Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe (1851)

Uncle Tom's Cabin is one of the most important American books of the 19th Century and for that matter in all of American Literature. It was written by an abolitionist evangelical Christian in 1850, at the height of the slavery debate. It was a politically tense issue much like abortion and immigration are today… You will be intrigued by the story of human tragedy and human triumph. Our goal is to read 200 pages by next week. This book will be immensely important in connecting you in real ways to the history of our country. It is a challenging task and you will need to put significant focused effort in completing this challenge. Reading this book will be a rewarding experience and you won't regret it; the message will last a lifetime. Although Uncle Tom's Cabin does have some serious legitimate criticism and is significantly controversial, as in the past, it remains controversial in our time, it is an incredible reading experience and I hope you accept the challenge and do your best to read it.

There is some disturbing language in this book, most notably the "N" word is widely used. Do not say the "N" word out loud as it is extremely offensive. If this book creates a reaction in you, have courage. Think of it as a former reality which will give you great insight into our collective past. There are terrible scenes of abuse, tragedy oozes from every chapter. There are also numerous references to Christian teachings and there are a great number of positive examples of humanity and moral strength. Like all things in history and life, things are complicated and we have the eternal struggle of good and evil portrayed in greatest detail.

It portrays the diversity of American Slavery

It portrays diverse attitudes toward American Slavery.

It portrays diverse treatment and lifestyle in American Slavery.

It portrays the moral arguments associated with American Slavery. (both pro-slavery arguments and anti-slavery arguments.)

Focus on the characters in each chapter, as you are carefully reading, you will be able to identify a tremendous amount of detail about the characters.

Plan on outlining the actions/thoughts/emotions/motivations/events/context of the main characters. (these will be characters in each chapter.)

WE will read in class and discuss elements.

You will take notes and be monitored for comprehension, page numbers are essential

You will annotate and be expected to know references in each chapter…

Identify quotes that cause a reaction or are significant to you and the story or the characters

Vocabulary, vocabulary, vocabulary!!! It will be new and with lots of difficulty, lots of context specific wording… struggle, look stuff up, ask questions, you will learn a ton if you simply try to understand the words and the story.

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Writing Prompt

1. Uncle Tom's Cabin portrays the diversity of American Slavery, which means there were varying slave "experiences'. How does Harriet Beecher Stowe show the diversity of the slave experience?
    a. Identify at least 3 examples from the text.

2. Uncle Tom's Cabin portrays diverse attitudes toward American Slavery. Explain these two perspectives referencing the text… Pro-slavery Southerners and Anti-Slavery Northerners. How does each perspective manifest in the text?
    a. Which characters reflect these attitudes and cite examples from the text.

3. Uncle Tom's Cabin portrays the moral (including religious elements) arguments associated with American Slavery.
    a. Identify these contradictory elements and explain how they are represented in the text.

Themes:
Christianity, Morality, bias, family, sacrifice, loyalty, trickery, servitude, heroism, charity, goodness, humanity, suffering, atrocity, tragedy, love, race
4 Part Reading Structure

Part 1 Chapters 1-5

Part 2 Chapters 6-10

Part 3 Chapters 11-16

Part 4 Chapters 28-36

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Online Book http://www.literatureproject.com/uncle-toms-cabin/

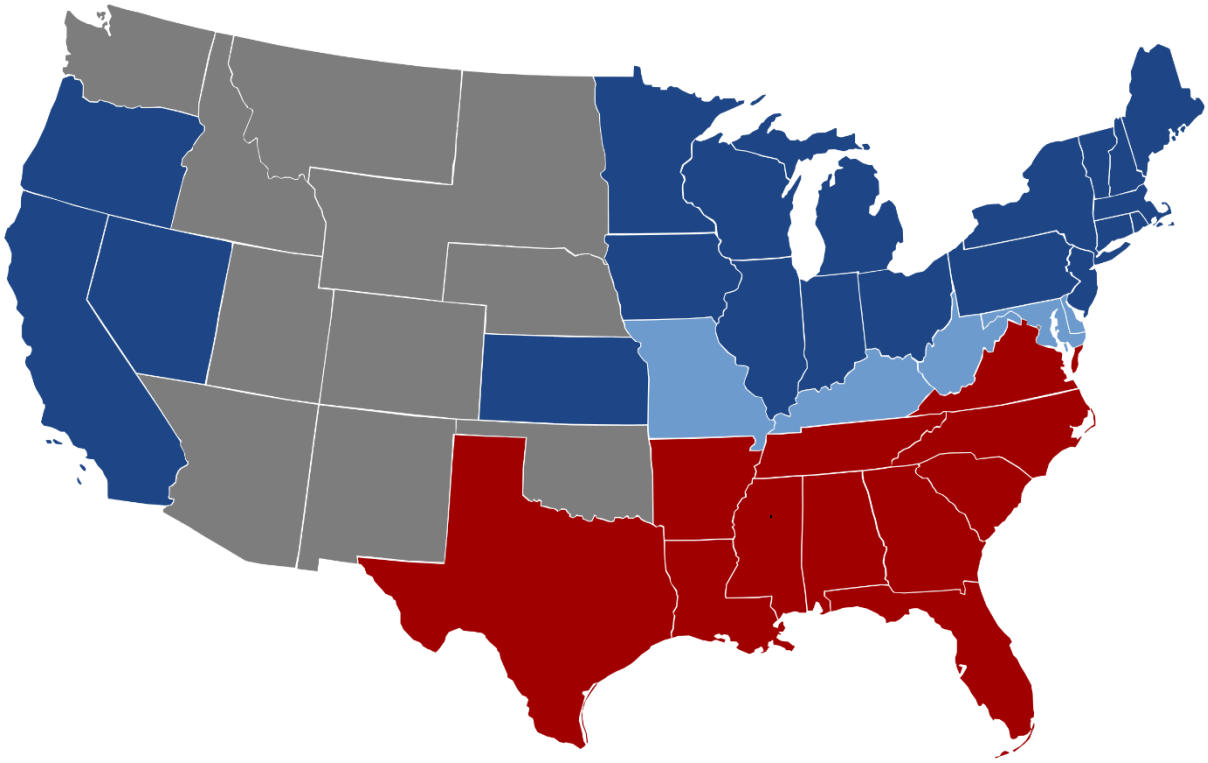
Preface:

Lots of Christian messaging of moral duty, good will to man…

Significant condescension and racist attitudes reflected in the preface. The scenes of this story… lie among a race hitherto ignored by … polite and refined society… exotic race… born beneath a tropic sun… brought with them… a character so essentially unlike the hard and dominant Anglo-Saxon race…" (XVII)

"The object of these sketches is to awaken sympathy and feeling for the African race… to show their wrongs and sorrows, under a system so necessarily cruel and unjust…" (XVIII)

Chapter 1 "A Man of Humanity"



Characters:

Haley

Mr. Shelby

Mrs. Shelby

Uncle Tom

Harry, 5-year-old boy

Eliza
reference to Tom Loker (p6) (Loker wants to raise good looking boys to sell)

Questions:

Why is this chapter entitled "A man of humanity"?

Why does Haley want to purchase Harry?

Describe Haley's attitude

Why does Haley say, "It is mighty onpleasant getting on with women, sometimes, I al'ays hates these yer screechin, screamin times." (PNG46)

Haley says, "These critters ain't like white folks, you know they get over things, only manage it right…" (5) What does he mean?

What's the "Humane thing" Haley references?

Haley and Shelby talk, how does Shelby react to Haley, does Shelby like Haley? Explain

HBS sprinkles commentary through the book.

"So long as the failure… or death of the kindest owner, may cause them form any day to exchange a life of kind protection… for one of hopeless misery and toil…" HBC commentary, what is her point?

What message is HBS sending?

Haley discussing how women get upset when someone sells their child.

Haley mentions, "And I lays it all to my management,… and humanity… is the great pillar of my management." (PNG 47)

"Taint, you know, as if it was white folks, that's brought up in the way of spectin to keep their children and wives…"

Setting:

Kentucky

Mr. Shelby

Haley

Tom

Plot:

Haley wants to take Tom and Harry as payment for Shelby debts.

Eliza over hears and asks Mrs. Shelby who knows nothing about the debt or plan to sell Harry or Tom.

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Mr. Shelby

"A man of humanity," wine, a "gentleman" of "easy circumstance"

Refuses to sell Harry

"I'd like to have been able to kick the fellow down the steps…so much for being in debt."(7-8)

Haley

Talking to Haley, a slave trader, a low-class man, Haley wants to buy slaves from Shelby, 5 year old boy, his mother named Eliza, and Tom

Shelby doesn't want to sell any of the slaves.

