

the middle passage tom feelings

The Middle Passage Tom Feelings: Exploring Art, History, and Emotional Depth

the middle passage tom feelings is a phrase that carries weight far beyond its words. It draws us into a profound exploration of one of the darkest chapters in human history—the transatlantic slave trade—and the artistic representation of that history through the work of Tom Feelings, an African American artist renowned for his evocative depictions of the African diaspora's experience. His portrayal of the Middle Passage, the harrowing journey endured by enslaved Africans, offers a window into both the historical reality and the emotional landscape of those who lived through it.

Understanding Tom Feelings' work in the context of the Middle Passage allows us to grasp not only the physical horrors of this forced migration but also the resilience, sorrow, and humanity embedded in the collective memory of African descendants worldwide.

Who Was Tom Feelings?

Tom Feelings was an influential African American illustrator and artist, born in 1933. His career spanned decades, during which he dedicated much of his art to narrating the African American experience. Feelings is best known for his deeply moving graphic novels and illustrations that explore themes of identity, history, and social justice.

His work is characterized by a powerful use of black-and-white imagery, often employing stark contrasts to evoke emotion and highlight the gravity of his subjects. Feelings' ability to blend historical accuracy with emotional storytelling makes his art a critical resource for understanding the Middle Passage and its aftermath.

The Artistic Vision Behind the Middle Passage

The Middle Passage refers to the brutal sea voyage that transported millions of enslaved Africans to the Americas under horrific conditions. Tom Feelings' artistic response to this history goes beyond mere depiction; it acts as a form of remembrance and mourning.

His illustrations capture the anguish, fear, and uncertainty of the enslaved, as well as moments of quiet strength and resistance. Through his art, Feelings provides a narrative that humanizes those often reduced to numbers in history books. The Middle Passage, in his hands, becomes a story of pain and survival, loss and hope.

Exploring the Middle Passage Through Tom Feelings' Art

Tom Feelings' works that focus on the Middle Passage are not just educational—they are deeply emotional journeys that invite viewers to empathize with the enslaved Africans' plight. His ability to convey complex emotions using minimalistic yet powerful visuals makes his art timeless.

Visual Storytelling and Emotional Impact

Feelings often used black-and-white mediums such as pen and ink, charcoal, and lithography to create his illustrations. This choice stripped away distractions and placed the focus squarely on the subjects' expressions and body language. The stark imagery evokes the bleakness of the slave ships' holds and the suffocating despair faced by those imprisoned within.

The emotional depth in his work comes from the way he captures moments of shared humanity—hands clasped in prayer, eyes wide with fear or hope, the tight quarters of the ship's hold. These details make the Middle Passage feel immediate and personal.

Works That Define the Middle Passage in Feelings' Career

One of Feelings' most notable works is the illustrated book "The Middle Passage: White Ships/Black Cargo," which is a graphic narrative retelling the story of the transatlantic slave trade. This work is widely praised for its historical accuracy and emotional resonance.

The book uses a combination of poetry and illustrations, allowing Feelings to articulate the trauma and resilience of the enslaved Africans. It serves as both a historical document and a tribute to those who endured unimaginable suffering.

The Historical and Cultural Significance of Tom Feelings'

Middle Passage Art

Tom Feelings' depictions of the Middle Passage do more than recount history; they actively shape cultural memory and identity. His work helps fill a gap left by traditional history, which often overlooks the personal experiences of enslaved Africans.

Reclaiming a Narrative

One of the most important aspects of Feelings' work is its role in reclaiming the narrative of the Middle Passage from a Eurocentric perspective. By focusing on the experiences of the enslaved, Feelings centers black voices and perspectives, giving agency to those who were historically silenced.

This reclamation is vital for African American communities and the broader African diaspora, as it provides a visual and emotional representation of their ancestors' struggles and strength.

Educational Importance

Feelings' art is widely used in educational settings to teach students about the transatlantic slave trade. His vivid illustrations help students understand the scale of suffering and the human cost of slavery in a way that textbooks alone cannot convey.

