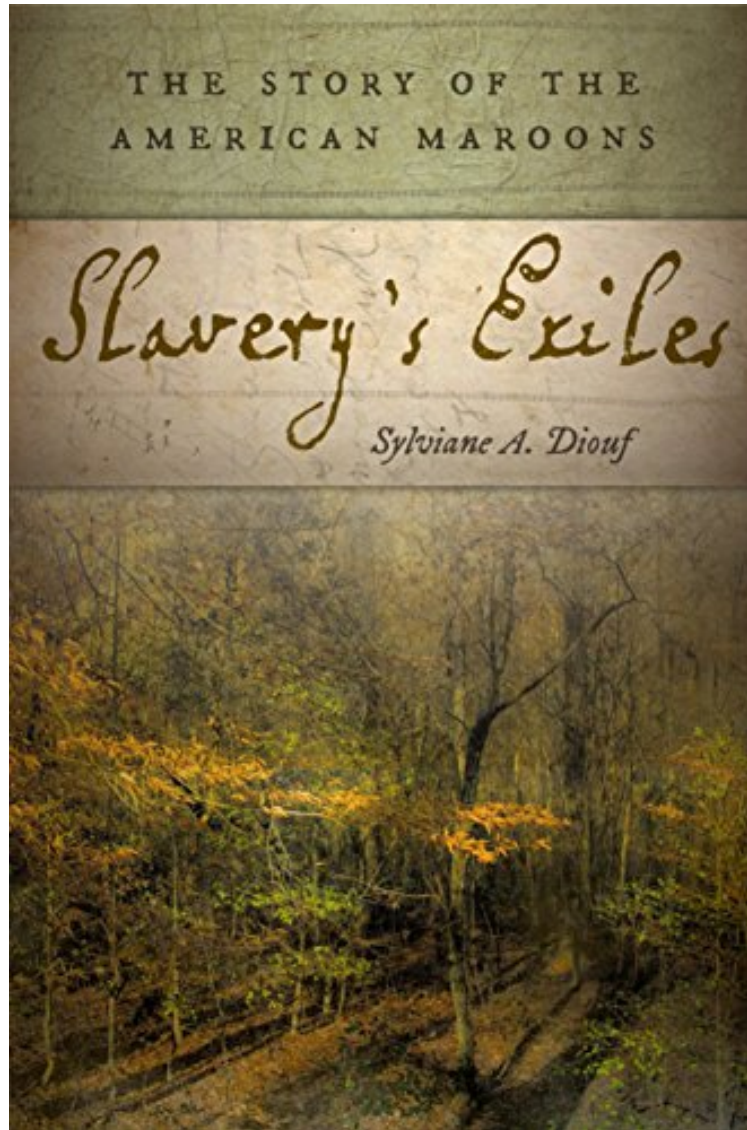


[Ebook free] Slavery's Exiles: The Story of the American Maroons

Slavery's Exiles: The Story of the American Maroons

Sylviane A. Diouf

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#1095420 in Books Sylviane A Diouf 2014-01-17 2014-01-17Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.02 x 1.06 x 5.98l, 1.53 #File Name: 081472437X403 pagesSlavery s Exiles | File size: 64.Mb

Sylviane A. Diouf : Slavery's Exiles: The Story of the American Maroons before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Slavery's Exiles: The Story of the American Maroons:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. has created an amazing work that spotlights a tremendously understudied aspect of American ...By Jake ZirkleSylviane A. Diouf's Slavery's Exiles: The Story of the American Maroons examines the maroon population of the United States. Diouf, an award-winning historian and a curator at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture of The New York Public Library, has created an amazing work that spotlights a tremendously understudied aspect of American Slavery. Slavery's Exiles highlights the lives and

