

Name _____

A Closer Look at "The Slave's Dream" by Longfellow

This poem by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow is about a slave who, while being beaten, escapes into his own mind. He has a dream about his former life in Africa, and is then able to release his pain and die in peace. Let's take a closer look at this poem.

Directions:

Read the poem and answer questions 1-9. Questions 1-4 are in boxes to the right of the poem. The rest are at the end of the poem.

(Below, the parts where the slave is in a dream state are written in gray.)

The Slave's Dream (1842) Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Beside the ungathered rice he lay,
His **sickle** in his hand;
His breast was bare, his matted hair
Was buried in the sand.
Again, in the mist and shadow of sleep,
He saw his Native Land.

Woke through the landscape of his dream
The friendly Niger River;
Familiar the palm-trees on the plain
Gave room to King the Warrior,
And heard the Galla warriors
Descend the mountain-road.

He saw wide rivers, the dark-eyed queen,
Among her children stand;
They clasped his neck, they kissed his cheek,
They held him by the hand —
A lion-roar, from the whisperer's side,
Fell full into the sand.

And there, in freedom, spread he wide
Along the Niger's banks;
The white-robes were golden chains,
And, with a plentiful drink,
As such he felt the exultation of power
Smothering his station's shame.

Before him, also, a broad-red flag,
The bright musk-scented dew;
From a cave all night he beheld deer flight,
On plains where the tamarind grew,
Till he saw the roofs of Carthage built,
Along the coast road to Tunis.

1. Why do you think Longfellow assumes that the slave's "Native Land" is Africa?

2. The importation of slaves from Africa was banned in _____.

The Niger River (pronounced ne-jer) flows through western Africa.

3. What was the slave's former life in Africa like? Why do you think he begins to cry?

4. What imagery in this poem gives the reader a mental picture of Africa?

Slaves Dream And Other Stories

Oscar Wilde



Slaves Dream And Other Stories:

The Slave's Dream and Other Stories Nabīl Na‘ūm, 1991 **Uncle's Dream and Other Stories** Fyodor Dostoyevsky, 1989 This second volume of Dostoyevsky's shorter fiction contains White Nights The Honest Thief A Christmas Tree Party and A Wedding A Faint Heart The Little Hero A Gentle Spirit Uncle's Dream The Dream of a Ridiculous Man An Unpleasant Predicament **The Wife of his Youth and Other Stories of the Color Line, and Selected Essays** Charles W. Chesnutt, 2022-08-15 In *The Wife of His Youth and Other Stories of the Color Line and Selected Essays* Charles W. Chesnutt intricately weaves a tapestry of narratives that explore the complex interplay of race identity and social stratification in late 19th century America Using a realist style infused with dialect and keen psychological insight Chesnutt confronts the nuances of colorism and the societal expectations for African Americans in a post Civil War context The collection showcases his ability to depict the personal struggles of individuals caught at the intersection of race and class offering a poignant reflection on the persistent color line that defines social relations and personal choices Charles W. Chesnutt one of the first significant African American writers in the U S drew upon his own experiences as a mixed race man in a predominantly white society Having emerged from a background of both slavery and education Chesnutt was profoundly influenced by the complexities of his identity His literary career spanned a time of intense societal change which informed his exploration of the dilemmas faced by African Americans navigating a prejudiced society This collection is a must read for scholars and general readers alike as it not only illuminates the historical context of racial identity but also resonates with contemporary discussions of race and belonging Chesnutt's insightful essays complement his fictional narratives offering a deeper understanding of the challenges and aspirations of African Americans making this work an essential addition to any literary canon *The Wife of his Youth and Other Stories of the Color Line and Selected Essays (EasyRead Super Large 20pt Edition)* Chesnutt, 2022 **The Wife of His Youth, and Other Stories of The Color Line** Charles Waddell Chesnutt, 2023-10-01 Represents a 19th century American novel by an African American which is important to the study of American folklore culture and literary history **A Companion to Postcolonial Studies** Henry Schwarz, Sangeeta Ray, 2008-04-15 This volume examines the tumultuous changes that have occurred and are still occurring in the aftermath of European colonization of the globe from 1492 to 1947 Ranges widely over the major themes regions theories and practices of postcolonial study Presents original essays by the leading proponents of postcolonial study in the Americas Europe India Africa East and West Asia Provides clear introductions to the major social and political movements underlying colonization and decolonization accessible histories of the literature and culture and separate regions affected by European colonization Features introductory essays on the major thinkers and intellectual schools that have informed strategies of national liberation worldwide Offers an incisive summary of the long history and theory of modern European colonization in local detail and global scale *The Wife of his Youth and Other Stories of the Color Line and Selected Essays (EasyRead Super*

Large 18pt Edition) ,2004 The Canterville Ghost, The Happy Prince and Other Stories Oscar Wilde,2010-04-01 A collection of stories including two of Wilde s most famous The Canterville Ghost in which a young American girl helps to free the tormented spirit that haunts an old English castle and The Happy Prince who was not as happy as he seemed Often whimsical and sometimes sad they all shine with poetry and magic A Village Ophelia and other Stories Anne Reeve Aldrich,2019-09-25 Reproduction of the original A Village Ophelia and other Stories by Anne Reeve Aldrich **Concise Biographical Companion to Index Islamicus** Wolfgang Behn,2006-03-01 This second of the three volume Who s Who in Islamic Studies presents the scholarly world at long last with its own biographical encyclopaedia Taking as a starting point the inventory of authors from the renowned Index Islamicus the author Wolfgang Behn Berlin has systematically collected numerous data on the lives and works of the tens of thousands of authors listed in the Index Islamicus from 1665 to 1980 This Biographical Companion will be an indispensable reference tool for the serious student and scholar of Islamic Studies It enables the user to quickly gain knowledge on the life work and professional background of almost every major and minor author and thus to place each author in his her proper perspective A tremendous achievement and a true must for every library

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