By integrating art and history, Feelings' work encourages empathy, critical thinking, and a deeper appreciation of the resilience of enslaved peoples.

Understanding the Emotional Landscape Through Tom Feelings' Middle Passage

The phrase "the middle passage tom feelings" also invites us to consider the emotional and psychological dimensions of the Middle Passage. Feelings' art does not just document events; it captures the feelings of despair, fear, hope, and resistance that defined this experience.

Conveying Sorrow and Resilience

In his illustrations, sorrow is palpable—faces etched with pain, bodies cramped and broken by the journey. Yet, interwoven with this sorrow is a quiet resilience. Feelings portrays moments where the enslaved hold onto their humanity despite dehumanizing conditions.

This duality is essential to understanding the Middle Passage not just as a historical event but as a lived emotional experience.

How Feelings' Work Inspires Contemporary Reflection

Tom Feelings' powerful depictions challenge viewers to reflect on the legacy of the Middle Passage today. Issues such as systemic racism, identity, and cultural memory are deeply connected to this history.

By engaging with Feelings' art, contemporary audiences are encouraged to confront uncomfortable truths and recognize the enduring impact of slavery on modern society.

Incorporating Tom Feelings' Middle Passage Themes Into Modern Art and Education

Tom Feelings' work continues to inspire artists, educators, and activists. His approach to illustrating the Middle Passage offers valuable lessons on using art as a tool for social justice and historical remembrance.

Tips for Using Feelings' Art in Educational Settings

- **Contextualize the History:** Before showing the art, provide students with background on the transatlantic slave trade and its significance.
- **Encourage Emotional Engagement:** Ask students how the images make them feel and why, fostering empathy and personal connection.
- **Combine Mediums:** Use Feelings' illustrations alongside poetry, historical documents, and oral histories for a multidimensional learning experience.

Artists Drawing Inspiration from Tom Feelings

Many contemporary artists who explore themes of racial identity and history cite Tom Feelings as an influence. His ability to blend powerful visual storytelling with social commentary remains a model for using art to confront difficult histories.

Emerging artists can learn from Feelings' commitment to authenticity and emotional depth, especially when addressing topics as complex as the Middle Passage.

The legacy of Tom Feelings' work on the Middle Passage offers a deeply human perspective on a brutal chapter of history. Through his art, we are reminded not only of the horrors endured but also of the enduring strength and spirit of those who survived. This enduring relevance speaks to the power of art to connect us with the past and inspire a more empathetic future.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is 'The Middle Passage' by Tom Feelings about?

'The Middle Passage' by Tom Feelings is a powerful illustrated work that depicts the harrowing journey of enslaved Africans across the Atlantic Ocean during the transatlantic slave trade, capturing the brutality and suffering endured during this forced voyage.

Who is Tom Feelings and why is he significant in relation to 'The Middle Passage'?

Tom Feelings was an African American artist and illustrator known for his evocative artwork on African American history and culture. He is significant for 'The Middle Passage' because he created a deeply moving visual narrative that brings to life the historical trauma of the slave trade.

What artistic style does Tom Feelings use in 'The Middle Passage'?

Tom Feelings employs a bold, expressive style using black-and-white illustrations that convey emotion and intensity, utilizing stark contrasts and dramatic imagery to communicate the pain and resilience of enslaved Africans.

How does 'The Middle Passage' by Tom Feelings contribute to the understanding of the transatlantic slave trade?

The work provides a visceral, emotional perspective on the Middle Passage, going beyond historical facts to humanize the experience of enslaved Africans, thereby fostering empathy and a deeper understanding of this dark chapter in history.

What themes are explored in Tom Feelings' 'The Middle Passage'?

'The Middle Passage' explores themes such as suffering, resilience, oppression, identity, and the enduring spirit of African people amidst the horrors of slavery and displacement.

Why is 'The Middle Passage' by Tom Feelings considered an important educational resource?

'The Middle Passage' is valued as an educational resource because it combines historical narrative with compelling visual storytelling, making the history of the slave trade accessible and impactful for learners, encouraging reflection on the legacy of slavery.