"These critters ain't like white folks, you know they get over things, only manage it right…" (5)

References to how to "bring up" slaves so they won't be upset when you sell their children… (7)

Eliza

25-year-old slave, mother to the 5-year-old boy, mulatto,

She over hears Shelby and Haley talking about selling her son.

"Oh missis!… there's been a trader talking with master…do you suppose mas'r would sell my Harry?" (9)

Mrs. Shelby

Good Christian woman, married to Mr. Shelby

"Mrs. Shelby was a woman of high class, both intellectually and morally…" (9)

Eliza confides in Mrs. Shelby of her fears that Mr. Shelby will sell young Harry… Mrs. Shelby, dismisses the question as not a reality…

Tom

Slave, owned by Shelby, he is a favorite of Shelby, very loyal, honest, Christian, and trusted

Harry aka "Jim Crow"

5-year old boy

Son of Eliza, referenced as "Jim Crow", "quadroon"

Tom Loker

Haley's old partner in slave trading business

Harriet Beecher Stowe (HBS)

She has a voice of commentary throughout the book, she changes the tense of the story, so that she is talking in her voice directly to the reader… watch for this throughout the book.

"Whoever visits some estates there, and witnesses the good-humored indulgence of some masters and mistresses, and the affectionate loyalty of some slaves, might be tempted to dream the oft-fabled poetic legend

> of a patriarchal institution, and all that; but over and above the scene there broods a portentous shadow--the shadow of law. So long as the law considers all these human beings, with beating hearts and living affections, only as so many things belonging to a master,--so long as the failure, or misfortune, or imprudence, or death of the kindest owner, may cause them any day to exchange a life of kind protection and indulgence for one of hopeless misery and toil,--so long it is impossible to make anything beautiful or desirable in the best regulated administration of slavery." (8)

Chapter 2 The Mother

Questions:

Why is Mr. Harris angry at George?
How does George act in the factory and why?
What plans does Mr. Harris have for George?
What do we learn about slavery based on this chapter?

Setting: Kentucky

George Harris
Mr. Harris
Manufacturer

Plot:

Eliza description, brought up as a privileged slave.
We meet George Harris, description of his good manners…
Was hired out by his master Mr. Harris
We learn that George is smart and has good engineering skills
We learn that his master is very abusive and resents the skill of George.
We hear about the wedding between Eliza and George with Mrs. Shelby involved.

Eliza

Description, "… a petted and indulged favorite…Beauty of the most dazzling kind…" (10-11)

Mulato

George Harris

Slave, Eliza's husband and father to Harry, lives on a nearby farm

Proud

"This young man had been hired out by his master to work in a bagging factory, where his adroitness and ingenuity caused him to be considered the first hand in the place. He had invented a machine for the cleaning of the hemp, which, considering the education and circumstances of the inventor, displayed quite as much mechanical genius..." (11)

"During that period,--being much trusted and favored by his employer,--he had free liberty to come and go at discretion." (12)

"George was taken home and put to the meanest drudgery of the farm..." (12)

Mr. Harris

It's an example of a slave owner who is abusive.

George's Cruel and abusive Master, he resented George being treated fairly and equally, with respect for his talents...

"... subject to the control of a vulgar, narrow minded, tyrannical master... what business had his slave to be marching round the country, inventing machines, and holding up his head among gentlemen? He'd soon put a stop to it. He'd take him back, and put him to hoeing and digging, and "see if he'd step about so smart."" (11)

Chapter 3 The Husband and Father

Questions:

There is a reference to Carlo, the dog… what happens to Carlo?
Describe George's conversation with Eliza. What is the gist of George's perspective?
How does Eliza respond to George?
How does Mr. Harris want to ruin the marriage to Eliza?
What do we learn about slave relationships, wives, husbands, children based on this chapter?

George Harris
Eliza

Plot

George comes to visit Eliza and Harry at the Shelby home.
George is thinking about loving Eliza, human thoughts
(it's very melodramatic, like a TV novella/soap opera.)

Eliza is conciliating and trying to get George to calm down…

She is portraying the loyal slave who is content and knows her place in this society and is ok with it.

"I wish I'd never been born"

George decides to run away, vows to go to Canada.
George is angry at the system and passionately reflects the reality that he is a man.
"… who made him my master?"

George and Eliza Talk

George complaining of his master and an incident that happened to Mr. Harris' son. George scared/touched him.

"… tied me to a tree… and told him that he might whip me till he was tired…" (16)

"Who made this man my master, that's what I want to know!" (16)

George's dog is killed by Mr. Harris

Eliza is very Christian

"I an't a Christian like you Eliza; my heart's full of bitterness; I can't trust in God. Why does he let things be so?" (17)

"… he says he won't let me come here anymore…new wife… or he would sell me down river."

"I tell you, Eliza, that a sword will pierce through your soul for every good and pleasant thing your child is or has; it will make him worth too much for you to keep." (17)

"I am going … to Canada

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Chapter 4 An Evening in Uncle Tom's Cabin

Characters in the Chapter:

Uncle Tom
Aunt Chloe
Masr George Shelby (13 yrs old)
Mose and Pete, Tom and Chole children
Old Woman Slave talking about "glory"
Haley
Mr. Shelby

Questions:

What do we learn about American Slavery in this chapter?
Why did HBS include this chapter do you think?
How does this chapter reflect some slave's attitude toward religion?
Why do you think HBS is portraying Haley as thinking himself not cruel? "If there's anything that I thank the Lord for, it is that I'm never noways cruel."
HBS is presenting this scene of happy family and then the sale… why?

HBS is presenting an image of a content happy slave family. She is portraying the calm before the storm. Setting the scene for the tragedy that is coming. Uncle Tom will be sent away from his family. A pious and virtuous man. Tom will be sent away from his home. I think HBS is trying to show even though the slaves are owned they do form their own lives and religion. But it can all be taken away immediately. This is the message she is sending in this chapter. The slaves can be treated well, live decently, but it can end at any moment, their families could be ripped apart.

Plot:

Description of Aunt Chloe's and Tom's cabin.

Tom learning to write being supervised by young master George Shelby

Food, singing, religion, family

HBS is making commentary about religion in the slave quarters (see the story of the old woman who stands up to comment on "glory"

Setting at the Shelby "Estate"

Attached to the big house…
Everyday gossip/food
Relationship with child of the Shelby family and the most favorite slaves, like family. Cordial, content, amiable family time in the cabin.
Colloquial speech/speech of the slaves and whites, not so refined
Singing and "meetin" religious service of some kind
"Jordan" banks and "Caanan fields" and "Glory" all old testament references.

Hymns

Very much participatory activity, the reader, the preacher, and the audience all participated in the religious service… (28)

Uncle Tom

WE meet Uncle Tom

"Uncle" is a tradition moniker for an older congenial slave.

Mr. Shelby's best hand

Description p21

"Self-respecting and dignified… grave steady good sense… much kindness and benevolence…confiding and humble simplicity…"(21)

He was a good man

"Uncle Tom was a sort of patriarch in religious matters… with great respect, as sort of minister among them…But it was always in prayer that he especially excelled" (29)

Aunt Chloe

Tom's wife, and head cook for the Shelby family

She is married to Uncle Tom and has 2 children

Great descriptions of the food and cooking area

'Now, Missis, do jist look at dem beautiful white hands o' yourn with long fingers, and all a sparkling with rings… and look at my great black stumpin hands. Now, don't you think dat de Lord must have meant me to make de pie crust, and you to stay in de parlor?"

(Aunt Chloe believes she was made to work… shows some very strong social influence, Chloe's entire identity is as a slave and she is ok with being a slave… she has completely been conditioned to accept her place in the world)

Mas'r George Shelby

Son of the Shelby family

Teaching Tom how to read and write

He loves Aunt Chloe's cooking

Mose and Pete

Children of Tom and Chloe

"Wooly"

HBS Commentary

HBS references singing spiritual songs…

"Caanan, New Jerusalem… for the negro mind, impassioned and imaginative, always attaches itself to hymns and expressions of a vivid pictorial nature; and, as they sung, some laughed, some cried, and some clapped…" (PNG 78)

(here she is showing her stereotyping, condescending attitude, she is a product of the 19th century rascists, and the pre-suppositions, or attitudes that imply lesser status and definitely not equality.)
(Shows some interesting cultural elements of slave religion and religious behavior)

The Old Woman talking about Glory
"We'll, chil'en! U'm mighty glad to hear ye all and see ye all once more, cuase I don't know when I'll be gone to glory; but I've dibe git ready… jest a waitin' for the stage to come along and take me home;… dat ar glory is a mighty thing! (heaven is glory)

Mas'r George, by request, read the last chapters of Revelation, often interrupted by such exclamations as "The sakes now!" "Only hear that!" "Jest think on 't!" "Is all that a comin' sure enough?"

