

# Harriet Jacobs And Incidents In The Life Of A Slave Girl

## New Critical Essays

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Explore new critical essays on Harriet Jacobs' iconic slave narrative, 'Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl,' offering fresh academic perspectives. This collection delves into themes of freedom, resistance, gender, and the enduring legacy of Jacobs' autobiography, providing insightful literary analysis for scholars and enthusiasts alike.

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### Harriet Jacobs and Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl

This is a far-ranging study which contextualises both the historical figure of Harriet Jacobs and her autobiography as a created work of art.

### Harriet Jacobs: Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl

This eBook edition of "Harriet Jacobs: Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl" has been formatted to the highest digital standards and adjusted for readability on all devices. "Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl" is an autobiography by a young mother and fugitive slave Harriet Ann Jacobs. Jacobs contributed to the genre of slave narrative by using the techniques of sentimental novels "to address race and gender issues." She explores the struggles and sexual abuse that female slaves faced on plantations as well as their efforts to practice motherhood and protect their children when their children might be sold away. Harriet Ann Jacobs (1813 – 1897) was an African-American writer who escaped from slavery and was later freed. She became an abolitionist speaker and reformer.

### Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl

Harriet Jacobs's slave narrative is remarkable for its candid exposure of the sexual abuse suffered by slaves at the hands of their owners. Her sufferings, and eventual escape to the North, are described in vivid detail. This edition also includes her brother's short memoir, 'A True Tale of Slavery'.

### Mastering Slavery

Studies the deployment of psychologically coded strategies of remembering and representing in slave narratives by women. After a discussion of psychoanalytic theory, chapters compare the ways in which Lydia Maria Child and Harriet Beecher Stowe dealt with their anxieties over interracial sisterhood, analyze the identity of the black self in a white world in Elizabeth Keckley's autobiography, and look at

socially forbidden aggression in slave narratives. Annotation copyright by Book News, Inc., Portland, OR

### Harriet Jacobs: Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl

"There is something akin to freedom in having a lover who has no control over you, except that which he gains by kindness and attachment" Harriet Ann Jacobs, *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*

### Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl

Reader be assured this narrative is no fiction. I am aware that some of my adventures may seem incredible; but they are, nevertheless, strictly true. I have not exaggerated the wrongs inflicted by Slavery; on the contrary, my descriptions fall far short of the facts. I have concealed the names of places, and given persons fictitious names. I had no motive for secrecy on my own account, but I deemed it kind and considerate towards others to pursue this course. "I wish I were more competent to the task I have undertaken. But I trust my readers will excuse deficiencies in consideration of circumstances. I was born and reared in Slavery; and I remained in a Slave State twenty-seven years."

### Incidents in the life of a Slave Girl by Harriet Jacobs

Essay from the year 2013 in the subject English - Literature, Works, grade: 1,7, Humboldt-University of Berlin (Anglistik und Amerikanistik), course: American Literary History, language: English, abstract: Harriet Jacobs "Incidents in the life of a slave girl" was published in 1861. Harriet Jacobs tells us her story from her perspective as somebody born as a slave. "The pseudonymous narrator, Linda Brent, is caught between the brutal, exploitative bonds of slavery and the idealized, altruistic bonds of true womanhood." (Sherman, 167). Harriet Jacobs was "the first American woman known to have authored a slave narrative in the United States [...]." (Jacobs, 804). Through Harriet Jacob's story one can gain a deep insight into the hard life and into the soul and feelings of Harriet Jacobs as Linda Brent. One can learn a lot about courage, bravery, willpower and determination – briefly speaking: about a strong girl/woman who never gave up.

### Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl

"Northerners know nothing at all about Slavery. They think it is perpetual bondage only. They have no conception of the depth of degradation involved in that word, SLAVERY; if they had, they would never cease their efforts until so horrible a system was overthrown." *A Woman Of North Carolina*. "Rise up, ye women that are at ease! Hear my voice, ye careless daughters! Give ear unto my speech." *Isaiah xxxii. 9*. This volume of Harriet Jacobs' "Slave Girl" is number 3 in the Black History Series. It is printed on high quality paper with a durable cover.

### Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl

Although generally ignored by critics who often dismissed Jacobs' *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*, as a fictionalized account of slavery, the work is heralded today as the first book-length narrative by an ex-slave that reveals the unique brutalities inflicted on enslaved women. As such, it is often cited as the counterpart to the *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave, Written by Himself*. Harriet Ann Jacobs, using the pen name Linda Brent, originally published this important narrative in 1861. Written from her personal experiences, Jacobs puts forth a harrowing and in depth chronological account of her life as a slave and highlights the decisions and choices she made to gain freedom for herself and her children. The account of her life and her frank narrative style makes this a truly compelling read.

### CliffsNotes on Jacobs' Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl

The original CliffsNotes study guides offer expert commentary on major themes, plots, characters, literary devices, and historical background. The latest generation of titles in this series also feature glossaries and visual elements that complement the classic, familiar format. With help from CliffsNotes on *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*, you explore the first book-length narrative by an ex-slave that reveals the unique brutalities inflicted on enslaved African women in the South. The chapter summaries and commentaries in this study guide expose you to a harrowing story of degradation and sexual exploitation; the struggle for freedom and self-definition; community and family; and writing as a means of freedom. Other features that help you study include An in-depth look at the life of the author,

Harriet A. Jacobs Character analyses of major players A character map that graphically illustrates the relationships among the characters Critical essays Glossaries of key words and terms A review section that tests your knowledge Classic literature or modern-day treasure—you'll understand it all with expert information and insight from CliffsNotes study guides.

#### Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl, Written by Herself

Harriet A. Jacobs's *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl, Written by Herself* is the most important narrative written by a former female slave in antebellum America. Published in 1861 and under the penname of Linda Brent, the book is a powerful indictment on black women's exploitation in America. "Slavery is terrible for men, but it is far more terrible for women," declares Jacobs before describing the degradation of slavery and the sexual oppression she experienced as a black woman.

#### Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl

Reprint of the original, first published in 1861.

#### Essay on Harriet Jacobs Autobiography *Incidents of a Slave Girl*. How Was Linda's Family Affected by Slavery?

Essay from the year 2010 in the subject American Studies - Literature, grade: 1,2, University of Frankfurt (Main), language: English, abstract: This essay on Harriet Jacobs autobiography *Incidents of a Slave girl* looks at how Linda Brent's family, who is the protagonist in the story, is affected by her life as a slave. Harriet Jacobs uses the pseudonym Linda Brent for herself in her autobiography written in 1861. Pseudonyms are also used throughout the narrative to describe the other characters in the book. Linda's mistress, the daughter of her grandmothers mistress was nourished from Aunt Martha's (grandmother's) breast as well as Linda's mother. The young mistress was the foster sister of Linda, they spend their childhood together and played together as if they were normal siblings. By the age of six, from the talk around her Linda learns as a child that she is a slave. So when Linda gets older she has to serve her foster sister and the relationship changes. Linda in some cases at first grew up very privileged compared to other slaves. By her mistress she is taught to read and to write. For those reasons Linda mentions that she tries not to be angry at her mistress when she dies and still leaves Linda in the status as a slave."

#### Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl

"*Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*" is an autobiography by a young mother and fugitive slave Harriet Ann Jacobs. Jacobs contributed to the genre of slave narrative by using the techniques of sentimental novels "to address race and gender issues." She explores the struggles and sexual abuse that female slaves faced on plantations as well as their efforts to practice motherhood and protect their children when their children might be sold away. Harriet Ann Jacobs (1813 – 1897) was an African-American writer who escaped from slavery and was later freed. She became an abolitionist speaker and reformer.

#### Harriet Jacobs - *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*

Essay from the year 2009 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies - Literature, grade: 1,0, Bielefeld University (Anglistik: British and American Studies), course: "It's Moe, the White Slave" - Slave and Neo-Slave Narratives, language: English, abstract: "*Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*" (1861) by Harriet Jacobs is a multilayered slave narrative, it concerns many major subjects like the violent, regardless behaviour of white middle class women towards slaves in the U.S. South during the antebellum years as well as the peculiar institution and social cohesion within the family. But in this essay I will concentrate on gender and race conventions and the protagonist's struggle of gaining true womanhood. First I will examine what true womanhood is and how it developed. Ongoing I will also analyse these conventions in relation to Linda Brent, the protagonist of Harriet Jacobs' autobiographical narrative, and other characters having an influence on Linda. As a last point I will examine the author's intention to stress the ideal woman.

#### Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl (Hero Classics)

Part of the Hero Classics series Reader, did you ever hate? I hope not. I never did but once; and I trust I never shall again. Somebody has called it "the atmosphere of hell"; and I believe it is so. First published in 1861 under a pseudonym, this is the autobiography of Harriet Jacobs, a mother, fugitive and slave.

The book outlines her life, the struggles she faced as a female slave as well as the hardship she endured to protect her children and the fear of them being sold. As well as a precious historical document, it is also a timeless exploration of issues of race, gender and the struggle for freedom. The Hero Classics series: *Meditations The Prophet A Room of One's Own Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl The Art of War The Life of Charlotte Bronte The Republic The Prince Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave*

#### Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl

The unflinching nineteenth-century autobiography that broke the silence on the psychosexual exploitation of Black women—with an introduction by Tiya Miles, author of *All That She Carried* and National Book Award finalist “[A] crowning achievement . . . [Jacobs] remodeled the forms of the black slave narrative and the white female sentimental novel to create a new literary form—a narrative at once black and female.” —Henry Louis Gates, Jr., *The New York Times* In clear and unshrinking prose, Harriet Jacobs—writing under the pseudonym Linda Brent—relates the story of her girlhood and adolescence as a slave in North Carolina and her eventual escape: a bildungsroman set in the complex terrain of a chauvinist, white supremacist society. Resolutely addressing women readers, rather than men, *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* seeks to make white women understand how the threat of sexual violence shapes the lives of enslaved Black women and children. Equal parts brave and searing, *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* is a triumph of American literature. The Modern Library Torchbearers series features women who wrote on their own terms, with boldness, creativity, and a spirit of resistance. AMERICAN INDIAN STORIES • THE AWAKENING • THE CUSTOM OF THE COUNTRY • THE HEADS OF CERBERUS • LADY AUDLEY'S SECRET • LOVE, ANGER, MADNESS • PASSING • THE RETURN OF THE SOLDIER • THERE IS CONFUSION • THE TRANSFORMATION OF PHILIP JETTAN • VILLETTE

#### Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl

The slave narrative has become a crucial genre within African American literary studies and an invaluable record of the experience and history of slavery in the United States. This Companion examines the slave narrative's relation to British and American abolitionism, Anglo-American literary traditions such as autobiography and sentimental literature, and the larger African American literary tradition. Special attention is paid to leading exponents of the genre such as Olaudah Equiano, Frederick Douglass and Harriet Jacobs, as well as many other, less well known examples. Further essays explore the rediscovery of the slave narrative and its subsequent critical reception, as well as the uses to which the genre is put by modern authors such as Toni Morrison. With its chronology and guide to further reading, the Companion provides both an easy entry point for students new to the subject and comprehensive coverage and original insights for scholars in the field.

#### The Cambridge Companion to the African American Slave Narrative

This Prestwick House Literary Touchstone Classic includes a glossary and reader's notes to help the modern reader appreciate Jacobs' perspectives and language. DRIVEN BY THE HORRORS of slavery and fear of a predatory master, Harriet Jacobs, a young black woman, makes the fateful, life-altering decision to escape. Long thought to be the work of a white writer, *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* is the captivating and terrifying story of Jacobs' daily life on a plantation in North Carolina, her seven years of hiding, and her ultimate triumph. Jacobs wrote her autobiography in 1861, under a pseudonym to protect the lives of the friends and family she left behind, and the work had been essentially lost until the mid-twentieth century. Now recognized as a classic, unflinching portrait of slave life, *Incidents* exposes slavery on a level comparable only to that of *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*.

#### Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl - Literary Touchstone Classic

This Squid Ink Classic includes the full text of the work plus MLA style citations for scholarly secondary sources, peer-reviewed journal articles and critical essays for when your teacher requires extra resources in MLA format for your research paper.

#### Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl

""Contexts" includes contemporary responses to *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* by William C. Nell and Lydia Maria Child, among others; twelve related letters and articles by Jacobs published in news-

papers during the period from 1853 to 1868; and documents tracing Jacobs's life and achievements as a free woman, including her establishment of a school in Alexandria, Virginia."

### Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl

These autobiographies of Afro-American ex-slaves comprise the largest body of literature produced by slaves in human history. The book consists of three sections: selected reviews of slave narratives, dating from 1750 to 1861; essays examining how such narratives serve as historical material; and essays exploring the narratives as literary artifacts.

### The Slave's Narrative

Harriet Jacobs's *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* is one of the most compelling accounts of slavery and one of the most unique of the one hundred or so slave narratives -- mostly written by men -- published before the Civil War. The child and grandchild of slaves -- and therefore forbidden by law to read and write -- Harriet Jacobs was defiant in her efforts to gain freedom and to document her experience in bondage. She suffered physical and sexual abuse at the hands of her master at the age of eleven. In 1842, she fled North and joined a circle of abolitionists that worked for Frederick Douglass's newspaper. In 1863, she and her daughter moved to Alexandria, Virginia, where they organized medical care for Civil War victims and established the Jacobs Free School.

### Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl

*Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*, written by herself is an autobiography by Harriet Jacobs, a mother and fugitive slave, published in 1861 by L. Maria Child, who edited the book for its author. Jacobs used the pseudonym Linda Brent. The book documents Jacobs's life as a slave and how she gained freedom for herself and for her children. Jacobs contributed to the genre of slave narrative by using the techniques of sentimental novels "to address race and gender issues." [1] She explores the struggles and sexual abuse that female slaves faced as well as their efforts to practice motherhood and protect their children when their children might be sold away. In the book, Jacobs addresses white Northern women who fail to comprehend the evils of slavery. She makes direct appeals to their humanity to expand their knowledge and influence their thoughts about slavery as an institution. Jacobs composed *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* after her escape to New York, while living and working at Idlewild, the home of writer and publisher Nathaniel Parker Willis.

### Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl Illustrated

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### Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl (EasyRead Edition)

*Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*, written by herself is an autobiography by a young mother and fugitive slave published in 1861 by L. Maria Child, who edited the book for its author, Harriet Ann Jacobs. Jacobs used the pseudonym Linda Brent. The book documents Jacobs's life as a slave and how she gained freedom for herself and for her children. Jacobs contributed to the genre of slave narrative by using the techniques of sentimental novels "to address race and gender issues." She explores the struggles and sexual abuse that female slaves faced on plantations as well as their efforts to practice motherhood and protect their children when their children might be sold away. In the book, Jacobs addresses white Northern women who fail to comprehend the evils of slavery. She makes direct appeals to their humanity to expand their knowledge and influence their thoughts about slavery as an institution. Jacobs began composing *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* after her escape to New York, while living and working at Idlewild, the Hudson River home of writer and publisher Nathaniel Parker Willis. [2] Portions of her journals were published in serial form in the New-York Tribune, owned and edited by Horace Greeley. Jacobs's reports of sexual abuse were deemed too shocking for the average newspaper reader of the day, and publication ceased before the completion of the narrative.

## Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl, Written by Herself

Reprint of the original, first published in 1859. The publishing house Anatiposi publishes historical books as reprints. Due to their age, these books may have missing pages or inferior quality. Our aim is to preserve these books and make them available to the public so that they do not get lost.