experiences of slaves who chose to be free on their own terms, rather than living enslaved in the white man's world. The primary focus of *Slavery's Exiles* is to examine the various maroon populations that existed in the southern United States (excluding Florida). These maroons have largely been ignored or believed to have been non-existent. Diouf has examined a large amount of sources and the results of her research are indispensable. Diouf persuasively argues that many of the self-imposed exiles lived on the borderlands between the plantation and the wilderness, rather than in the wilderness itself. This is important because it illustrates the manner in which the maroons survived. While they would rely on their hunting skills to provide some of their necessary sustenance, those in exile would also partake in nighttime raids of farms and plantations. The maroons existed on a space between the plantation and the wilderness, an area that was their own. Diouf not only focuses on individuals who chose to live in exile, but also on communities comprised of former slaves. She spends time discussing communities in Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. *Slavery's Exiles* successfully fills a gap in the historiography of American Slavery because it examines an often overlooked group, whose unique experience helps to further scholar's knowledge of slavery in America. *Slavery's Exiles* is extremely well-written and well-researched. Diouf has created a compelling narrative that deepens one's understanding of an important topic, while conveying that information in an interesting manner. This book highlights the lives of a small and resilient population that chose to live free in exile rather than in chains.¹⁴ of 15 people found the following review helpful. ProdigiousBy Mark LevineProfessor Diouf, in telling (and brilliantly) the story of runaways from slavery, has significantly supplemented the voluminous historical literature on the subject. In unearthing the often-inspirational (though occasionally sad, even tragic) tales of these men and women (and in some cases, of children, including those born in marronage) she has accomplished a prodigious task of research. Even those familiar with the scope of scholarly work on North American slavery will find something new, and often inspirational, here. Although I would have liked to learn if any men who were maroons at the time of the Civil War enlisted in the Union army, which would have added a dimension to our understanding of their motivations (as if the simple desire for one's and one's family's personal freedom is not enough), I am not at all sure that such information exists, and its absence in no way detracts from this volume's excellence.(With the me-too tendencies of Hollywood, and given the success of *12 Years A Slave*, one might also foresee these heroic stories being brought to even more vivid life, but Diouf has already done her part). Bravo.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Author has to justify subject at first but then really picks up.By E-K. DaufinThis is a fabulous book that starts a little tediously but soon picks up and is the kind of book that absorbs you and gives you dreams. Touching. Moving. Amazing.

Over more than two centuries men, women, and children escaped from slavery to make the Southern wilderness their home. They hid in the mountains of Virginia and the low swamps of South Carolina; they stayed in the neighborhood or paddled their way to secluded places; they buried themselves underground or built comfortable settlements. Known as maroons, they lived on their own or set up communities in swamps or other areas where they were not likely to be discovered.

"With impressive research and vivid prose, Diouf directs our attention to maroons within the United States. From the Great Dismal Swamp of Virginia to the frontier regions of Louisiana, she shows, fugitive slaves managed to survive without fleeing to the North. An important addition to our understanding of slave society and black resistance."-Eric Foner,author of *The Fiery Trial: Abraham Lincoln and American Slavery*"Diouf persuasively captures the quiet heroism of North American maroons. Less dramatic and long-lived than many of the maroon communities in Suriname, Jamaica, or Brazil, those in the southern United States were nonetheless ever present. Diouf demonstrates how much freedom mattered to the enslaved and how, within the limited possibilities open to them, those that set off into the inhospitable swamps and forests managed to forge a new life beyond the authority of whitefolks."-Richard Price,author of *Maroon Societies*"Diouf has scoured archives across the United States, examining accounts of fugitives throughout the Slave South to uncover the hidden history of American maroons, and produced a highly readable, original study that deserves a broad scholarly and popular audience."-*Journal of the Civil War Era*"This extensively and thoroughly researched study brings to light a little-known aspect of slavery in the United States . . . a fascinating read. Diouf has done a brilliant job of illuminating a complicated, multifaceted, important, yet little-known piece of black American history."-Annette Madden,*The Baobab Tree*"In contrast to the study of slavery elsewhere, six decades of research in the United States has systematically bypassed the issue of marronage. Sylviane Diouf's exhaustive research has not only brought the subject to center stage, it offers a framework for recasting the study of runaway slaves throughout the Americas. This is one of those rare books that is at once of scholarly significance and will engage a wide readership."-David Eltis,Robert W. Woodruff Professor of History, Emory University"[T]he stories are riveting. Readers will become familiar with colorful characters like Captain Cudjoe of Jamaica or the man nicknamed 'Forest' for his skill at hiding, and they will learn surprising facts about maroons' participation in trade and defense, along with horrific details of punishments . . . [I]t's a notable document for its treatment of the subject."-*Publishers Weekly*"In writing that is deeply informative, with vivid anecdotes when available, including horrors of punishment enacted when maroons were captured, this book is recommended to those wishing to pursue the study of American

slavery beyond more general texts."