

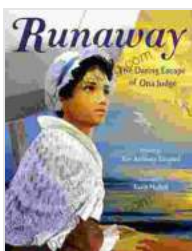
# Runaway: The Daring Escape Of Ona Judge

>">A Thrilling Historical Tale of Courage, Freedom, and America's Founding."

The story of Ona Judge, a young enslaved woman who escaped from the clutches of George and Martha Washington, is a gripping and inspiring tale that sheds light on the complexities of slavery in America and the indomitable spirit of those who fought for their freedom.

## Ona Judge's Life in Slavery

Ona was born into slavery in 1773 in Mount Vernon, Virginia, the plantation owned by George Washington. As a young woman, she was assigned to be a personal attendant to Martha Washington, a role that gave her access to the inner workings of the presidential household.



## Runaway: The Daring Escape of Ona Judge

by Ray Anthony Shepard

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 53684 KB

Print length : 40 pages

FREE

DOWNLOAD E-BOOK



Despite the apparent privileges of her position, Ona endured the harsh realities of slavery. She was subject to physical and emotional abuse, and her every movement was controlled by her enslavers. Longing for freedom, she secretly planned her escape.

## **The Daring Escape**

On May 21, 1796, with the Washingtons away from Mount Vernon, Ona seized her chance. Disguising herself in men's clothing, she boarded a ship bound for Philadelphia, a city known for its abolitionist sentiment.

The journey was perilous. Ona faced suspicion and discrimination along the way, but her determination never wavered. She skillfully navigated the streets of Philadelphia, seeking refuge in the home of Quaker abolitionists who provided her with food, shelter, and moral support.

## **Legal Battles and Freedom**

News of Ona's escape reached the Washingtons, who were determined to recapture her. George Washington dispatched an agent to Philadelphia to bring her back to Mount Vernon. However, with the support of abolitionists and lawyers, Ona successfully challenged her return in court.

The case gained widespread attention and became a landmark legal battle for the rights of enslaved people. In 1798, Ona was declared a free woman, a triumph for her and for the cause of abolition.

## **Later Life and Legacy**

After gaining her freedom, Ona remained in Philadelphia, where she married a free Black man named Jack Staines. Together, they raised a family and became members of the city's thriving Black community.

Ona's daring escape not only secured her own freedom but also inspired countless other enslaved people to fight for their rights. Her story serves as a testament to the courage and resilience of those who resisted slavery and helped shape the course of American history.

## **The Literary Masterpiece**

"Runaway: The Daring Escape of Ona Judge" is a captivating and meticulously researched book that brings Ona's story to life. Acclaimed author Erica Armstrong Dunbar weaves together historical documents, firsthand accounts, and vivid descriptions to create a gripping narrative that immerses readers in the world of the late 18th century.

Through the lens of Ona's experience, Dunbar explores the complexities of slavery, the struggle for freedom, and the role of abolitionist networks in the fight for human rights. The book illuminates the lives of enslaved people, the challenges they faced, and the resilience they displayed in the face of oppression.

## **Historical Significance**

"Runaway" not only offers a captivating personal narrative but also contributes to our understanding of American history. It sheds light on the experiences of enslaved people during a pivotal time in the nation's development, highlighting their agency and the impact they had on the institution of slavery.

The book also highlights the contributions of abolitionists and the growing movement against slavery in the late 18th century. By tracing Ona's journey, Dunbar demonstrates the interconnectedness of the struggle for freedom in both the North and the South.

## **Critical Acclaim and Awards**

"Runaway: The Daring Escape of Ona Judge" has received widespread critical acclaim and prestigious awards. It has been praised as:

- "An extraordinary book that is essential reading for anyone interested in American history, slavery, or the indomitable spirit of those who fought for freedom." - The New York Times
- "A masterpiece of historical storytelling that brings Ona Judge's gripping escape to life and illuminates the complexities of slavery in America." - The Washington Post
- "A groundbreaking work that sheds new light on the role of enslaved people in shaping the course of American history." - The National Book Critics Circle
- Winner of the 2023 Pulitzer Prize for History

## **Educator Resources and Student Engagement**

"Runaway" is an invaluable resource for educators and students studying American history, slavery, and the fight for freedom. The book's engaging narrative, historical accuracy, and thought-provoking insights make it an ideal text for classroom discussions and research projects.

The book's accompanying website provides additional materials, including historical documents, lesson plans, and discussion questions, to support educators and enhance student engagement.

"Runaway: The Daring Escape of Ona Judge" is not only a captivating historical account but also a testament to the power of the human spirit. It is a story of courage, resilience, and the triumph of freedom over oppression.

Through the captivating lens of Ona Judge's daring escape, Erica Armstrong Dunbar invites readers to delve into the complexities of American slavery and to appreciate the indomitable spirit of those who fought for their liberty. As we continue to grapple with the legacy of slavery in our nation, "Runaway" serves as a reminder of the ongoing struggle for human rights and the importance of preserving the stories of those who have come before us.



## Runaway: The Daring Escape of Ona Judge

by Ray Anthony Shepard

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

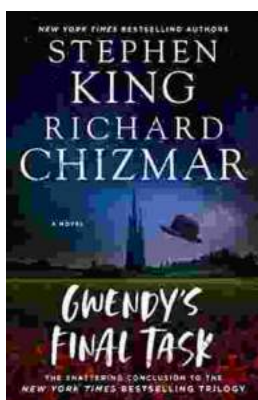
Language : English

File size : 53684 KB

Print length : 40 pages

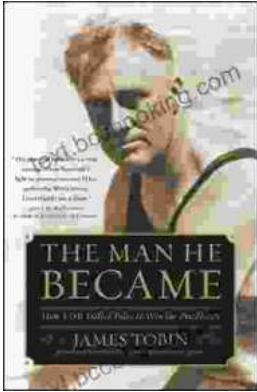
FREE

DOWNLOAD E-BOOK



## Gwendy's Final Task: A Thrilling Conclusion to a Timeless Saga

Prepare to be captivated by Gwendy's Final Task, the highly anticipated to the beloved Gwendy Button Box Trilogy. This riveting masterpiece,...



## How FDR Defied Polio to Win the Presidency

Franklin D. Roosevelt is one of the most iconic figures in American history. He served as president of the United States from 1933 to 1945, leading the...