### Our Nig

Differentiated book- It has a historical context with research of the time. Incidents in the life of a slave, written by herself, is an autobiography of Harriet Ann Jacobs, a young mother and runaway slave, published in 1861 by L. Maria Child, who edited the book for its author. Jacobs used the nickname Linda Brent. The book documents Jacobs' life as a slave and how she obtained freedom for her and her children. Jacobs contributed to the slave narrative genre by using the techniques of sentimental novels "to address issues of race and gender." She explores the struggles and sexual abuse that the slaves face in the plantations as well as their efforts to practice motherhood and protect their children when their children can be sold. In the book, Jacobs addresses white women in the north who do not understand the evils of slavery. She makes a direct call to her humanity to expand her knowledge and influence her thoughts about slavery as an institution. Jacobs began composing Incidents in a slave's life after her escape to New York, while living and working at Idlewild, the home of writer and editor Nathaniel Parker Willis on the Hudson River. Some parts of his diaries were published in series in the New-York Tribune, owned and edited by Horace Greeley. Jacobs' reports of sexual abuse were considered too shocking for the average newspaper reader of the day, and the publication ceased before the narration was completed.

### Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl (Annotated)

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### Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl

As Linda Brent, the book's heroine and narrator, Harriet Jacobs recounts the history of her family and recalls the degradation of slavery.

### Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl

Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl is an autobiography by Harriet Jacobs, a young mother and fugitive slave. The book documents Jacobs' life as a slave and how she gained freedom for herself and for her children. She explores the struggles and sexual abuse that female slaves faced on plantations as well as their efforts to practice motherhood and protect their families when their children might be sold away. Harriet Jacobs contributed to the genre of slave narratives by using the techniques of sentimental novels to address race and gender issues. In the book, Jacobs addresses white Northern women who fail to comprehend the evils of slavery. She makes direct appeals to their humanity to expand their knowledge and influence their thoughts about slavery as an institution. The book's publication in 1861 coincided with the start of the American Civil War, attracting some attention as it addressed themes highlighted by the abolitionist movement. This cloth-bound book includes a Victorian inspired dust-jacket, and is limited to 100 copies.

### Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl (100 Copy Collector's Edition)

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### Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl

*Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*, written by herself is an autobiography by Harriet Jacobs, a mother and fugitive slave, published in 1861 by L. Maria Child, who edited the book for its author. Jacobs used the pseudonym Linda Brent. The book documents Jacobs's life as a slave and how she gained freedom for herself and for her children. Jacobs contributed to the genre of slave narrative by using the techniques of sentimental novels "to address race and gender issues." She explores the struggles and sexual abuse that female slaves faced as well as their efforts to practice motherhood and protect their children when their children might be sold away. In the book, Jacobs addresses white Northern women who fail to comprehend the evils of slavery. She makes direct appeals to their humanity to expand their knowledge and influence their thoughts about slavery as an institution. Jacobs composed *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* after her escape to New York, while living and working at Idlewild, the home of writer and publisher Nathaniel Parker Willis. Harriet Jacobs was born into slavery in Edenton, North Carolina in 1813. When she was a child, her mistress taught her to read and write, skills that were extremely rare among slaves. At twelve years old, she fell into the hands of an abusive owner who harassed her sexually. When he threatened to sell her children, she hid in a tiny crawlspace under the roof of her grandmother's house. After staying there for seven years, spending much of her time reading the Bible and also newspapers, she finally managed to escape to New York in 1842. Her brother, John S. Jacobs, who had also managed to escape from slavery, became more and more involved with the abolitionists led by William Lloyd Garrison, going on several anti-slavery lecturing tours from 1847 onwards.[4] In 1849/50, Harriet Jacobs helped her brother running the Anti-Slavery Office and Reading Room in Rochester, New York, being in close contact with abolitionists and feminists like Frederick Douglass and Amy and Isaac Post. During that time she had the opportunity to read abolitionist literature and become acquainted with anti-slavery theory. In her autobiography she describes the effects of this period in her life: "The more my mind had become enlightened, the more difficult it was for me to consider myself an article of property." Urged by her brother and by Amy Post, she started to write her autobiography in 1853, finishing the manuscript in 1858. During that time she was working as a nanny for the children of N. P. Willis. Still, she didn't find a publisher until 1860, when Thayer & Eldridge agreed to publish her manuscript and initiated her contact with Lydia Maria Child, who became the editor of the book, which was finally published in January 1861.

### Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl

Although millions of African American women were held in bondage over the 250 years that slavery was legal in the United States, Harriet Jacobs (1813-97) is the only one known to have left papers testifying to her life. Her autobiography, *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*, holds a central place in the canon of American literature as the most important slave narrative by an African American woman. Born in Edenton, North Carolina, Jacobs escaped from her owner in her mid-twenties and hid in the cramped attic crawlspace of her grandmother's house for seven years before making her way north as a fugitive slave. In Rochester, New York, she became an active abolitionist, working with all of the major abolitionists, feminists, and literary figures of her day, including Frederick Douglass, Lydia Maria Child, Amy Post, William Lloyd Garrison, Susan B. Anthony, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Fanny Fern, William C. Nell, Charlotte Forten Grimke, and Nathan Parker Willis. Jean Fagan Yellin has devoted much of her professional life to illuminating the remarkable life of Harriet Jacobs. Over three decades of painstaking research, Yellin has discovered more than 900 primary source documents, approximately 300 of which are now collected in two volumes. These letters and papers written by, for, and about Jacobs and her activist brother and daughter provide for the thousands of readers of *Incidents*--from scholars to schoolchildren--access to the rich historical context of Jacobs's struggles against slavery, racism, and sexism beyond what she reveals in her pseudonymous narrative. Accompanied by a CD

containing a searchable PDF file of the entire contents, this collection is a crucial launching point for future scholarship on Jacobs's life and times.

### Life of a Slave Girl

"Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl" is an autobiography by a young mother and fugitive slave Harriet Ann Jacobs. Jacobs contributed to the genre of slave narrative by using the techniques of sentimental novels "to address race and gender issues." She explores the struggles and sexual abuse that female slaves faced on plantations as well as their efforts to practice motherhood and protect their children when their children might be sold away. \_x000D\_ Harriet Ann Jacobs (1813 – 1897) was an African-American writer who escaped from slavery and was later freed. She became an abolitionist speaker and reformer.

### The Harriet Jacobs Family Papers

"Harriet Jacobs's 1861 autobiography was the first written narrative by a female slave in America. Using the pseudonym Linda, Jacobs recounts the horrors of her life as a slave and a mother. She documents the physical and sexual abuse she went through prior to her escape from slavery and gaining freedom for herself and two children."--Provided by publisher

### Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl

Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl, written by herself is an autobiography by Harriet Jacobs, a mother and fugitive slave, published in 1861 by L. Maria Child, who edited the book for its author. Jacobs used the pseudonym Linda Brent

### Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl (AmazonClassics Edition)

Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl is an autobiography by a young mother and fugitive slave published in 1861 by L. Maria Child, who edited the book for its author, Harriet Ann Jacobs. Jacobs used the pseudonym Linda Brent. The book documents Jacobs' life as a slave and how she gained freedom for herself and for her children. Jacobs contributed to the genre of slave narrative by using the techniques of sentimental novels "to address race and gender issues." She explores the struggles and sexual abuse that female slaves faced on plantations as well as their efforts to practice motherhood and protect their children when their children might be sold away. Jacobs' book is addressed to white women in the North who do not fully comprehend the evils of slavery. She makes direct appeals to their humanity to expand their knowledge and influence their thoughts about slavery as an institution. Jacobs began composing Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl after her escape to New York, while living and working at Idlewild, the Hudson River home of writer and publisher Nathaniel Parker Willis. Portions of her journals were published in serial form in the New-York Tribune, owned and edited by Horace Greeley. Jacobs' reports of sexual abuse were deemed too shocking for the average newspaper reader of the day, and publication ceased before the completion of the narrative. Boston publishing house Phillips and Samson agreed to print the work in book form if Jacobs could convince Willis or abolitionist author Harriet Beecher Stowe to provide a preface. She refused to ask Willis for help and Stowe never responded to her request. The Phillips and Samson company closed. Jacobs eventually signed an agreement with the Thayer & Eldridge publishing house, and they requested a preface by abolitionist Lydia Maria Child, who agreed. Child also edited the book, and the company introduced her to Jacobs. The two women remained in contact for much of their remaining lives. Thayer & Eldridge, however, declared bankruptcy before the narrative could be published.

### Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl

Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl, Written by Herself by Harriet A. Jacobs