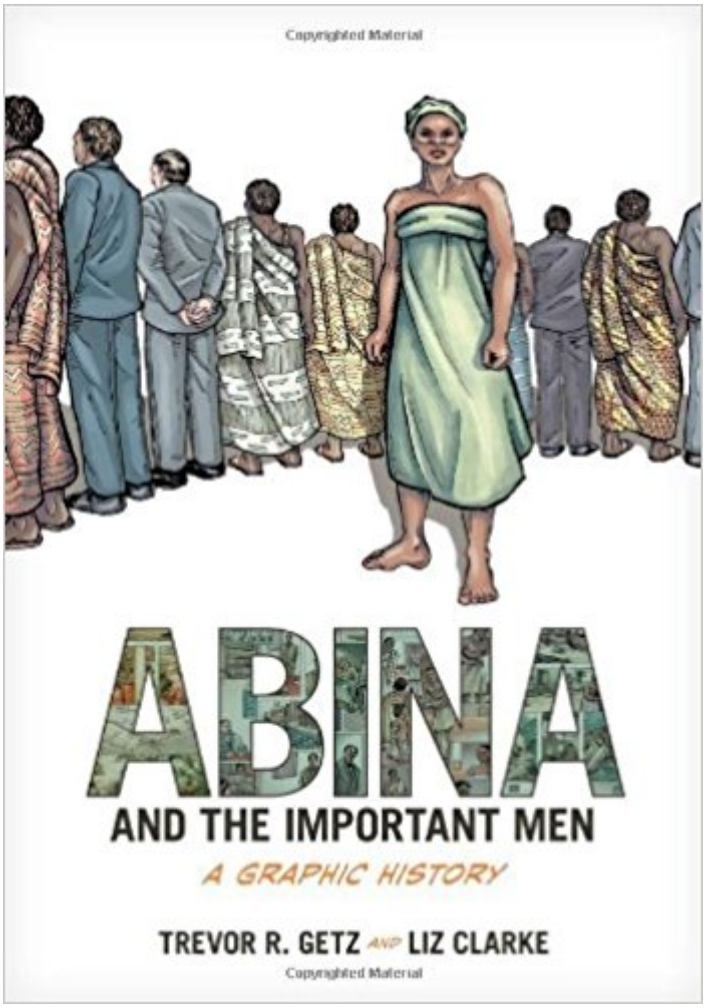
Ebook Directory
the best source of ebook

The book was found

Abina And The Important Men: A Graphic History



PDF
Adobe
DOWNLOAD EBOOK

Synopsis

Abina and the Important Men is a compelling and powerfully illustrated "graphic history" based on an 1876 court transcript of a West African woman named Abina, who was wrongfully enslaved and took her case to court. The book is a microhistory that does much more than simply depict an event in the past; it uses the power of illustration to convey important themes in world history and to reveal the processes by which history is made. The story of Abina Mansah--a woman "without history" who was wrongfully enslaved, escaped to British-controlled territory, and then took her former master to court--takes place in the complex world of the Gold Coast at the onset of late nineteenth-century colonialism. Slavery becomes a contested ground, as cultural practices collide with an emerging wage economy and British officials turn a blind eye to the presence of underpaid domestic workers in the households of African merchants. The main scenes of the story take place in the courtroom, where Abina strives to convince a series of "important men"--a British judge, two Euro-African attorneys, a wealthy African country "gentleman," and a jury of local leaders--that her rights matter. "Am I free?" Abina inquires. Throughout both the court case and the flashbacks that dramatically depict her life in servitude, these men strive to "silence" Abina and to impose their own understandings and meanings upon her. The story seems to conclude with the short-term success of the "important men," as Abina loses her case. But it doesn’t end there: Abina is eventually redeemed. Her testimony is uncovered in the dusty archives by Trevor Getz and, through Liz Clarke’s illustrations, becomes a graphic history read by people around the world. In this way, the reader takes an active part in the story along with the illustrator, the author, and Abina herself. Following the graphic history in Part I, Parts II-V provide detailed historical context for the story, a reading guide that reconstructs and deconstructs the methods used to interpret the story, and strategies for using Abina in various classroom settings.

Book Information

Paperback: 208 pages
Publisher: Oxford University Press; 1st edition (September 2, 2011)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 0199844399
ISBN-13: 978-0199844395
Product Dimensions: 9.9 x 1 x 6.9 inches
Shipping Weight: 7 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 47 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #51,856 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #12 inÃ Â Books > History > Africa > Southern Africa #13 inÃ Â Books > History > Africa > West Africa #27 inÃ Â Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Graphic Novels > Educational & Nonfiction