Additional Resources

The Middle Passage Tom Feelings: A Profound Artistic Exploration of History and Identity

the middle passage tom feelings serves as a pivotal work in the visual and historical narrative of the transatlantic slave trade. Tom Feelings, an acclaimed African-American illustrator and author, crafted

this compelling graphic novel to depict the harrowing journey known as the Middle Passage—the forced transportation of enslaved Africans to the Americas. Through his evocative artwork and meticulous storytelling, Feelings offers a deeply emotional and educational experience that bridges history, memory, and cultural identity.

This article explores the significance of Tom Feelings' *The Middle Passage*, examining its artistic merits, historical context, and cultural impact. By analyzing the work through a professional lens, we aim to provide a comprehensive understanding of how Feelings communicates the complexities of this dark chapter in human history and why his portrayal remains relevant in contemporary discussions on race, resilience, and history.

Historical Context and Significance of The Middle Passage

The Middle Passage refers to the brutal transatlantic voyage endured by millions of Africans forcibly taken from their homelands to be sold into slavery in the New World. This journey, marked by inhumane conditions, suffering, and death, is a foundational event in African diasporic history. Tom Feelings' graphic novel captures not only the physical torment but also the psychological and cultural dislocation experienced by these individuals.

Published in 1995, *The Middle Passage* is more than a historical recount; it is a visual testimony that elevates the voices of the enslaved. Feelings' work stands out for its dedication to accuracy and empathy, diverging from traditional textbook narratives by immersing readers in the lived experience of the captives. His illustrations function as a potent counter-narrative to sanitized or abstracted histories, making the past tangible and urgent.

Artistic Style and Visual Storytelling

Tom Feelings employs a distinctive artistic style characterized by bold, expressive black-and-white drawings. His use of stark contrasts and fluid lines conveys both the brutality and the humanity of the

Middle Passage. The monochromatic palette intensifies the emotional weight, evoking a somber mood that resonates throughout the book.

The layout of the graphic novel itself is carefully considered; Feelings uses varied panel sizes and compositions to control pacing and focus. For example, cramped panels mirror the overcrowded slave ships, while expansive full-page images allow moments of reflection or highlight significant cultural elements. This dynamic visual approach enhances reader engagement and deepens the narrative impact.

Feelings' illustrations also integrate African cultural symbols and motifs, subtly reminding readers of the origins and identities forcibly severed by enslavement. By doing so, the graphic novel challenges the erasure of African heritage and emphasizes resilience amid adversity.

Educational Value and Cultural Impact

The Middle Passage by Tom Feelings has become an essential resource in educational settings, particularly in discussions surrounding African American history, slavery, and human rights. Its accessibility as a graphic novel allows educators to introduce complex historical themes to diverse audiences, including younger readers who might find traditional texts inaccessible.

Studies have shown that graphic novels like Feelings' work promote empathy and critical thinking by combining visual and textual information. The visceral imagery encourages readers to confront uncomfortable truths and fosters a deeper understanding of the human costs of slavery.

Moreover, The Middle Passage has influenced contemporary artists and writers in the African diaspora, inspiring new works that explore identity, memory, and resistance. Its status as a culturally significant publication is reinforced by critical acclaim and inclusion in numerous academic syllabi and museum exhibitions.

Comparative Analysis: The Middle Passage and Other Representations

When compared to other artistic or literary portrayals of the transatlantic slave trade, Tom Feelings' *The Middle Passage* stands out for its immersive and personal approach. Unlike scholarly texts that prioritize factual recounting or novels that focus on fictionalized narratives, Feelings blends history and art to create a unique form of storytelling.

Graphic Novels on Slavery

While graphic novels addressing slavery exist, few match the historical rigor and emotional depth of Feelings' work. For instance, works like Afua Richardson's "The Shadow Hero" or David F. Walker's "Black Panther" touch on African heritage but do not focus explicitly on the Middle Passage experience. By contrast, Feelings centers the journey itself, providing a rare and focused exploration.

