

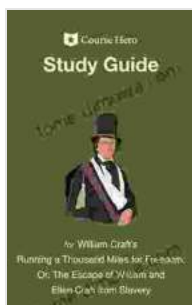
# Study Guide for William Craft's Running a Thousand Miles to Freedom

William Craft's *Running a Thousand Miles to Freedom* is a powerful and moving memoir of a slave's escape to freedom. First published in 1860, the book recounts Craft's harrowing journey from slavery in Georgia to freedom in Canada. Along the way, he encounters both danger and kindness, and his story is a testament to the resilience of the human spirit.

This study guide is designed to help you understand and appreciate William Craft's *Running a Thousand Miles to Freedom*. It includes:

- A biography of William Craft
- A summary of the book
- A discussion of the book's major themes
- A guide to the book's characters
- A list of discussion questions

William Craft was born into slavery in Macon, Georgia, in 1824. He was the son of a slave woman and a white overseer. Craft's father was a cruel and abusive man, and Craft's childhood was filled with hardship and violence.



## Study Guide for William Craft's Running a Thousand Miles for Freedom: Or, The Escape of William and Ellen Craft from Slavery (Course Hero Study Guides)

by Course Hero

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 1425 KB  
Lending : Enabled  
Screen Reader: Supported  
Print length : 40 pages  
Paperback : 28 pages  
Reading age : 7 years and up  
Item Weight : 1.76 ounces  
Dimensions : 6 x 0.07 x 9 inches



In 1848, Craft married Ellen Craft, a free black woman. The couple had three children. In 1850, the Crafts decided to escape from slavery. They disguised themselves as white people and traveled by train and boat to freedom in Canada.

After their escape, the Crafts settled in Boston, where William Craft became a prominent abolitionist. He lectured widely about his experiences as a slave and helped to raise funds for the Underground Railroad. Craft also wrote *Running a Thousand Miles to Freedom*, which became a bestseller and helped to raise awareness of the plight of slaves in the United States.

William Craft died in 1900. He is remembered as a courageous and determined man who fought for freedom and equality.

*Running a Thousand Miles to Freedom* begins with William Craft's decision to escape from slavery. He and his wife, Ellen, disguise themselves as white people and travel by train and boat to freedom in Canada. Along the way, they encounter both danger and kindness. They are nearly caught by

slave catchers, but they are also helped by abolitionists and other free black people.

The Crafts' journey is a harrowing one, but they eventually reach freedom in Canada. They settle in Boston, where William Craft becomes a prominent abolitionist. He lectures widely about his experiences as a slave and helps to raise funds for the Underground Railroad. Craft also writes *Running a Thousand Miles to Freedom*, which becomes a bestseller and helps to raise awareness of the plight of slaves in the United States.

*Running a Thousand Miles to Freedom* is a powerful and moving story about the resilience of the human spirit. The book explores the themes of slavery, abolitionism, and the Underground Railroad.

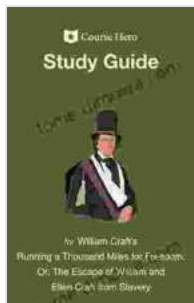
- **Slavery:** *Running a Thousand Miles to Freedom* is a firsthand account of the horrors of slavery. Craft describes the beatings, whippings, and other punishments that slaves were subjected to. He also describes the psychological toll that slavery took on slaves, as they were denied their basic human rights and dignity.
- **Abolitionism:** *Running a Thousand Miles to Freedom* is also a story about the abolitionist movement. Craft was a prominent abolitionist, and his book helped to raise awareness of the plight of slaves in the United States. The book also highlights the role that free black people played in the Underground Railroad, helping slaves to escape to freedom.
- **The Underground Railroad:** The Underground Railroad was a network of secret routes and safe houses that helped slaves to escape to freedom. *Running a Thousand Miles to Freedom* provides a

firsthand account of the Underground Railroad and the dangers that slaves faced along the way.

- **William Craft:** The protagonist of the book, William Craft is a slave who escapes to freedom in Canada. He is a courageous and determined man who fights for freedom and equality.
- **Ellen Craft:** William Craft's wife, Ellen is a free black woman who helps her husband to escape from slavery. She is a strong and resourceful woman who is devoted to her family.
- **Mr. Latimer:** A white abolitionist who helps the Crafts to escape from slavery. He provides them with disguises and money and helps them to find their way to Canada.
- **Mrs. Latimer:** Mr. Latimer's wife, Mrs. Latimer is also an abolitionist. She helps the Crafts to find a safe place to stay in Canada.
- **Mr. Johnson:** A slave catcher who tries to capture the Crafts. He is a ruthless and determined man who is willing to do anything to return the Crafts to slavery.

1. What are the main themes of *Running a Thousand Miles to Freedom*?
2. How does Craft describe the horrors of slavery?
3. What role did free black people play in the Underground Railroad?
4. What are the dangers that slaves faced along the Underground Railroad?
5. How does Craft's story illustrate the resilience of the human spirit?

Running a Thousand Miles to Freedom is a powerful and moving memoir that is essential reading for anyone who wants to understand the horrors of slavery and the struggle for freedom. William Craft's story is a testament to the resilience of the human spirit and the power of hope.

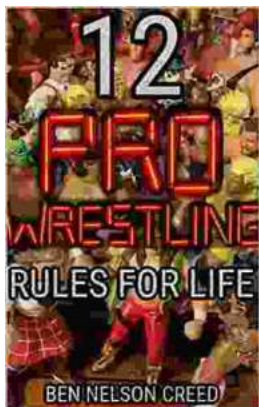


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