George, who was a bright boy, and well trained in religious things by his mother, finding himself an object of general admiration, threw in expositions of his own, from time to time, with a commendable seriousness and gravity, for which he was admired by the young and blessed by the old; and it was agreed, on all hands, that "a minister couldn't lay it off better than he did; that "'t was reely 'mazin'!"

Uncle Tom was a sort of patriarch in religious matters, in the neighborhood. Having, naturally, an organization in which the morale was strongly predominant, together with a greater breadth and cultivation of mind than obtained among his companions, he was looked up to with great respect, as a sort of minister among them; and the simple, hearty, sincere style of his exhortations might have edified even better educated persons. But it was in prayer that he especially excelled. Nothing could exceed the touching simplicity, the childlike earnestness, of his prayer, enriched with the language of Scripture, which seemed so entirely to have wrought itself into his being, as to have become a part of himself, and to drop from his lips unconsciously; in the language of a pious old negro, he "prayed right up." And so much did his prayer always work on the devotional feelings of his audiences, that there seemed often a danger that it would be lost altogether in the abundance of the responses which broke out everywhere around him.

Meanwhile Cut to the Shelby house, Mr. Shelby is talking with Haley (29)

Bills of Sale
Mr. Shelby selling Tom, "Haley, I hope you'll remember that you promised, on your honor, you wouldn't sell Tom, without knowing what sort of hands he's going into." (p30)
Haley, "If there's anything that I thank the Lord for, it is that I'm never noways cruel." (30)

While this scene was passing in the cabin of the man, one quite otherwise passed in the halls of the master.

The trader and Mr. Shelby were seated together in the dining room afore-named, at a table covered with papers and writing utensils.

Mr. Shelby was busy in counting some bundles of bills, which, as they were counted, he pushed over to the trader, who counted them likewise.

"All fair," said the trader; "and now for signing these yer."

Mr. Shelby hastily drew the bills of sale towards him, and signed them, like a man that hurries over some disagreeable business, and then pushed them over with the money. Haley produced, from a well-worn valise, a parchment, which, after looking over it a moment, he handed to Mr. Shelby, who took it with a gesture of suppressed eagerness.

"Wal, now, the thing's done!" said the trader, getting up.

"It's done!" said Mr. Shelby, in a musing tone; and, fetching a long breath, he repeated, "It's done!"

Chapter 5 Showing the Feelings of Living Property on Changing Owners

Setting: Shelby Home

Characters in the Chapter:

Mrs. Shelby
Mr. Shelby
Eliza
Old Bruno
Uncle Tom

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Questions:

Explain how Haley and Mr. Shelby came to the agreement to sell Tom and Harry.

What do we learn about slavery from this chapter?

What do you notice about Mrs. Shelby's attitude, how does she react to the news of selling Harry and Tom?

Mrs. Shelby makes a comment about the preacher Mr. B, what is her point?

How does Uncle Tom react to the news of his being sold?

Eliza sends a message to George Harris. What is the message?

Plot:

Mr. and Mrs. Shelby discuss Haley's presence at dinner…
Mr. Shelby, must sell Tom, and they discuss. (31)
Mr. Shelby explained the sale of Tom and Harry
Eliza over hears, runs away.
Eliza tells Uncle Tom about the plan to sell Harry and Uncle Tom

Mrs. Shelby

""What! our Tom?--that good, faithful creature!--been your faithful servant from a boy! O, Mr. Shelby!--and you have promised him his freedom, too,--you and I have spoken to him a hundred times of it. Well, I can believe anything now,--I can believe now that you could sell little Harry, poor Eliza's only child!" said Mrs. Shelby, in a tone between grief and indignation." (31)

"This is God's curse on slavery!--a bitter, bitter, most accursed thing!--a curse to the master and a curse to the slave! I was a fool to think I could make anything good out of such a deadly evil. It is a sin to hold a slave under laws like ours,--I always felt it was,--I always thought so when I was a girl,--I thought so still more after I joined the church; but I thought I could gild it over,--I thought, by kindness, and care, and instruction, I could make the condition of mine better than freedom--fool that I was!" (33)

Mr. Shelby

"I have agreed to sell Tom and Harry both… I was in his power, I had to…" (32)
"Well my dear, the fact is that this goes rather hard with me!" (34)
He regrets he must sell them due to his debts.

Eliza

Overheard this conversation through the closet.

"Poor boy! poor fellow!" said Eliza; "they have sold you! but your mother will save you yet!" (34)
She left a note for Mrs. Shelby
Eliza took Harry and passed by Uncle Tom's cabin to tell them she was running away.

Tom

"No, no--I an't going. Let Eliza go--it's her right! I wouldn't be the one to say no--'tan't in natur for her to stay; but you heard what she said! If I must be sold, or all the people on the place, and everything go to rack, why, let me be sold. I s'pose I can b'ar it as well as any on 'em," he added, while something like a sob and a sigh shook his broad, rough chest convulsively. "Mas'r always found me on the spot--he always will. I never have broke trust, nor used my pass no ways contrary to my word, and I never will. It's better for me alone to go, than to break up the place and sell all. Mas'r an't to blame, Chloe, and he'll take care of you and the poor--" (37)
Tom's nature and personality come out as he doesn't mind sacrificing himself to secure the other slave community members to not have the hardship…

Chapter 6 Discovery

Characters in the Chapter:

Mrs. Shelby
Mr. Shelby
Andy/Jake/Mandy/ (other Shelby slaves)
Aunt Chloe
Black Sam

Questions:

How does Mr. Shelby react to the news of Eliza's disappearance?
How do the other slaves Andy/jake/Mandy, react to the news of Eliza's escape?
How does Haley react to the news of Eliza running away?

Plot:

Shelbys and Haley learn of Eliza's escape. Mrs. Shelby 'instructs' the slaves to delay Haley.

Setting:

Haley shows up at Shelby house and hears that the girl Eliza and son Henry have run off.

Mr. Shelby

"Mr. Haley," said Mr. Shelby, "if I did not think you had some cause for disappointment, I should not have borne from you the rude and unceremonious style of your entrance into my parlor this morning. I say thus much, however, since appearances call for it, that I shall allow of no insinuations cast upon me, as if I were at all partner to any unfairness in this matter. Moreover, I shall feel bound to give you every assistance, in the use of horses, servants, &c., in the recovery of your property. So, in short, Haley," said he, suddenly dropping from the tone of dignified coolness to his ordinary one of easy frankness, "the best way for you is to keep good-natured and eat some breakfast, and we will then see what is to be done." (40)

Tense discussion with Haley and Mr. Shelby

Black Sam

One of the other Shelby slaves making commentary about his opportunities since Tom is now leaving.

He is portraying himself as a wise man among the slaves, but really very much bravado of his position. (he thinks he's smarter than he really is, braggart)

Mrs. Shelby tells Sam to go with Haley to find Eliza.

Mrs. Shelby tells Sam to delay Haley as much as possible… Sam sabotages the horses…(45)

Interesting cultural issue, that since slaves were powerless in the face of master's absolute power, slaves would resist by causing delay and creating sneaky tricks on the master or others who were abusive…

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Chapter 7 The Mother's Struggle

Setting:

Eliza on the run, trying to leave Kentucky and get to Ohio first then Canada.
She makes it to the Ohio River…
Near the Ohio River

Then at the Shelby Farm

Characters in the Chapter:

Eliza and Harry escaping
Old Lady at a Farm
Solomon, old man at the farm
Aunt Chloe
Shelby household slaves
Uncle Tom
Same and Andy Shelby slaves, are helping Haley
Mr. Symmes on the Ohio side of the river

Questions:

HBS describes the Eliza's run. What point is she making about the escape?
HBS wrote

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"If it were your Harry, mother, or your Willie, that were going to be torn from you by a brutal trader, tomorrow morning,--if you had seen the man, and heard that the papers were signed and delivered, and you had only from twelve o'clock till morning to make good your escape,--how fast could you walk?"
What was her purpose for asking this question?
Why does Eliza need to get to the Ohio River?
Describe how Eliza escapes.

Plot:

Eliza running with Harry
It's cold
Near the Ohio river she gets help from an old lady and Solomon.

