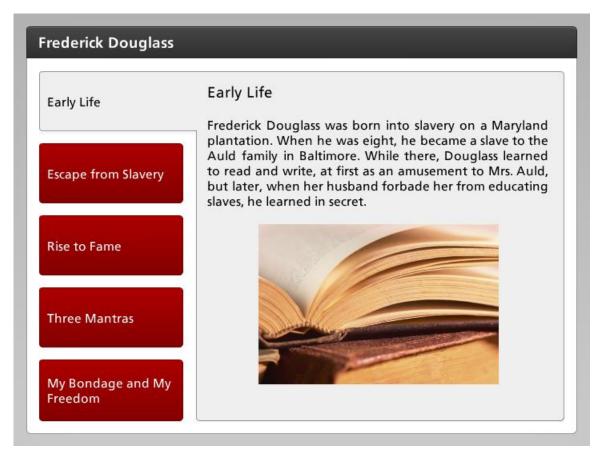
Introduction



Click on each of the tabs to explore the life and influence of Frederick Douglass.



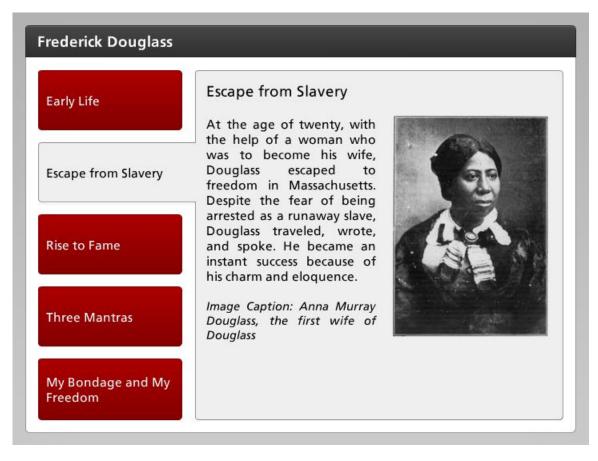
Early Life



Frederick Douglass was born into slavery on a Maryland plantation. When he was eight, he became a slave to the Auld family in Baltimore. While there, Douglass learned to read and write, at first as an amusement to Mrs. Auld, but later, when her husband forbade her from educating slaves, he learned in secret.



Escape from Slavery

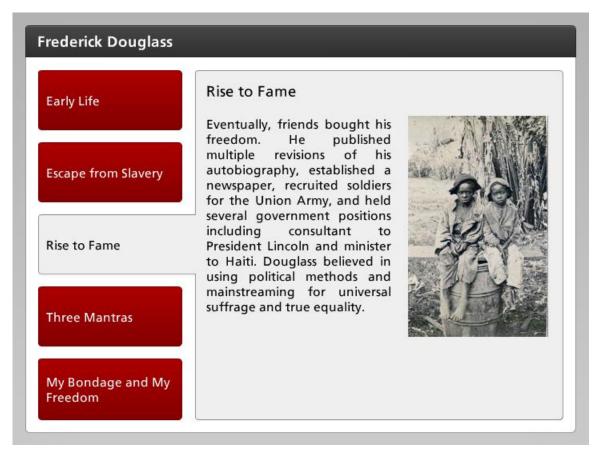


At the age of twenty, with the help of a woman who was to become his wife, Douglass escaped to freedom in Massachusetts. Despite the fear of being arrested as a runaway slave, Douglass traveled, wrote, and spoke. He became an instant success because of his charm and eloquence.

Image Caption: Anna Murray Douglass, the first wife of Douglass



Rise to Fame



Eventually, friends bought his freedom. He published multiple revisions of his autobiography, established a newspaper, recruited soldiers for the Union Army, and held several government positions including consultant to President Lincoln and minister to Haiti. Douglass believed in using political methods and mainstreaming for universal suffrage and true equality.



Three Mantras

Early Life	Three Mantras
Escape from Slavery	A mantra is a phrase or formula that can be chanted or sung as an incantation or prayer. Some mantras may be spiritual or connected to religion; others may be personal, eliciting self-improvement or inner peace. Frederick Douglass held three beliefs or mantras that he trusted would bring him success in life.
Rise to Fame	 Believe in yourself. Take advantage of every opportunity. Use the power of spoken and written language to effect positive change for yourself and society.
Three Mantras	Frederick Douglass used his mantras to educate himself, escape his bondage, and influence others to help the cause.
My Bondage and My	

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My Bondage and My Freedom

Early Life	My Bondage and My Freedom
	Douglass's autobiographical narrative, My Bondage and My Freedom, had a great impact on opening America's
Escape from Slavery	eyes to the horrors of slavery. Due to the eloquence of his writing style, he could influence people's opinions. Some critics argued that he was too educated to have ever been a slave, but due to his detailed accounts, no
Rise to Fame	one in contemporary times questions whether or not Douglass had been a slave during his life.
	MY BONDAGE
Three Mantras	MY FREEDOM.
	Part I.—File as a Slade. Part 11.—File as a freeman.
My Bondage and My	By FREDERICK DOUGLASS.

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