## PEOPLE SOLD AT AUCTION



- 0. PEOPLE SOLD AT AUCTION Story Preface
- 1. THE UNDERGROUND IS BORN
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These slaves were being sold at <u>Christiansburg</u>, Montgomery County (Virginia), which is southwest of today's town of Roanoke. The illustration is from <u>Sketchbook of Landscapes in the State of Virginia</u>, 1853-1867, by Lewis Miller. Online, courtesy Virginia Foundation for the Humanities and the University of Virginia Library. The Library of Congress contains graphic pictures and photographs of the buying and selling of African-American slaves:

- Arriving in South Carolina in the 1780s, a group of slaves are <u>slated</u> to be sold at Ashley Ferry (outside Charleston).
- Others including men, women and children are auctioned off as though they were farm implements.
- Advertisements highlight virtues of a particular slave.
- The chains America threw away when the colonies declared their independence from Great Britain <u>did not</u> apply to blacks. Some even attempted to argue that American slavery was <u>justified</u>.
- White buyers inspect a kidnapped African and negotiate a purchase price with African slave traders.
- Families were often split up. Here a mother pleads: "Buy us too."
- <u>In Alexandria</u>, Virginia captured Africans were held in "<u>slave pens</u>" as they waited to be sold while in Easton, Maryland many whites gathered for a <u>slave sale</u>.

Once slaves were purchased, how did they live? What kind of clothing did they wear? How much food were they allowed?

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/PEOPLE-SOLD-AT-AUCTION-Underground-Railroad

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/PEOPLE-SOLD-AT-AUCTION-Underground-Railroad

Media Stream





## Slave Auction - Richmond, Virginia

Image described above, online courtesy Library of Congress.

View this asset at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Slave-Auction-Richmond-Virginia



#### Slave Auction in the American Colonies

Image, described above, online courtesy Library of Congress.

View this asset at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Slave-Auction-in-the-American-Colonies



### Advertisement for a Slave

Stephens, H. L., artist. "The Sale," ca. 1863. Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress. Reproduction Number LC-USZ62-41837.

Image online, courtesy Library of Congress.

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View this asset at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Advertisement-for-a-Slave



### <u>Declaration of Independence - Not for Slaves</u>

Image online, courtesy the U.S. Library of Congress.

View this asset at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Declaration-of-Independence-Not-for-Slaves



#### <u>Slavery - Inspection and Sale of People</u>

Image described above, online courtesy Library of Congress.

PD

View this asset at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Slavery-Inspection-and-Sale-of-People



Slavery - Families Separated in a Sale

<u>Image online</u>, courtesy Library of Congress.

PD

View this asset at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Slavery-Families-Separated-in-a-Sale



### Slave Dealer in Alexandria, Virginia

Image described above, online courtesy U.S. National Archives.

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View this asset at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Slave-Dealer-in-Alexandria-Virginia



#### Slave Pens

<u>Image described above</u>, online courtesy Library of Congress.

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# Slave Sale - People Gather for Auction

Image online, courtesy Library of Congress.

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 $\underline{\text{http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Slave-Sale-People-Gather-for-Auction}}$