Then to the Shelby household.
Aunt Chloe is cooking and all the slaves and Mrs. Shelby are trying to delay Haley from the chase of Eliza.
Sam and Andy also helping delay Haley.
Eliza barely escapes

Eliza

"The frosty ground creaked beneath her feet, and she trembled at the sound; every quaking leaf and fluttering shadow sent the blood backward to her heart, and quickened her footsteps. She wondered within herself at the strength that seemed to be come upon her; for she felt the weight of her boy as if it had been a feather, and every flutter of fear seemed to increase the supernatural power that bore her on, while from her pale lips burst forth, in frequent ejaculations, the prayer to a Friend above--"Lord, help! Lord, save me!" (48)

She is afraid of being discovered on the main road, she doesn't want to appear too be running away… ruse, the boy throws an apple and chases it and it appears to be a game to others…

Eliza passed as white, she was very light skinned.
"As she was also so white as not to be known as of colored lineage, without a critical survey, and her child was white also, it was much easier for her to pass on unsuspected." (50)

Harry

Cold and afraid holding on to the mother's neck…
"Mother if I do get asleep, you won't let him get me." (48)

The river is covered in ice as it is early spring, and the cold weather lingered, therefore no ferry.
Harry and Eliza get temporary refuge in a house near the river.

Change in setting: "Here we must take our leave of her for the present, to follow the course of her pursuers." (51)
Back at the Shelby estate.

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Mrs. Shelby

"… Among the servants generally that Missis would not be particularly disobliged by delay…" (52)

Ms. Shelby wanted to delay Mr. Haley's search for Eliza

Aunt Chloe/Tom

Everyone is hoping that Eliza escapes and saves her boy. Chloe and the children are commenting then Tom comes in… we learn how hated the slave traders are, but we also learn how benevolent and Christian Tom is… he displays great capacity for compassion.

We also learn about how religious/superstitious the culture is… they believe the devil is real and a force to be reckoned with.

"Sarves him right!" said Aunt Chloe, indignantly. He'll get wus nor oneasy, one of these days, if he don't mend his ways. His master'll be sending for him, and then see how he'll look!"

"He'll go to torment, and no mistake," said little Jake.

"He desarves it!" said Aunt Chloe, grimly; "he's broke a many, many, many hearts,--I tell ye all!" she said, stopping, with a fork uplifted in her hands; "it's like what Mas'r George reads in Ravelations,--souls a callin' under the altar! and a callin' on the Lord for vengeance on sich!--and by and by the Lord he'll hear 'em--so he will!"

"I'm afeard you don't know what ye're sayin'. Forever is a dre'ful word, chil'en; it's awful to think on 't. You oughtenter wish that ar to any human crittur." (52-53)

Don't dey tear der suckin' baby right off his mother's breast, and sell him, and der little children as is crying and holding on by her clothes,--don't dey pull 'em off and sells 'em? Don't dey tear wife and husband apart?" said Aunt Chloe, beginning to cry, "when it's jest takin' the very life on 'em?--and all the while does they feel one bit, don't dey drink and smoke, and take it oncommon easy? Lor, if the devil don't get them, what's he good for?" And Aunt Chloe covered her face with her checked apron, and began to sob in good earnest." (53)

"… but the Lord's grace is stronger; besides, you oughter think what an awful state a poor crittur's soul 's in that'll do them ar things,--you oughter thank God that you an't like him, Chloe. I'm sure I'd rather be sold, ten thousand times over, than to have all that ar poor crittur's got to answer for."

(53)

Tom's personality and temperament really begin to show here, he is the embodiment of Jesus, all forgiving, all gracious, self-sacrificing, trying to live the "Word," trying to be the best Christian he can be…

Mrs. Shelby/Mr. Shelby/Haley/Tom

Mr. Shelby speaks to Tom to be ready leave when Haley returns from the hunt.

It is a sad example, Mr. Shelby promises to buy back Tom when things are better.

Tom displays his magnanimous and loyal character, he will not disobey at all and he continues to reference his "Christian" behaviors…

Black Sam/Haley on the Hunt

Sam is the trickster with Haley, Sam again toying with the slave trader… delays…

Haley is portrayed as older.
Sam fools Haley into believing one road is better than the other and it turns out the opposite…
They searchers eventually make it to the river crossing…

Eliza/Harry/Black Sam/Haley

Eliza see's the slave trader and Sam approach and she runs out the back of the house with Harry and they run for the icy river.
A thousand lives seemed to be concentrated in that one moment to Eliza. Her room opened by a side door to the river. She caught her child, and sprang down the steps towards it. The trader caught a full glimpse of her just as she was disappearing down the bank; and throwing himself from his horse, and calling loudly on Sam and Andy, he was after her like a hound after a deer. In that dizzy moment her feet to her scarce seemed to touch the ground, and a moment brought her to the water's edge. Right on behind they came; and, nerved with strength such as God gives only to the desperate, with one wild cry and flying leap, she vaulted sheer over the turbid current by the shore, on to the raft of ice beyond. It was a desperate leap--impossible to anything but madness and despair; and Haley, Sam, and Andy, instinctively cried out, and lifted up their hands, as she did it." (58)

Eliza made it across the river and is directed by an acquaintance (Mr. Symmes) to a house where people will help her. (59)

Sam

Was very happy Eliza made it across the river, he also helped in a sly way…

"Lord bless you, Mas'r, I couldn't help it now," said Sam, giving way to the long pent-up delight of his soul. "She looked so curi's, a leapin' and springin'--ice a crackin'--and only to hear her,--plump! ker chunk! ker splash! Spring! Lord! how she goes it!" and Sam and Andy laughed till the tears rolled down their cheeks.

"I'll make ye laugh t' other side yer mouths!" said the trader, laying about their heads with his riding-whip.

Both ducked, and ran shouting up the bank, and were on their horses before he was up.

"Good-evening, Mas'r!" said Sam, with much gravity. "I berry much spect Missis be anxious 'bout Jerry. Mas'r Haley won't want us no longer. Missis wouldn't hear of our ridin' the critters over Lizy's bridge tonight;" and, with a facetious poke into Andy's ribs, he started off, followed by the latter, at full speed,--their shouts of laughter coming faintly on the wind. (59)

Chapter 8 Eliza's Escape

Characters in the Chapter:

Haley
Tom Loker

Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe (1851)

Marks, slave catcher

Questions:

Haley, Marks, and Loker make a plan. What is their plan?
Haley, Marks, and Loker have a discussion in the tavern, describe the discussion they have about religion.

What is the significance of this quote by Marks?

"ye see, we has justices convenient at all p'ints along shore, that does up any little jobs in our line quite reasonable. Tom, he does the knockin' down and that ar; and I come in all dressed up--shining boots--everything first chop, when the swearin' 's to be done. You oughter see, now," said Marks, in a glow of professional pride, "how I can tone it off. One day, I'm Mr. Twickem, from New Orleans"

What do we learn about American Slavery from this chapter?

What do we learn about American Slavery from this excerpt?
Marks had got from his pocket a greasy pocket-book, and taking a long paper from thence, he sat down, and fixing his keen black eyes on it, began mumbling over its contents: "Barnes--Shelby County--boy Jim, three hundred dollars for him, dead or alive.

"Edwards--Dick and Lucy--man and wife, six hundred dollars; wench Polly and two children--six hundred for her or her head.

Setting:

Tavern on the Kentucky side of the Ohio River

Plot:

Haley sees Tom Loker, slave catcher
They are matching stories of problems selling children!
Problems with female slaves being separated from their children

Loker is very abusive.

They discuss religion, Haley makes a comment about preserving his soul and Tom Loker gets argumentative and irritated about Haley's sneaky ways.
Marks pursues the business aspect. They will catch Eliza and Harry, give Harry to Haley and take Eliza south to sell in New Orleans.

"I'm jest a runnin' over our business, to see if we can take up this yer handily. Loker,"

Haley

Commiserating, complaining and thinking of the problem he's in about the runaway slaves.

When Tom Loker, the slave catcher stepped in to his life again at the opportune time…(60)

Responding to marks

"Jes so," said Haley; "I never couldn't see into it; young uns is heaps of trouble to 'em; one would think, now, they'd be glad to get clar on 'em; but they arn't. And the more trouble a young un is, and the more good for nothing, as a gen'l thing, the tighter they sticks to 'em." (61)

Haley mentions the selling of a blind child and how the mother "… but come to get him away from the gal, she was jest like a tiger. So 't was before we started, and I hadn't got my gang chained up; so what should she do but ups on a cotton-bale, like a cat, ketches a knife from one of the deck hands, and, I tell ye, she made all fly for a minit, till she saw 't wan't no use; and she jest turns round, and pitches head first, young un and all, into the river,--went down plump, and never ris." (63)

Tom Loker

"… was a brawny, muscular man, full six feet in height, and broad in proportion. He was dressed in a coat of buffalo-skin, made with the hair outward, which gave him a shaggy and fierce appearance, perfectly in keeping with the whole air of his physiognomy. In the head and face every organ and lineament expressive of brutal and unhesitating violence was in a state of the highest possible development…" (60)

Tom Loker Selling children

"Help it? why, I buys a gal, and if she's got a young un to be sold, I jest walks up and puts my fist to her face, and says, `Look here, now, if you give me one word out of your head, I'll smash yer face in. I won't hear one word--not the beginning of a word.' I says to 'em, `This yer young un's mine, and not yourn, and you've no kind o' business with it. I'm going to sell it, first chance; mind, you don't cut up none o' yer shines about it, or I'll make ye wish ye'd never been born.' I tell ye, they sees it an't no play, when I gets hold. I makes 'em as whist as fishes;" (63)

Loker is proud of his abusive ability.