Photographic and Cinematic Representations

Documentaries and films, such as "Roots" or "12 Years a Slave," have brought slavery narratives to broader audiences through visual media. However, these formats often rely on dramatization and dialogue, whereas *The Middle Passage* uses pure visual symbolism and minimal text to evoke emotion. This difference allows Feelings to communicate on a more abstract and universal level, engaging readers' imaginations uniquely.

Thematic Exploration and Emotional Resonance

At its core, *The Middle Passage* is an exploration of trauma, survival, and identity. Tom Feelings does

not merely depict historical facts but invites readers to experience the emotional landscape of those enslaved.

Trauma and Dehumanization

Feelings' illustrations vividly portray the physical and psychological trauma inflicted during the Middle Passage. The cramped, suffocating conditions aboard ships, the forced separation of families, and the brutal treatment resonate through the artwork. These depictions serve as a powerful indictment of the dehumanizing nature of slavery, encouraging reflection on the systemic violence embedded in this history.

Resilience and Cultural Memory

Despite the overwhelming adversity, Feelings highlights moments of resilience and cultural survival. His incorporation of African art, music, and spiritual symbolism demonstrates that enslaved Africans retained and adapted their cultural identities. This narrative counters the notion of victimhood by emphasizing agency and endurance.

Identity and Diaspora

The Middle Passage also delves into the formation of diasporic identity. By tracing the journey from Africa to the Americas, Feelings captures the dislocation that defines the African diaspora experience. The graphic novel becomes a medium through which readers can understand the complex legacies of displacement, adaptation, and cultural hybridity.

Pros and Cons of The Middle Passage as an Educational Tool

- **Pros:**

- Engages readers through powerful visual storytelling.
- Accessible format suitable for diverse age groups.
- Encourages empathy and critical reflection.
- Integrates cultural context and symbolism effectively.

- **Cons:**

- Graphic content may be intense for sensitive readers.
- Limited textual explanation may require supplementary materials for full historical context.
- Some readers may prefer more detailed narrative or academic analysis.

In sum, Tom Feelings' *The Middle Passage* remains an indispensable work that harnesses the power of art to confront history's darkest chapters. Its blend of visual intensity and historical fidelity offers a unique, immersive experience that educates and moves readers. As conversations about race, history, and identity continue to evolve, *The Middle Passage* endures as a profound reminder of the resilience

of the human spirit amid unimaginable adversity.

The Middle Passage Tom Feelings

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the middle passage tom feelings: *The Middle Passage* Tom Feelings, 1995 A powerful visual record & concise narrative of the slave trade that describes life in Africa & horrifying details of slave ships. Bowker Authored Title code. This is an important book about the slave trade. Sixty-four narrative paintings chronicle the journey of a slave ship & a historical introduction traces four centuries of slave trade. Map of the slave routes.

the middle passage tom feelings: The Unfinished Journey Searetha Smith-Collins, 2019-07-08 Without clear direction, without understanding of one's past, without heroes (including women) and positive role models, without family, without connections to neighbors and a viable community, without social tranquility or firm rootedness, without at least one parent who can be at home to parent, without community control, power, and influence, without a reference group with whom to identify, without stability of one's personal world, without clearly designated leaders, without hope and a clear vision of life's expectancies and survival prospects, without a spiritual and moral centeredness, there is chaos. Where there is chaos and lack of vision, the people perish. Without economic opportunity and outlets to release despair and anger, without a feeling of safety and security, without an unlimited future, without controls on the use of drugs, violence (including gun violence), and sexual promiscuity, without responsibility and consequences for inappropriate behavior, without responsibility as well as rights, without commonly agreed upon expectations for structure and discipline, without religious, family, and personal values to help connect people, without concern for the collective as well as the individual, without nurture, without a circle of support from a responsible, caring parent, coach, teacher, grandparent, minister, neighbor, or community member, without someone who will take the time to reach out to make one feel special and valued, the children suffer and the people are dysfunctional. Where there is dysfunction, the people are a threat to themselves and the institution of family and society. How do you promote ways to shape success out of circumstances, so as, to empower future generations to come? The expression of music, especially in African American spiritual and gospel tradition provides insight into how trials, threats, and traditions have sustained us over the generations. Whether we are talking about our personal storms, or our family, societal, or global threats, the first stanza of an old gospel hymn, written fifty years ago by Ruth Caye Jones, entitled, In Times Like These rings true, inspires, and calls out to each generation still today: In times like these, we need a Savior, We need an anchor; In times like these We need a friend; Be very sure, be very sure, Your anchor holds and grips a Solid Rock.

