that her masters set



# Signs Of Rebellion

- Harriet showed signs of her rebellion to slavery early as her pre teen years
- Around the age of 12 she intervened to keep her master from beating a runaway slave
- Because of this incident she developed chronic headaches and narcolepsy which would affect her for the rest of her life. (Michals 2015)
- Later on at the age of 25 she changed her name to Harriet to honor her mother and she got married to John Tubman which led her to change her last name. (Harriet Tubman Timeline)
- Around her mid 20s she began her work freeing slaves.



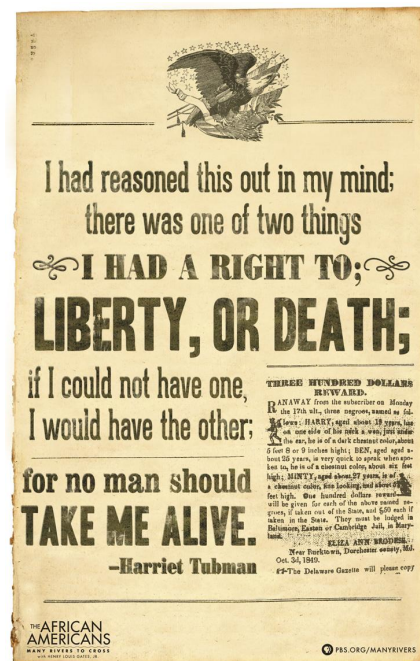
# Her Work of Freeing Slaves

- Harriet Tubman was known as the “Moses of Her People”.
- She is known across American history for freeing enslaved African Americans.
- It is said that she had freed more than 300 slaves and had never lost a slave.
- She used an Underground Railroad made by past abolitionists. (Michals 2015)
- She became an official underground railroad conductor in 1850 (Harriet Tubman Timeline)



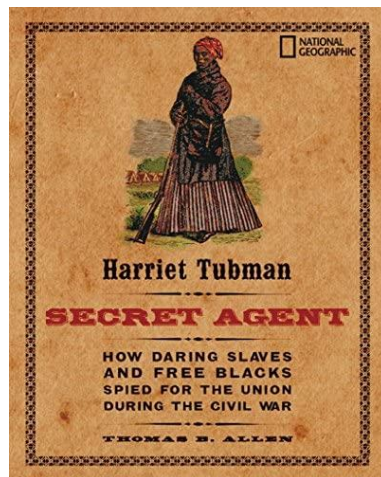
# Challenges Of Freeing Slaves

- Because many slaves were being freed the 1850 Fugitive Act was passed. (Harriet Tubman Timeline)
- This allowed slaves to be captured and put into slavery.
- This made her job much harder as she had to lead newly freed slaves up to Canada.
- She was at a high risk of being captured as well and had a wanted poster for \$40,000 dead or alive. (History Editors 2009)
- Harriet would carry a gun to protect herself from slave catchers. (History 2009)



# Other Notable Works of Harriet Tubman

- Harriet Tubman was a well known nurse during the Civil War in 1861 (Harriet Tubman Timeline)
- She used her knowledge of herbal remedies to help sick and injured soldiers
- She also worked as a spy for the Union
- She was responsible for gathering up information and sending that intel to commanders in the war.



# Life After her Notable Works

- After the war Harriet was recognized and awarded by the U.S Government for her acts against slavery.
- She later settled down in Auburn New York
- Remarried to former slave and civil war verteran Nelson Davis (Harriet Tubman Timeline)
- She also helped other African Americans start their new lives by raising money. (Michals 2015)



# How Harriet Tubman is remembered Today

- Harriet Tubman is remembered today through the stories told by others.
- There are also statues to acknowledge her great work
- Many artifacts that relate to Harriet were also put into museums
- Harriet's work also inspired others inspired many people on different levels.
- Artifacts like her personal hymnal was put into a museum to show her legacy.
- Because of her work she is also possibly being put on the \$20 bill.





# Course Context Relation

- Harriet Tubman is seen as a strong black woman along with many other black women in history
- Some black women that have the same characteristics as Harriet Tubman are the Women in Pre-Colonial Africa
- In the book *Generation X* women in traditional Africa were very important to their communities and were seen as leaders
- In the book “*ain't I woman*” it also talks about Bell Hooks and her fight for civil rights.
- She also shows the same characteristics as Harriet Tubman

# Conclusion

- Harriet Tubman has shown that she is of the most heroic and brave figures in America History
- As the course is at its end, I have learned that black women in history have been fighting a long battle to just have equal rights and opportunities
- This course has taught me to appreciate black women in society more
- The struggle that black women have gone through is unimaginable and we should be grateful that we have strong black women in society.

# Harriet Tubman Video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1OF4C2CQac4&t=29s>

# Sources

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