Marks

"Small, mousy man…" (61)

Associate of Tom Loker, "thin hand like a raven's claw…"

"If we could get a breed of gals that didn't care, now, for their young uns," said Marks; "tell ye, I think 't would be 'bout the greatest mod'rn improvement I knows on," (62)

He makes comment about giving away a child who was sickly, and the mother "cried about it she did, and lopped round as if she'd lost every friend she had…"

Marks has a special talent for lying
Loker and Marks are partners, Loker is the brute, Marks tells the stories…

Runaway slave advertisements, (67) marks reading, ""Barnes--Shelby County--boy Jim, three hundred dollars for him, dead or alive. "Edwards--Dick and Lucy--man and wife, six hundred dollars; wench Polly and two children--six hundred for her or her head." (67)

Harriet Commentary, self-referencing

"If any of our refined and Christian readers object to the society into which this scene introduces them, let us beg them to begin and conquer their prejudices in time. The catching business, we beg to remind them, is rising to the dignity of a lawful and patriotic profession. If all the broad land between the Mississippi and the Pacific becomes one great market for bodies and souls, and human property retains the locomotive tendencies of this nineteenth century, the trader and catcher may yet be among our aristocracy." (68-69)

Sam, Mr. and Mrs. Shelby talk.
Sam tells her that Eliza got away.
The conversation shows one type of interaction, good relationship, with a clever/personable loyal, agreeable trickster slave, and a benevolent motherly master…
between slave and master.
Sam is bragging he helped Eliza by delaying Haley.

Interesting commentary about Sam and his skills of personality and politics.
Here pages 71-74 displays Harriet's view of slave interactions when no master is around.
"It will be perceived, as has been before intimated, that Master Sam had a native talent that might, undoubtedly, have raised him to eminence in political life,--a talent of making capital out of everything that turned up, to be invested for his own especial praise and glory; and having done up his piety and humility, as he trusted, to the satisfaction of the parlor, he clapped his palm-leaf on his head, with a sort of rakish, free-and-easy air, and proceeded to the dominions of Aunt Chloe, with the intention of flourishing largely in the kitchen."(71)

Chapter 9 In Which It Appears That a Senator Is But a Man (75)

Characters in the Chapter:

Questions:

Plot:

Setting Across the Ohio River
New Characters
Eliza escaped and comes to the home of the Bird Family

Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe (1851)

Senator John Bird

State Senator
He is very moderate, thinking of public interest in reducing political strife…

"Now, if the truth must be told, our senator had the misfortune to be a man who had a particularly humane and accessible nature, and turning away anybody that was in trouble never had been his forte; and what was worse for him in this particular pinch of the argument was, that his wife knew it, and, of course was making an assault on rather an indefensible point." (78)

Mr. Bird will show good care and compassion for Eliza.
The Senator helps by driving Eliza and Harry to Von Trompe's place.

Mrs. Bird (wife)

Discussion with husband about laws forbidding citizens to help runaway slaves.
She has a wonderful attitude of kindness and true Christian feeling…

"Well; but is it true that they have been passing a law forbidding people to give meat and drink to those poor colored folks that come along? I heard they were talking of some such law, but I didn't think any Christian legislature would pass it!... I think this is something downright cruel and unchristian." (76)

Description (76)
"Mrs. Bird was a timid, blushing little woman, of about four feet in height, and with mild blue eyes, and a peach-blow complexion, and the gentlest, sweetest voice in the world;…
Her husband and children were her entire world,
There was only one thing that was capable of arousing her, and that provocation came in on the side of her unusually gentle and sympathetic nature;--anything in the shape of cruelty would throw her into a passion…(76)
"….It's a shameful, wicked, abominable law, and I'll break it, for one, the first time I get a chance; and I hope I shall have a chance, I do! Things have got to a pretty pass, if a woman can't give a warm supper and a bed to poor, starving creatures, just because they are slaves, and have been abused and oppressed all their lives, poor things!..." (77)

""Now, John, I don't know anything about politics, but I can read my Bible; and there I see that I must feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and comfort the desolate; and that Bible I mean to follow." (77)

"Nobody shall hurt you here, poor woman. You are safe don't be afraid." (79)

Mrs. Bird… has an attitude "Higher Moral Law"
"I tell you folks don't run away when they are happy; and when they do run, poor creatures! they suffer enough with cold and hunger and fear, without everybody's turning against them; and, law or no law, I never will, so help me God!" (78)

Mrs. Bird had a young son "Little Henry," died and she gave some of his things to Eliza for her Henry.
"My dear boys," she said, softly and earnestly, "if our dear, loving little Henry looks down from heaven, he would be glad to have us do this. I could not find it in my heart to give them away to any common person--to anybody that was happy; but I give them to a mother more heart-broken and sorrowful than I am; and I hope God will send his blessings with them!" (85)

Cudjoe/Aunt Dinah
Find Eliaz
Servants of Bird Family

Honest Old John Van Trompe

Former client of Senator Bird
From KY
Former slave owner, released all of his slaves
Lives 7 miles away in out of the way area. (84)
Description (88-89)
"He was a great, tall, bristling Orson of a fellow, full six feet and some inches in his stockings, and arrayed in a red flannel hunting-shirt. A very heavy mat of sandy hair, in a decidedly tousled condition, and a beard of some days' growth, gave the worthy man an appearance, to say the least, not particularly prepossessing."
"…being gifted by nature with a great, honest, just heart, quite equal to his gigantic frame…"
"At last, one day, John's great heart had swelled altogether too big to wear his bonds any longer; so he just took his pocket-book out of his desk, and went over into Ohio, and bought a quarter of a township of good, rich land, made out free papers for all his people,--men, women, and children,--packed them up in wagons, and sent them off to settle down; and then honest John turned his face up the creek, and sat quietly down on a snug, retired farm, to enjoy his conscience and his reflections." (89)

"Are you the man that will shelter a poor woman and child from slave-cathchers?" (Senator Bird) (89)
"I'm up to all that sort o' thing," said he, pointing to two or three goodly rifles over the mantel-piece; "and most people that know me know that 't wouldn't be healthy to try to get anybody out o' my house when I'm agin it. So now you jist go to sleep now,…" (90)

Ohio/Underground Railroad (98)

Chapter 10 The Property Is Carried Off

Characters in the Chapter:

Questions:

Plot:

Uncle Tom and Aunt Chloe say goodbye.
Tom very religious, being transported by Haley South
Loyal, pius,
Harreit Beecher Stowe commentary

In order to appreciate the sufferings of the negroes sold south, it must be remembered that all the instinctive affections of that race are peculiarly strong. Their local attachments are very abiding. They are not naturally daring and enterprising, but home-loving and affectionate. Add to this all the terrors with which ignorance invests the unknown, and add to this, again, that selling to the south is set before the negro from childhood as the last severity of punishment. The threat that terrifies more than whipping or torture of any kind is the threat of being sent down river. We have ourselves heard this feeling expressed by them, and seen the unaffected horror with which they will sit in their gossipping hours, and tell frightful stories of that "down river," which to them is

"That undiscovered country, from whose bourn No traveller returns." (93)

a doom which was hanging either over themselves or their husbands, their wives or children. This nerves the African, naturally patient, timid and unenterprising, with heroic courage, and leads him to suffer hunger, cold, pain, the perils of the wilderness, and the more dread penalties of recapture." (93)

Part 2

Chapter 11 In Which Property Gets into an Improper State of Mind

In a tavern in KY

Collection of KY men, of the rough and tumble life…

"Great, tall, raw-boned Kentuckians, attired in hunting-shirts, and trailing their loose joints over a vast extent of territory, with the easy lounge peculiar to the race,--rifles stacked away in the corner, shot-pouches, game-bags, hunting-dogs, and little negroes, all rolled together in the corners,--were the characteristic features in the picture." (101)

The drover, comments about how to be humane to slaves…

"…and I jest tells 'em--`Boys,' says I,--`run now! dig! put! jest when ye want to! I never shall come to look after you!' That's the way I keep mine. Let 'em know they are free to run any time, and it jest breaks up their wanting to. More 'n all, I've got free papers for 'em all recorded, in case I gets keeled up any o' these times, and they know it; and I tell ye, stranger, there an't a fellow in our parts gets more out of his niggers than I do.

