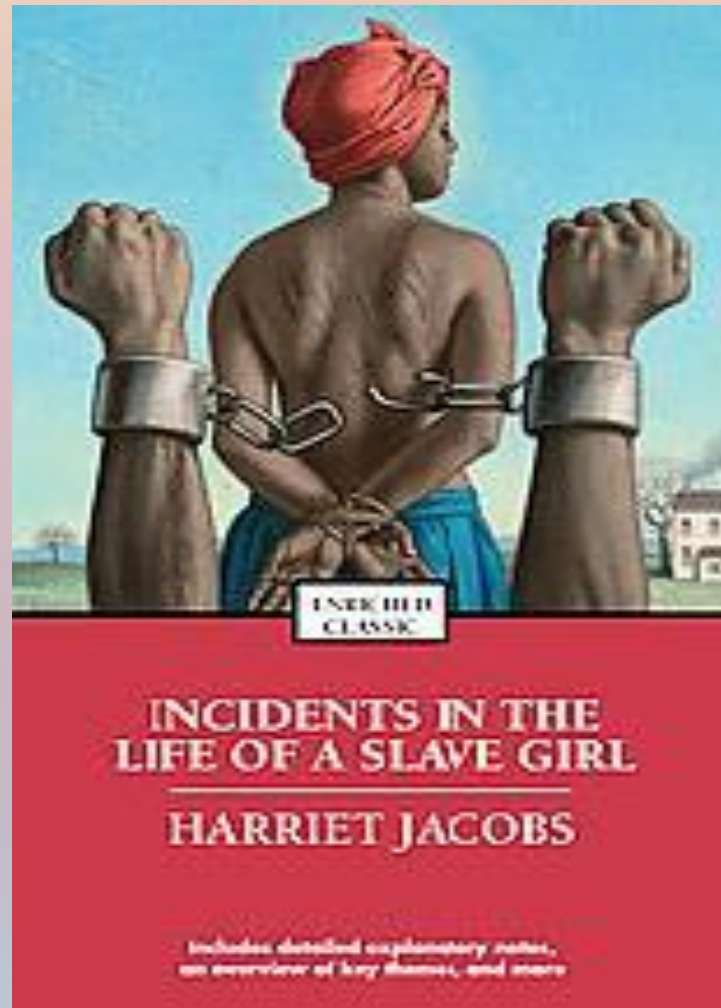
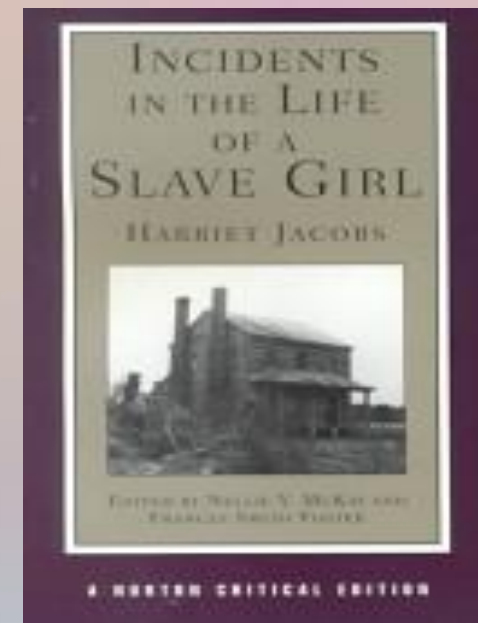
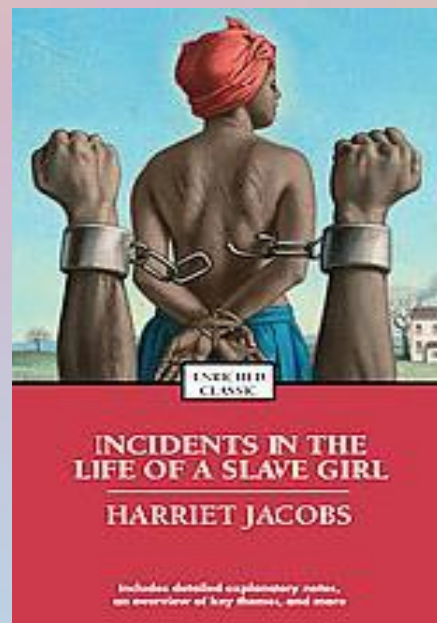
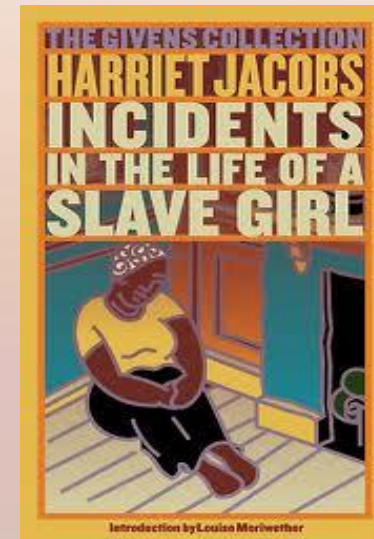
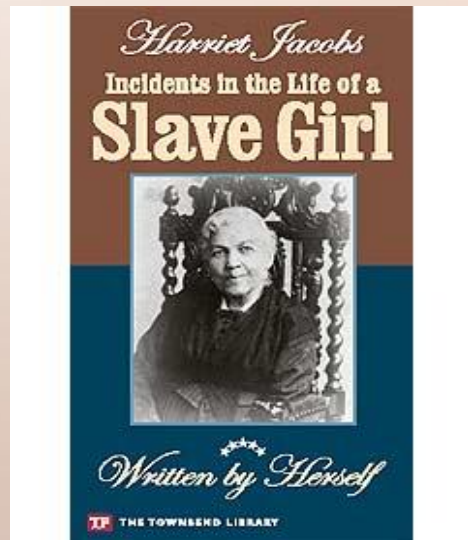