the middle passage tom feelings: Wonderfully Wordless William Patrick Martin, 2015-10-15 Wonderfully Wordless: The 500 Most Recommended Graphic Novels and Picture Books is the first comprehensive best book guide to wordless picture books (and nearly wordless picture books). It is an indispensable resource for parents and teachers who love graphic storytelling or who recognize the value of these exceptional books in working with different types of students, particularly

preschool, English as a Second Language (ESL), and special needs, and creative writers. Every age group will benefit from *Wonderfully Wordless*, from babies and toddlers encountering their first books, to elementary age children captivated by the popular fantasy and adventure themes, to teenagers attracted to graphic novels because of their more intense content and comic book format. Even adults who are not yet readers will benefit from this uniquely authoritative resource because it will provide a bridge to literacy and give them books that they can immediately share with their children. *Wonderfully Wordless* is the ultimate guide to wordless and almost wordless books. Its 500 exemplary titles are a composite of 140 sources including recommendations from reference books, award lists, book reviews, professional journals, literary blogs, and the collections of many of the most prominent libraries in the United States and the English-speaking world. The US libraries include the Boston Public Library, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Denver Library, New York Public Library, and Seattle Public Library, as well as the academic libraries at Bank Street College, Miami University, Michigan State University, Penn State University, Stanford University, and University of Chicago. The international libraries include the University of Oxford, British Council Library India, British Library, Hong Kong Public Libraries, National Library of the Philippines, Toronto Public Library, Trinity College Library (Dublin), Vancouver Public Library, and the National Library of New Zealand. The 500 books included here are generated from a database with 7,300 booklist entries. In essence, the ranked list emerging from this compilation will constitute "votes" for the most popular titles, the ones most experts agree are the best. By pooling the expertise from the US and other English-speaking countries, *Wonderfully Wordless* is an unrivaled core list of classic and contemporary titles. This authoritative reference book conveys not the opinion of one expert, but the combined opinions of a legion of experts. If a single picture is worth a thousand words, then a multitude of the picture-only texts is worth a compendium. *Wonderfully Wordless* is organized by theme and format and readers should have no problem zeroing in on their favorite topics. There are thirty-one chapters organized by topics such as Christmas Cheer, Character Values, Comedy Capers, Pet Mischief, Creative Journeys, Fascinating Fantasies, and Marvelous Mysteries. There is a full spectrum of wordless fiction and nonfiction, concept books, visual puzzles, board books, cloth books, woodcut novels, graphic novels, and more.

the middle passage tom feelings: Transcending Boundaries Sandra L. Beckett, 2013-10-11
Transcending Boundaries: Writing for a Dual Audience of Children and Adults is a collection of essays on twentieth-century authors who cross the borders between adult and children's literature and appeal to both audiences. This collection of fourteen essays by scholars from eight countries constitutes the first book devoted to the art of crosswriting the child and adult in twentieth-century international literature. Sandra Beckett explores the multifaceted nature of crossover literature and the diverse ways in which writers cross the borders to address a dual readership of children and adults. It considers classics such as *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and *Pinocchio*, with particular emphasis on post-World War II literature. The essays in *Transcending Boundaries* clearly suggest that crossover literature is a major, widespread trend that appears to be sharply on the rise.