Mr. Wilson, a "Dandy" stranger/traveler enters with Umbrella, noticeably out of place…

This is George's white employer from the bagging factory…

Runaway slave advertisement

Is about George Harris (103)

"Ran away from the subscriber, my mulatto boy, George. Said George six feet in height, a very light mulatto, brown curly hair; is very intelligent, speaks handsomely, can read and write, will probably try to pass for a white man, is deeply scarred on his back and shoulders, has been branded in his right hand with the letter H."

"I will give four hundred dollars for him alive, and the same sum for satisfactory proof that he has been killed." (103)

Mr. Butler (secretly George Harris in disguise)

Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe (1851)

From Shelby County
Has a servant with him.
Makes contact with Mr. Wilson and they discuss George's plan of escape.
"I am pretty well disguised, I fancy," said the young man, with a smile. "A little walnut bark has made my yellow skin a genteel brown, and I've dyed my hair black; so you see I don't answer to the advertisement at all." (106)
George's father…
"We remark, en passant, that George was, by his father's side, of white descent. His mother was one of those unfortunates of her race, marked out by personal beauty to be the slave of the passions of her possessor, and the mother of children who may never know a father. From one of the proudest families in Kentucky he had inherited a set of fine European features, and a high, indomitable spirit. From his mother he had received only a slight mulatto tinge, amply compensated by its accompanying rich, dark eye." (107)

George explains to Mr. Wilson why he is leaving…
"See here, now, Mr. Wilson," said George, coming up and sitting himself determinately down in front of him; "look at me, now. Don't I sit before you, every way, just as much a man as you are? Look at my face,--look at my hands,--look at my body," and the young man drew himself up proudly; "why am I not a man, as much as anybody? Well, Mr. Wilson, hear what I can tell you. I had a father--one of your Kentucky gentlemen--who didn't think enough of me to keep me from being sold with his dogs and horses, to satisfy the estate, when he died. I saw my mother put up at sheriff's sale, with her seven children. They were sold before her eyes, one by one, all to different masters; and I was the youngest. She came and kneeled down before old Mas'r, and begged him to buy her with me, that she might have at least one child with her; and he kicked her away with his heavy boot. I saw him do it; and the last that I heard was her moans and screams, when I was tied to his horse's neck, to be carried off to his place."

"My master traded with one of the men, and bought my oldest sister. She was a pious, good girl,--a member of the Baptist church,--and as handsome as my poor mother had been. She was well brought up, and had good manners. At first, I was glad she was bought, for I had one friend near me. I was soon sorry for it. Sir, I have stood at the door and heard her whipped, when it seemed as if every blow cut into my naked heart, and I couldn't do anything to help her; and she was whipped, sir, for wanting to live a decent Christian life, such as your laws give no slave girl a right to live; and at last I saw her chained with a trader's gang, to be sent to market in Orleans,--sent there for nothing else but that,--and that's the last I know of her." (110)
Then, sir, I found my wife; you've seen her,--you know how beautiful she is. When I found she loved me, when I married her, I scarcely could believe I was alive, I was so happy; and, sir, she is as good as she is beautiful. But now what? Why, now comes my master, takes me right away from my work, and my friends, and all I like, and grinds me down into the very dirt! And why? Because, he says, I forgot who I was; he says, to teach me that I am only a nigger! After all, and last of all, he comes between me and my wife, and says I shall give her up, and live with another woman. And all this your laws give him power to do, in spite of God or man. Mr. Wilson, look at it! There isn't one of all these things, that have broken the hearts of my mother and my sister, and my wife and myself, but your laws allow, and give every man power to do, in Kentucky, and none can say to him nay! Do you call these the laws of my country? Sir, I haven't any country, anymore than I have any father. But I'm going to have one. I don't want anything of your country, except to be let alone,--to go peaceably out of it; and when I get to Canada, where the laws will own me and protect me, that shall be my country, and its laws I will obey. But if any man tries to

stop me, let him take care, for I am desperate. I'll fight for my liberty to the last breath I breathe. You say your fathers did it; if it was right for them, it is right for me!" (110)

George's servant works on the Underground Railroad. (111)

George leaves Mr. Wilson, and is determined to be free…
"All men are free and equal in the grave, if it comes to that

Bible references to support slavery (108)

Mr. Wilson
Tries to counsel George to return to his master… and quotes the bible to support slavery…
"Why, George, no--no--it won't do; this way of talking is wicked--unscriptural. George, you've got a hard master--in fact, he is--well he conducts himself reprehensibly--I can't pretend to defend him. But you know how the angel commanded Hagar to return to her mistress, and submit herself under the hand;[1] and the apostle sent back Onesimus to his master."[2]

[1] Gen. 16. The angel bade the pregnant Hagar return to her mistress Sarai, even though Sarai had dealt harshly with her.
[2] Phil. 1:10. Onesimus went back to his master to become no longer a servant but a "brother beloved."

`Let everyone abide in the condition in which he is called.' We must all submit to the indications of Providence, George,--don't you see?"

Chapter 12 Select Incident of Lawful Trade (Tom, 131)

Opening quote:

""In Ramah there was a voice heard,--weeping, and lamentation, and great mourning; Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted." (114)

Tom's Story, traveling South with Haley

Reading the Bible, Old Testament, "We have here no continuing city, but we seek one to come; wherefore God himself is not ashamed to be called our God; for he hath prepared for us a city.... somehow, a strange sort of power over the minds of poor, simple fellows, like Tom. They stir up the soul from its depths, and rouse, as with trumpet call, courage, energy, and enthusiasm, where before was only the blackness of despair." (115) (Why?)

Slave Auction

Mr. Haley stops to inspect a slave auction, slaves being sold for debts (116)
Hagar women of 60
Haley examining slaves "…walked up to the old man, pulled his mouth open and looked in, felt of his teeth, made him stand and straighten himself, bend his back, and perform various evolutions to show his muscles; and then passed on to the next, and put him through the same trial."

John, slave age 30 bought by Haley

Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe (1851)

Traveling down river to New Orleans on the *La Belle Riviere*

Selling a Baby (126)

Lucy the mother, jumps overboard, distraught over the sale of her baby.

Harriet Beecher Stowe Commentary (127-130)

Genteel Woman discussing selling children

"I've been south, and I must say I think the negroes are better off than they would be to be free."
Discussing the separation of children/families
"We can't reason from our feelings to those of this class of persons,"
"It is undoubtedly the intention of providence that the African race should be servants, kept in a low condition."
Old Testament Bible reference supporting slavery: "`Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants shall he be,' (121)
"It pleased Providence, for some inscrutable reason, to doom the race to bondage, ages ago; and we must not set up our opinion against that."
"…it's what they's made for. 'Pears like this yer view 's quite refreshing, an't it, stranger?"

A Parson of the North says,

"My friend," he said, speaking with thick utterance, "how can you, how dare you, carry on a trade like this? Look at those poor creatures! Here I am, rejoicing in my heart that I am going home to my wife and child; and the same bell which is a signal to carry me onward towards them will part this poor man and his wife forever. Depend upon it, God will bring you into judgment for this." (122)

Chapter 13 The Quaker Settlement (Eliza)

Eliza and Harry reunited with George Harris in the Quaker Community
Mrs. Rachel Halliday (Quaker)
Mr. Simeon Halliday (Quaker)
Ruth Stedmon (Quaker)
Daughter Mary

Happy Home

Opens with a beautiful description of this happy home.
"…one good, loving woman." (132)
Quakers us "thee" (common form of you)
Asking Eliza what her plans are.
To run to Canada
(137) Eliza, Harry George united,
Eliza, "… dreamed of a beautiful country… a land of rest… she saw her boy playing free and happy…"
She had extreme stress for the last few days and now she has great hope being reunited with George.
Just think of the family finally being safe.
Cestus

Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe (1851)

Quaker Village

A joyous occasion, complete family acceptance in the Quaker Village (138)
How did the quakers teat everyone, especially with George in dinner?
"The first time that ever George had sat down on equal terms at any white man's table."
"overflowing kindness"
What do you notice about the Quaker Village?
What do you learn about Quaker society from this chapter?