Harriet Jacob's Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl

Lecture 2: Powerful Images as Communication



Visual Communication: First Impressions



Images: Power & Meaning

Images are able to convey information quickly and evoke deep emotions in their viewers. This power of the image derives from its ability to convey a message all-at-once, as a gestalt or whole chunk of meaning.

The way the brain processes images also contributes to their power: we can see, remember, and be moved by an image that we have not really thought about. It can enter into consciousness below our analytical radar--or be moving too quickly--and continue to influence us from our subconsciousness.

Visual Communication: Analysis

Currier & Ives: *The Old Plantation Home*

- What is the mood of the sketch?
- What is the setting in the sketch?
- What is the action in the sketch?
- What is the story of the sketch?
- Look at the details of the painting. Write down five details that support the pro-slavery propaganda.

Currier & Ives: *The Old Plantation Home* 1872



THE OLD PLANTATION HOME.

Discussion on Currier & Ives: *The Old Plantation Home*

Planters romanticized life on the plantation, often representing themselves as stern but loving parents who had to look after their slaves, who were depicted as childlike and in need of disciplined guidance.

The plantation as the perfect extended family was a common theme of pro-slavery prints both before and after the Civil War.

This postwar lithograph by the popular firm of Currier and Ives portrayed the slave quarters as a carefree world, basking in the glow of the planter's benevolence.

In reality, of course, the harsh life of a slave bore little resemblance to this romanticized image.

Visual Communication: Analysis

Eyre Crowe's: *In The Richmond Slave Market*

- What is your first emotional reaction to the painting?
- What is the setting in the painting?
- What are the emotions of the people in the painting?
- What is the story of the painting?
- Look at the details of the painting. Write down five important cultural clues.

Eyre Crowe's: *In The Richmond Slave Market*,
1853(sketch)..1861(painting)



History of Eyre Crowe's: *In The Richmond Slave Market*

On the morning of March 3, 1853, the little-known English painter Eyre Crowe, who traveled America with author William Makepeace Thackeray, saw an advertisement in Richmond, Va., for a slave auction:

"Fifteen likely negroes to be disposed of between half-past nine and twelve—five men, six women, two boys, and two girls."

Although engrossed in his sketching, he attracted attention. No one would bid. The auctioneer finally confronted the artist and asked him how he would like it if someone interrupted his business.

As Crowe recalled: "This was unanswerable; I got up with the intention of leaving quietly, but, feeling this would savour of flight, I turned round to the now evidently angry crowd of dealers, and said "You may turn me away, but I can recollect all I have seen."

Formative Assessment 2

Read chapters 10-16 of *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*

Answer the following questions and hand them in:

1. Why does Harriet have a sexual relationship with Mr. Sands and not have a relationship with the freed slave whom she loves?
2. Do you think that Harriet's grandmother's judgment about Harriet's morals is fair?
3. Why does Harriet need her grandmother's approval so much?
4. How does the practice of slavery violate Christian principles?
5. Why does Harriet work so hard for her masters?
6. What is the key factor that resolves Harriet to escape from Mr. Flint's plantation?