the middle passage tom feelings: Radical Narratives of the Black Atlantic Alan Rice, 2003-04-30
 Broad-based survey of trans-Atlantic black culture
 Newest book in the popular Black Atlantic series
Radical Narratives of the Black Atlantic is a multi-faceted and interdisciplinary take on trans-Atlantic black culture. Alan Rice engages fully with Paul Gilroy's paradigm of the Black Atlantic through examination of a broad array of cultural genres including music, dance, folklore and oral literature, fine art, material culture, film and literature. The aspects of black culture under discussion range from black British gravesites to sea shanties, from the novels of Toni Morrison to the paintings of the Zanzibar born black British artist Lubaina Himid and from King Kong to the travels of Frederick Douglass and Paul Robeson. The book places such figures as the African American traveller and Barbary slave narrator Robert Adams and the West Indian slave narrator Mary Prince in a Black Atlantic context that explicates them fully. A chapter on the Titanic disaster shows how diasporan Africans composed oral poems about the disaster to criticise the discriminatory practices of its owners and racial imperialism. Overall, the book argues for the

crucial importance of Black Atlantic cultures in the formation of our modern world. Moreover, it argues that looking at Black culture and history through a national lens is distorting and reductive.

the middle passage tom feelings: Transnational Perspectives on Graphic Narratives

Daniel Stein, Shane Denson, Christina Meyer, 2013-03-28 This book brings together an international group of scholars who chart and analyze the ways in which comic book history and new forms of graphic narrative have negotiated the aesthetic, social, political, economic, and cultural interactions that reach across national borders in an increasingly interconnected and globalizing world.

Exploring the tendencies of graphic narratives - from popular comic book serials and graphic novels to manga - to cross national and cultural boundaries, *Transnational Perspectives on Graphic Narratives* addresses a previously marginalized area in comics studies. By placing graphic narratives in the global flow of cultural production and reception, the book investigates controversial representations of transnational politics, examines transnational adaptations of superhero characters, and maps many of the translations and transformations that have come to shape contemporary comics culture on a global scale.

the middle passage tom feelings: American Africans in Ghana Kevin K. Gaines, 2012-12-30

In 1957 Ghana became one of the first sub-Saharan African nations to gain independence from colonial rule. Over the next decade, hundreds of African Americans — including Martin Luther King Jr., George Padmore, Malcolm X, Maya Angelou, Richard Wright, Pauli Murray, and Muhammad Ali — visited or settled in Ghana. Kevin K. Gaines explains what attracted these Americans to Ghana and how their new community was shaped by the convergence of the Cold War, the rise of the U.S. civil rights movement, and the decolonization of Africa. Kwame Nkrumah, Ghana's president, posed a direct challenge to U.S. hegemony by promoting a vision of African liberation, continental unity, and West Indian federation. Although the number of African American expatriates in Ghana was small, in espousing a transnational American citizenship defined by solidarities with African peoples, these activists along with their allies in the United States waged a fundamental, if largely forgotten, struggle over the meaning and content of the cornerstone of American citizenship — the right to vote — conferred on African Americans by civil rights reform legislation.

the middle passage tom feelings: Representing Africa in Children's Literature Vivian

Yenika-Agbaw, 2007-12-13 *Representing Africa in Children's Literature* explores how African and Western authors portray youth in contemporary African societies, critically examining the dominant images of Africa and Africans in books published between 1960 and 2005. The book focuses on contemporary children's and young adult literature set in Africa, examining issues regarding colonialism, the politics of representation, and the challenges posed to both insiders and outsiders writing about Africa for children.

the middle passage tom feelings: Keywords for Children's Literature Philip Nel, Lissa

Paul, 2011 This text presents 49 original essays on the essential terms and concepts of children's literature.

the middle passage tom feelings: Inequality in Early America Carla Gardina Pestana,

2015-03-24 This book was designed as a collaborative effort to satisfy a long-felt need to pull together many important but separate inquiries into the nature and impact of inequality in colonial and revolutionary America. It also honors the scholarship of Gary Nash, who has contributed much of the leading work in this field. The 15 contributors, who constitute a Who's Who of those who have made important discoveries and reinterpretations of this issue, include Mary Beth Norton on women's legal inequality in early America; Neal Salisbury on Puritan missionaries and Native Americans; Laurel Thatcher Ulrich on elite and poor women's work in early Boston; Peter Wood and Philip Morgan on early American slavery; as well as Gary Nash himself writing on Indian/white history. This book is a vital contribution to American self-understanding and to historical analysis.