What connections to Christianity can we find in this chapter?
Harriet Beecher Stowe's story about the transformation of George is kind of sappy, meaning melodramatic… something like, Christian charity = transformation of the heathen…

"Simeon second": Simeon and Rachel's young son (139)
"I would do even the same for the slave holder as for the slave, if the Lord brought him to my door in affliction… fear not then… it is not for thee but for God and man, we do it."
Shows us the beliefs of the Quakers

Chapter 14 Evangeline (Tom)

On the Mississippi River

Vocab: "Chateaubriand"

Theme of American greatness economics and productivity and then oppression

The river of dreams=tears

"-a country whose products embrace all between the tropics and the poles! Those turbid waters, hurrying, foaming, tearing along, an apt resemblance of that headlong tide of business which is poured along its wave by a race more vehement and energetic than any the old world ever saw. Ah! would that they did not also bear along a more fearful freight,--the tears of the oppressed, the sighs of the helpless, the bitter prayers of poor, ignorant hearts to an unknown God--unknown, unseen and silent, but who will yet "come out of his place to save all the poor of the earth!" (141)

Tom and Haley

Traveling South to sell Tom

Haley trusts Tom, "Partly from confidence inspired by Mr. Shelby's representations, and partly from the remarkably inoffensive and quiet character of the man, Tom had insensibly won his way far into the confidence even of such a man as Haley." (141)

Examples of Tom's grace, always helpful, reading the bible, deck hands… "won the good opinion of all the hands." (141)

Tom getting "sold south" to New Orleans, watching plantations along the Mississippi.

Broken Family Relations Theme

Tom's family is lost to him forever, no mails, no contact forever.

Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe (1851)

What is this reference: "Let--not--your--heart--be--troubled. In--my --Father's--house--are--many--mansions. I--go--to--prepare--a--place--for--you." (142)
Eva (the child) on the riverboat, saved Tom, her father is St. Clare

Racism of Harriet:

"Tom, who had the soft, impressible nature of his kindly race, ever yearning toward the simple and childlike, …" (144)

Attitude is clear, blacks were inferior as children "kindly race… childlike"

Description of Angeline "Summer Breeze"

Her form was the perfection of childish beauty, without its usual chubbiness and squareness of outline. There was about it an undulating and aerial grace, such as one might dream of for some mythic and allegorical being. Her face was remarkable less for its perfect beauty of feature than for a singular and dreamy earnestness of expression, which made the ideal start when they looked at her, and by which the dullest and most literal were impressed, without exactly knowing why. The shape of her head and the turn of her neck and bust was peculiarly noble, and the long golden-brown hair that floated like a cloud around it, the deep spiritual gravity of her violet blue eyes, shaded by heavy fringes of golden brown,--all marked her out from other children, and made every one turn and look after her, as she glided hither and thither on the boat. Nevertheless, the little one was not what you would have called either a grave child or a sad one. On the contrary, an airy and innocent playfulness seemed to flicker like the shadow of summer leaves over her childish face, and around her buoyant figure. She was always in motion, always with a half smile on her rosy mouth, flying hither and thither, with an undulating and cloud-like tread, singing to herself as she moved as in a happy dream. Her father and female guardian were incessantly busy in pursuit of her,--but, when caught, she melted from them again like a summer cloud; and as no word of chiding or reproof ever fell on her ear for whatever she chose to do, she pursued her own way all over the boat. Always dressed in white, she seemed to move like a shadow through all sorts of places, without contracting spot or stain; and there was not a corner or nook, above or below, where those fairy footsteps had not glided, and that visionary golden head, with its deep blue eyes, fleeted along."

She fell overboard, Tom saved her.

Evangaline has St. Clare buy Tom

St. Clare is a kind master, but he does own slaves. St. Clare is young and smart and has a joking style, seems to be very kind.

Chapter 15 Of Tom's New Master, and Various Other Matters (Tom) (150)

Characters:

St. Clare

Evangeline

Misss Ophelia

Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe (1851)

Marie St. Claire

Augustine St. Clare, Louisiana Planter
Q: how do you judge St. Clare?
Bio- sickly kids, "Sensitive" roots in Canada and LA-> Vermont then back to LA
He was in love with a Yankee woman and rejected
Theme of Tragedy: Later he would find out that the Woman was controlled by guardians and really wanted to be married to him… a tragedy, he loved that woman and now was married to another
Marie St. Clare: (152)
Then he was betrothed to a "Southern Bell" "princess" $100,000
High society
The marriage was tense,
Harriet Stowe breaks the story line and makes commentary about morality and her sensibilities, lots of Christian commentary.
Q:What assertions is HBS making in this paragraph?
"Of course, in a novel, people's hearts break, and they die, and that is the end of it; and in a story this is very convenient. But in real life we do not die when all that makes life bright dies to us. There is a most busy and important round of eating, drinking, dressing, walking, visiting, buying, selling, talking, reading, and all that makes up what is commonly called living, yet to be gone through; and this yet remained to Augustine. Had his wife been a whole woman, she might yet have done something--as woman can--to mend the broken threads of life, and weave again into a tissue of brightness. But Marie St. Clare could not even see that they had been broken. As before stated, she consisted of a fine figure, a pair of splendid eyes, and a hundred thousand dollars; and none of these items were precisely the ones to minister to a mind diseased." (152)

Marie St. Clare, is a spoiled woman, selfish. She grew up on her
"…he discovered that a beautiful young woman, who has lived all her life to be caressed and waited on, might prove quite a hard mistress in domestic life. Marie never had possessed much capability of affection, or much sensibility, and the little that she had, had been merged into a most intense and unconscious selfishness; a selfishness the more hopeless, from its quiet obtuseness, its utter ignorance of any claims but her own. From her infancy, she had been surrounded with servants, who lived only to study her caprices; the idea that they had either feelings or rights had never dawned upon her, even in distant perspective. Her father, whose only child she had been, had never denied her anything that lay within the compass of human possibility; and when she entered life, beautiful, accomplished, and an heiress, she had, of course, all the eligibles and non-eligibles of the other sex sighing at her feet, and she had no doubt that Augustine was a most fortunate man in having obtained her. It is a great mistake to suppose that a woman with no heart will be an easy creditor in the exchange of affection. There is not on earth a more merciless exactor of love from others than a thoroughly selfish woman; and the more unlovely she grows, the more jealously and scrupulously she exacts love, to the uttermost farthing. When, therefore, St. Clare began to drop off those gallantries and small attentions which flowed at first through the habitude of courtship, he found his sultana no way ready to resign her slave; there were abundance of tears, poutings, and small tempests, there were discontents, pinings, upbraidings. St. Clare was good-natured and self-indulgent, and sought to buy off with presents and flatteries; and when Marie became mother to a beautiful daughter, he really felt awakened, for a time, to something like tenderness." (152-153)

Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe (1851)

Marie was very jealous of Evangeline…
No genuine affection or emotion…
Commentary about women withdrawing affection as a manipulation and control.
Extremely harsh portrait of Marie
Marie is sickly.

St. Clair was "Absorbing devotion to the child"

Ms. Ophelia is the cousin of St. Clare and the governess of Eva. She is a Yankee woman. 45 years old, "staunch, direct, Puritan… stony grimness…" Conscientiousness, mental cultivation, granite formations" her worst insult was that a person was "shiftless"
She was devoted and loved St. Clare.
She indulged his bad behavior and personal failings but no one elses… he was complete opposite of Ophelia.

Other characters **Adolph** a slave and **Mammy**

Marie complaining that her "servants are not devoted enough."
"Who has lived all her life to be caressed and waited on, might prove quite a hard mistress in domestic life." (154)

HBS racial commentary
Q; What does this quote tell us about HBS?
"The negro, it must be remembered, is an exotic of the most gorgeous and superb countries of the world, and he has, deep in his heart, a passion for all that is splendid, rich, and fanciful; a passion which, rudely indulged by an untrained taste, draws on them the ridicule of the colder and more correct white race." (161)

Chapter 16 Tom's Mistress and Her Opinions (Tom) (166)

In this chapter we learn about Marie and her attitudes.
HBS uses the conversation between Ophelia and Marie to highlight the Southern Pro Slavery view.
Topics:
Have students choose: Ophelia, Eva, Marie, Uncle Tom or St. Clare and have them analyze that character in this chapter.
Religion and slavery
Relationships white□black
Social attitudes
Attitudes towards blacks
St. Clare and Marie relationship

Dolph
Marie St. Clare
St. Clare

Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe (1851)

Eva
Miss Ophelia,
Marie and Ophelia talking about servants and household views.
Marie talking about how slaves are a burden.. "a plague"
Mammy backstory, husband and children separated from her. (167-68)
Q How does Marie represent the traditional rationalizations/attitudes of the Southern people as they viewed slavery?
Marie is suggesting that Mammy and the slaves are selfish.
"Eva always was disposed to be with servants; … But Eva somehow always seems to put herself on an equality with every creature that comes near her. It's a strange thing about the child. I never have been able to break her of it. St. Clare, I believe, encourages her in it. The fact is, St. Clare indulges every creature under this roof but his own wife."
Marie is upset b/c Eva is nice and welcoming to the "servants"
"Now, there's no way with servants," said Marie, "but to put them down, and keep them down. It was always natural to me, from a child. Eva is enough to spoil a whole house-full. What she will do when she comes to keep house herself, I'm sure I don't know. I hold to being kind to servants--I always am; but you must make 'em know their place. Eva never does; there's no getting into the child's head the first beginning of an idea what a servant's place is! You heard her offering to take care of me nights, to let Mammy sleep! That's just a specimen of the way the child would be doing all the time, if she was left to herself."