Customer Reviews

"This is a universal story of deception and truth that will appeal to anyone who has sought greater independence from the obligations of family, employer, or government."--Abena Dove Osseo-Asare, University of California, Berkeley "The young Abina Mansah lost her 1876 suit for freedom, but her voice still resounds in the transcript of her testimony. From that dusty transcript, Trevor Getz brings her struggle graphically to life. He beautifully surrounds her sad tale with resources showing its links within West Africa and beyond. Through Getz and in the engaging images of Liz Clarke, Abina affirms the mark that each person can make on the world."--Patrick Manning, University of Pittsburgh "Trevor Getz has pushed the envelope of Africanist scholarship. With Abina and the Important Men he offers unique insight into such contentious topics as personhood, gender, slavery, and colonialism. Along the way, he provides teachers and readers with a powerful tool for investigating the process of giving meaning to historical documents and narratives. This is exactly the sort of work that will help African history escape the dark and dusty halls of academia and help make it relevant to a wider audience. This is GENIUS."--Jonathan T. Reynolds, Northern Kentucky University "This is a superb introduction to the way that historians construct the past, to the history of slavery in Africa, and to colonialism. Getz's analysis of how he reads the document and the problems he had in building the narrative displays an ability to contextualize the document, and to read it both with and against the grain."--Martin Klein, University of Toronto "I hope that this book will serve as a model to many historians with compelling stories to tell. To tell our stories in a compelling and unconventional way does not mean that rigorous scholarship needs to be compromised. Rather, it shows that rigorous scholarship can go hand in hand with speaking to multip"Trevor Getz's Abina and the Important Men is a tremendous step forward for the world history community."--Journal of World History"This is a universal story of deception and truth that will appeal to anyone who has sought greater independence from the obligations of family, employer, or government."--Abena Dove Osseo-Asare, University of California, Berkeley "The young Abina Mansah lost her 1876 suit for freedom, but her voice still resounds in the transcript of her testimony. From that dusty transcript, Trevor Getz brings her struggle graphically to life. He beautifully surrounds her sad tale with resources showing its links within West Africa and beyond. Through Getz and in the engaging images of Liz Clarke, Abina affirms the mark that each person can make

on the world."--Patrick Manning, University of Pittsburgh "Trevor Getz has pushed the envelope of Africanist scholarship. With Abina and the Important Men he offers unique insight into such contentious topics as personhood, gender, slavery, and colonialism. Along the way, he provides teachers and readers with a powerful tool for investigating the process of giving meaning to historical documents and narratives. This is exactly the sort of work that will help African history escape the dark and dusty halls of academia and help make it relevant to a wider audience. This is GENIUS."--Jonathan T. Reynolds, Northern Kentucky University "This is a superb introduction to the way that historians construct the past, to the history of slavery in Africa, and to colonialism. Getz's analysis of how he reads the document and the problems he had in building the narrative displays an ability to contextualize the document, and to read it both with and against the grain."--Martin Klein, University of Toronto "I hope that this book will serve as a model to many historians with compelling stories to tell. To tell our stories in a compelling and unconventional way does not mean that rigorous scholarship needs to be compromised. Rather, it shows that rigorous scholarship can go hand in hand with speaking to multiple audiences."--Heather Streets, Washington State University, Pullman "Getz has crafted a gem, a valuable contribution to African studies and the world history classroom. The book combines a well-informed pedagogy with current historiographical trends. Its multi-layered format delves deeply and lyrically into Abina's world of image and word."--Candice Goucher, Washington State University, Vancouver "This is an important book that takes history into the public domain in a very accessible form."--Journal of African History

Trevor R. Getz is Professor of History at San Francisco State University. He is the author of Modern Imperialism and Colonialism: A Global Perspective (2010) and Slavery and Reform in West Africa (2004). He is also the editor for the new Oxford University Press series, African World Histories, the first volumes of which will appear in 2012.Liz Clarke is a professional artist and graphic designer based in Cape Town, South Africa.

This is one of the most interesting books I've ever seen because it is not just another piece of literature written in the graphic novel style, it is history, and it provides opportunities for the reader to experience that history in several ways. It is a fantastic representation of the way that literature is influenced by history.

Abina and the Important Men is a powerful graphic novel based on an late 1800's court transcript of a west African woman, named Abina. Abina believed she was wrongly enslaved so she ran away

and took the case to court. The book empowers slavery and the impact it had on the justice system and how it collided economically.As college students this book was an excellent read as it portrayed many things. The "Comic-Book" like of this graphic novel made it visually enhanced while reading. The illustrations were not like the average graphic novel. They were scholarly like as it enhanced the knowledge of the reader.Getz also incorporated the actually court transcript of the case in the book and it was relative short. So the question that arises from that is how did Getz get the majority of Abina's aspect from just that minimal transcript. That is one downside to the novel is how much of the novel is actual true.What we did like is how Getz formatted the novel. He broke it up into five parts, "The Graphic History", "The Transcript", "Historical Context", "Reading Guide", "Abina In The Classroom". He also incorporated maps and figures to help the reader visualize more.The Graphic History was the actual novel detailing Abina's story. Following that Getz put in the actual court transcript which helped with the dialogue but was hard to visualize emotions since it is just words on a piece of paper. The Historical context helped us as readers by giving background knowledge of Africa when the court case took place.Overall Abina and the Important Men was a great informative read for anyone looking to expand their knowledge on the Colonialism Era slavery and the impact it had on the justice system and how it collided economically.We read this book for Dr.Rhonda M. Gonzales' HIS/AAS3603 class at the University of Texas At San AntonioBlue Group- Jimmy, Efiom, Charles, Paola

Brilliant interpretation of a woman's story. So useful for the history classroom

I learned a lot and the story is so good because it is something you don't normally see or expect. Great pictures help you understand the story.