the middle passage tom feelings: Saving Paradise Rebecca Ann Parker, Rita Nakashima

Brock, 2008-07-01 A fascinating theological study of how early Christianity's message of love and community has evolved into one of punishment and empire During their first millennium, Christians filled their sanctuaries with images of Christ as a living presence—as a shepherd, teacher, healer, or

an enthroned god. He is serene and surrounded by lush scenes, depictions of this world as paradise. Yet once he appeared as crucified, dying was virtually all Jesus seemed able to do, and paradise disappeared from the earth. *Saving Paradise* turns a fascinating new lens on Christianity, from its first centuries to the present day, asking how its early vision of beauty evolved into a vision of torture, and what changes in society and theology marked that evolution. It also retrieves, for today, a life-affirming Christianity that the world sorely needs.

the middle passage tom feelings: The Wiley Blackwell Anthology of African American Literature, Volume 2 Gene Andrew Jarrett, 2014-01-13 The Wiley Blackwell Anthology of African American Literature is a comprehensive collection of poems, short stories, novellas, novels, plays, autobiographies, and essays authored by African Americans from the eighteenth century until the present. Evenly divided into two volumes, it is also the first such anthology to be conceived and published for both classroom and online education in the new millennium. Reflects the current scholarly and pedagogic structure of African American literary studies Selects literary texts according to extensive research on classroom adoptions, scholarship, and the expert opinions of leading professors Organizes literary texts according to more appropriate periods of literary history, dividing them into seven sections that accurately depict intellectual, cultural, and political movements Includes more reprints of entire works and longer selections of major works than any other anthology of its kind This second volume contains a comprehensive collection of texts authored by African Americans from the 1920s to the present The two volumes of this landmark anthology can also be bought as a set, at over 20% savings.

the middle passage tom feelings: Crossover Picturebooks Sandra L. Beckett, 2013-06-17 This book situates the picturebook genre within the widespread international phenomenon of crossover literature, examining an international corpus of picturebooks — including artists' books, wordless picturebooks, and celebrity picturebooks — that appeal to readers of all ages. Focusing on contemporary picturebooks, Sandra Beckett shows that the picturebook has traditionally been seen as a children's genre, but in the eyes of many authors, illustrators, and publishers, it is a narrative form that can address any and all age groups. Innovative graphics and formats as well as the creative, often complex dialogue between text and image provide multiple levels of meaning and invite readers of all ages to consider texts that are primarily marketed as children's books. The interplay of text and image that distinguishes the picturebook from other forms of fiction and makes it a unique art form also makes it the ultimate crossover genre. Crossover picturebooks are often very complex texts that are challenging for adults as well as children. Many are characterized by difficult adult themes, genre blending, metafictional discourse, intertextuality, sophisticated graphics, and complex text-image interplay. Exciting experiments with new formats and techniques, as well as novel interactions with new media and technologies have made the picturebook one of the most vibrant and innovative contemporary literary genres, one that seems to know no boundaries. *Crossover Picturebooks* is a valuable addition to the study of a genre that is gaining increasing recognition and appreciation, and contributes significantly to the field of children's literature as a whole.

the middle passage tom feelings: Qualitative Inquiry—Past, Present, and Future Norman K Denzin, Michael D Giardina, 2016-07 In this critical reader, the best writing of two dozen key figures in qualitative research is gathered together to help students to identify emerging themes in the field and the latest thinking of the leaders in qualitative inquiry. These groundbreaking articles are pulled from a decade of social justice-focused plenary volumes emanating from the annual International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry. These are the ideas that have helped shape the landscape of the field over the past decade. This work-brings together the latest work of 25 leading figures in qualitative research from 4 continents;-addresses the central themes of the field over the past decade in theory, methodology, politics, and interventions;-includes contextualizing essays by the volume editors, who direct the Congress.