"You see, I brought my own property and servants into the connection, when I married St. Clare, and I am legally entitled to manage them my own way. St. Clare had his fortune and his servants, and I'm well enough content he should manage them his way; but St. Clare will be interfering. He has wild, extravagant notions about things, particularly about the treatment of servants. He really does act as if he set his servants before me, and before himself, too; for he lets them make him all sorts of trouble, and never lifts a finger. Now, about some things, St. Clare is really frightful--he frightens me--good-natured as he looks, in general. Now, he has set down his foot that, come what will, there shall not be a blow struck in this house, except what he or I strike; and he does it in a way that I really dare not cross him. Well, you may see what that leads to; for St. Clare wouldn't raise his hand, if every one of them walked over him, and I--you see how cruel it would be to require me to make the exertion. Now, you know these servants are nothing but grown-up children." (171-72)
"Well, but you will have to know something, and know it to your cost, if you stay here. You don't know what a provoking, stupid, careless, unreasonable, childish, ungrateful set of wretches they are." (172)

"Why, send them to the calaboose, or some of the other places to be flogged. That's the only way. If I wasn't such a poor, feeble piece, I believe I should manage with twice the energy that St. Clare does." (173)

St. Clare's attitude is to make fun of Marie and show the immorality of Slavery. He is not serious.
St. Clare is also a musician
Ophelia: "I think you slaveholders have an awful responsibility upon you," said Miss Ophelia. "I wouldn't have it, for a thousand worlds. You ought to educate your slaves, and treat them like reasonable creatures,--like immortal creatures, that you've got to stand before the bar of God with. That's my mind,"…"

"For my part, I don't see any use in such sort of talk," said Marie. "I'm sure, if anybody does more for servants than we do, I'd like to know who; and it don't do 'em a bit good,--not a particle,--they get worse

and worse. As to talking to them, or anything like that, I'm sure I have talked till I was tired and hoarse, telling them their duty, and all that; and I'm sure they can go to church when they like, though they don't understand a word of the sermon, more than so many pigs,--so it isn't of any great use for them to go, as I see; but they do go, and so they have every chance; but, as I said before, they are a degraded race, and always will be, and there isn't any help for them; you can't make anything of them, if you try. You see, Cousin Ophelia, I've tried, and you haven't; I was born and bred among them, and I know." (175)
Dolph and the borrowing of St. Clare's clothes.

Tom and Eva interacting

HBS commentary about Africa also has some very racist assumptions:

If ever Africa shall show an elevated and cultivated race,--and come it must, some time, her turn to figure in the great drama of human improvement.--life will awake there with a gorgeousness and splendor of which our cold western tribes faintly have conceived. In that far-off mystic land of gold, and gems, and spices, and waving palms, and wondrous flowers, and miraculous fertility, will awake new forms of art, new styles of splendor; and the negro race, no longer despised and trodden down, will, perhaps, show forth some of the latest and most magnificent revelations of human life. Certainly they will, in their gentleness, their lowly docility of heart, their aptitude to repose on a superior mind and rest on a higher power, their childlike simplicity of affection, and facility of forgiveness. In all these they will exhibit the highest form of the peculiarly Christian life, and, perhaps, as God chasteneth whom he loveth, he hath chosen poor Africa in the furnace of affliction, to make her the highest and noblest in that kingdom which he will set up, when every other kingdom has been tried, and failed; for the first shall be last, and the last first." (178)

Religion and Slavery

St. Clare ""Then you don't believe that the Bible justifies slavery," said Miss Ophelia.

"The Bible was my mother's book," said St. Clare. "By it she lived and died, and I would be very sorry to think it did. I'd as soon desire to have it proved that my mother could drink brandy, chew tobacco, and swear, by way of satisfying me that I did right in doing the same. It wouldn't make me at all more satisfied with these things in myself, and it would take from me the comfort of respecting her; and it really is a comfort, in this world, to have anything one can respect. In short, you see," said he, suddenly resuming his gay tone, "all I want is that different things be kept in different boxes. The whole frame-work of society, both in Europe and America, is made up of various things which will not stand the scrutiny of any very ideal standard of morality. It's pretty generally understood that men don't aspire after the absolute right, but only to do about as well as the rest of the world. Now, when any one speaks up, like a man, and says slavery is necessary to us, we can't get along without it, we should be beggared if we give it up, and, of course, we mean to hold on to it,--this is strong, clear, well-defined language; it has the respectability of truth to it; and, if we may judge by their practice, the majority of the world will bear us out in it. But when he begins to put on a long face, and snuffle, and quote Scripture, I incline to think he isn't much better than he should be." (182)

Tom's religious behavior at the end of the chapter.

(Skip to Ch. 28 p312)

Chapter 17 The Freeman's Defense (Eliza)

At the Quaker Village/House/George/Eliza/Simeon/Rachel Halliday
Quaker, Phineas Fletcher
Phineas was a woodsman before he became a Quaker
Slave catchers coming
Tom Loker and Marks/Constable and drunk posse. (194)
Fight at the Rocks
Tom Loker is shot and is saved by the Quakers.

Chapter 18 Miss Ophelia's Experiences and Opinions

Chapter 19 Miss Ophelia's Experiences and Opinions, Continued
Chapter 20 Topsy

Chapter 21 Kentuck
Chapter 22 "The Grass Withereth—The Flower Fadeth"
Chapter 23 Henrique
Chapter 24 Foreshadowings
Chapter 25 The Little Evangelist
Chapter 26 Death

Chapter 27 "This Is the Last of Earth"

Eva dies
Grieving family St. Clare was with Tom and no faith
St. Clare did not believe.

Chapter 28 Reunion (Tom) (302)

St. Clare is emancipating Uncle Tom
Ophelia wants papers for owning Topsy
ST. Clare is becoming more religious, reading the bible verse about judgement, "Depart from me to everlasting fire…" (309)
"I was hungry an you gave me not meat…"
St. Clare said, I will do my part… to the poor and lowly." (312)
St. Clare has changed
St. Clare becomes the voice of HBS, with the discussion of what will the Northern people do to help the freed slave to make them Christians and productive people with education and skills etc… (316)
St. Clare is killed in a fight by accident.

Chapter 29 The Unprotected (317)

Marie became harsh, whipping Rosa (one of her slaves)

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Ophelia tried to intercede but was rebuked
Marie was determined to sell all of the slaves
Tom's hopes for freedom are dashed.

Chapter 30 The Slave Warehouse (Tom)

Mr. Skeggs, slave auctioneer checking the people's teeth etc.
Simon Legree, one of the most dastardly and abusive characters in literature.

Sold Tom to Legree (Bullet Headed man)
Tom is chained.
Mother and daughter are separated at the slave auction, (333)

Chapter 31 The Middle Passage (Tom)(334)

Simon Legree
Harsh/cruel/abrasive
He does not care for the welfare of the people or slaves
He uses them up and then buys new people when they die.
Tom is chained to be taken back to the plantation.

Chapter 32 Dark Places (Tom) (340)

Tom going South with Legree
Hewdin to wild area, dangerous
Legree abusing the people all along the way.
Emmeline, a mullato young women, the object of Legree's affection.

We meet Legree's slave henchmen Sambo and Kimbo
They hated each other and Legree made them compete for favors and extra food. They were more privileged than the other slaves, and they have power over the other slaves.
The other slaves hated Sambo and Kimbo
Emmeline was sexually exploited by Legree (344)

Slave quarters, away from main house were in horrible condition
Tom sharing bible with slaves
Legree did not allow it on the plantation
Tom was a methodist

Chapter 33 Cassy (Tom)

Chapter 34 The Quadroon's Story (Tom)

Chapter 34 The Tokens (Tom)

Chapter 35 Emmeline and Cassy

Chapter 36 Liberty

Chapter 37 The Victory
Chapter 38 The Stratagem
Chapter 39 The Martyr
Chapter 40 The Young Master
Chapter 41 An Authentic Ghost Story
Chapter 42 Results
Chapter 43 The Liberator
Chapter 44 Concluding Remarks