Great book, in beautiful condition. Couldn't be happier with this purchase!

Thank you.

The story of Abina and the Important Men, not only presents a personal account of the struggle experienced by West African women and children, it also provides readers a rare insight in how historical analysis is conducted. Trevor R. Getz, author of the graphic history, provides explanations on how he gathered the surrounding information on Abina's court transcript. By understanding the culture and social systems of the West African region during British rule, he is able to reconstruct an

authentic landscape through pictures and dialogue, giving the reader the ability to feel if he or she was actually living in West Africa at that time. Trevor R. Getz is able to allow Abina's voice be heard at last; a goal she was not able to achieve during her lifetime.To provide insight in the world of historical analysis, Getz discusses historical bias and offers a technique to "read against the grain." Along with the court transcripts and graphic story, Getz provides an introductory lesson in how to analyze historical documents from a critical perspective. He walks the readers step by step through the various questions historians must ask themselves when reviewing primary sources. He is very open and honest about his personal bias of telling the story from Abina's viewpoint after carefully researching the community the case was presented in, the time period and the background of the various parties involved in the case. In the same chapter he reminds people that historical research is not just the study of written works, but a balance of all sources that can provide insight into a person, period or society that are available to them. Art, archeological evidence, literature, linguistics and anthropological information provide a more well rounded picture to interpret events that occurred so long ago that we cannot easily observe them or understand the nuances between then and modern day. Abina and the Important Men is a great way to share history with diverse audiences. The graphic format makes it easy to teach a complex subject to kids, teens and adults. Having the courage to develop a historical work in this format dispels the myth that history textbooks are boring and simply a compilation of cold facts and data. Getz and Clark present the case of Abina in an effective fashion that enables readers to identify with each character. The artwork draws the reader into the story in a manner that the court transcript on its own simply cannot do. The affordable, yet beautifully printed book ties together the astonishing story of Abina's trial along with a historiography lesson from Dr Getz.HIS/AAS3603@UTSA - Red Group

a nice book for all ages... a microhistory on an african slave girl. Could be great for classroom use.

Download to continue reading...

Abina and the Important Men: A Graphic History (Graphic History Series) Abina and the Important Men: A Graphic History What Men WonÃ¢â ¬â„¢t Tell You: WomenÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Guide to Understanding Men (How to read their minds, what men want, why men cheat, why men wonÃ¢â ¬â„¢t commit, why men lose interest, how to avoid rejection from men) Graphic Design Success: Over 100 Tips for Beginners in Graphic Design: Graphic Design Basics for Beginners, Save Time and Jump Start Your Success (graphic ... graphic design beginner, design skills) World History, Ancient History, Asian History, United States History, European History, Russian History, Indian History, African History. (world history) Mendoza the Jew: Boxing, Manliness, and

Nationalism, A Graphic History (Graphic History Series) Debating Truth: The Barcelona Disputation of 1263, A Graphic History (Graphic History Series) Inhuman Traffick: The International Struggle against the Transatlantic Slave Trade: A Graphic History (Graphic History Series) The Civil Rights Movement & Vietnam: 1960-1976- Graphic U.S. History (Saddleback Graphic: U.S. History) Globalization: 1977-2008- Graphic U.S. History (Saddleback Graphic: U.S. History) Fight for Freedom: 1750-1783- Graphic U.S. History (Saddleback Graphic: U.S. History) Civil War: 1850-1876- Graphic U.S. History (Saddleback Graphic: U.S. History) The New World: 1500-1750- Graphic U.S History (Saddleback Graphic: American History) The United States Emerges: 1783-1800- Graphic U.S. History (Saddleback Graphic: U.S. History) World War II & the Cold War: 1940-1960- Graphic U.S. History (Saddleback Graphic: U.S. History) Problems of a New Nation: 1800-1830- Graphic U.S. History (Saddleback Graphic: U.S. History) Before the Civil War: 1830-1860- Graphic U.S. History (Saddleback Graphic: U.S. History) America Becomes a World Power: 1890-1930- Graphic U.S. History (Saddleback Graphic: American History) Roaring 20s & the Depression: 1920-1940- Graphic U.S. History (Saddleback Graphic: U.S. History) Industrial Era: 1865-1915- Graphic U.S. History (Saddleback Graphic: U.S. History)

Contact Us

DMCA

Privacy

FAQ & Help