the middle passage tom feelings: The Afro-Modernist Epic and Literary History K. Schultz, 2013-11-19 Analyzing the poets Melvin B. Tolson, Langston Hughes, and Amiri Baraka, this

study charts the Afro-Modernist epic. Within the context of Classical epic traditions, early 20th-century American modernist long poems, and the griot traditions of West Africa, Schultz reveals diasporic consciousness in the representation of African American identities.

the middle passage tom feelings: Rethinking Globalization Bill Bigelow, Bob Peterson, 2002 Rethinking Globalization offers an extensive collection of readings and source material on critical global issues.

the middle passage tom feelings: A Crack in the Sea H. M. Bouwman, 2017-01-03 An enchanting historical fantasy adventure perfect for fans of Thanhha Lai's Newbery Honor-winning *Inside Out and Back Again* No one comes to the Second World on purpose. The doorway between worlds opens only when least expected. The Raft King is desperate to change that by finding the doorway that will finally take him and the people of Raftworld back home. To do it, he needs Pip, a young boy with an incredible gift—he can speak to fish; and the Raft King is not above kidnapping to get what he wants. Pip's sister Kinchen, though, is determined to rescue her brother and foil the Raft King's plans. This is but the first of three extraordinary stories that collide on the high seas of the Second World. The second story takes us back to the beginning: Venus and Swimmer are twins captured aboard a slave ship bound for Jamaica in 1781. They save themselves and others from a life of enslavement with a risky, magical plan—one that leads them from the shark-infested waters of the first world to the second. Pip and Kinchen will hear all about them before their own story is said and done. So will Thanh and his sister Sang, who we meet in 1978 on a small boat as they try to escape post-war Vietnam. But after a storm and a pirate attack, they're not sure they'll ever see shore again. What brings these three sets of siblings together on an adventure of a lifetime is a little magic, helpful sea monsters and that very special portal, *A Crack in the Sea*.

the middle passage tom feelings: Tending to the Past Karen Michele Chandler, 2024-01-18 In many popular depictions of Black resistance to slavery, stereotypes around victimization and the heroic efforts of a small number of individuals abound. These ideas ignore the powers of ordinary families and obscure the systematic working of racism. *Tending to the Past: Selfhood and Culture in Children's Narratives about Slavery and Freedom* examines Black-authored historical novels and films for children that counter this distortion and depict creative means by which ordinary African Americans survived slavery and racism in early America. *Tending to the Past* argues that this important, understudied historical writing—freedom narratives—calls on young readers to be active, critical thinkers about the past and its legacies within the present. The book examines how narratives by children's book authors, such as Joyce Hansen, Julius Lester, Marilyn Nelson, and Patricia McKissack, and the filmmakers Charles Burnett and Zeinabu irene Davis, were influenced by Black cultural imperatives, such as the Black Arts Movement, to foster an engaged, culturally aware public. Through careful analysis of this rich body of work, *Tending to the Past* thus contributes to ongoing efforts to construct a history of Black children's literature and film attuned to its range, specificity, and depths. *Tending to the Past* provides illuminating interpretations that will help scholars and educators see the significance of the freedom narratives' reconstructions in a neoliberal era, a time of shrinking opportunities for many African Americans. It offers models for understanding the powers and continuing relevance of the Black child's creative agency and the Black cultural practices that have fostered it.

the middle passage tom feelings: Committed to Memory Cheryl Finley, 2022-08-30 How an eighteenth-century engraving of a slave ship became a cultural icon of Black resistance, identity, and remembrance One of the most iconic images of slavery is a schematic wood engraving depicting the human cargo hold of a slave ship. First published by British abolitionists in 1788, it exposed this widespread commercial practice for what it really was—shocking, immoral, barbaric, unimaginable. Printed as handbills and broadsides, the image Cheryl Finley has termed the slave ship icon was easily reproduced, and by the end of the eighteenth century it was circulating by the tens of thousands around the Atlantic rim. *Committed to Memory* provides the first in-depth look at how this artifact of the fight against slavery became an enduring symbol of Black resistance, identity, and remembrance. Finley traces how the slave ship icon became a powerful tool in the hands of British

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