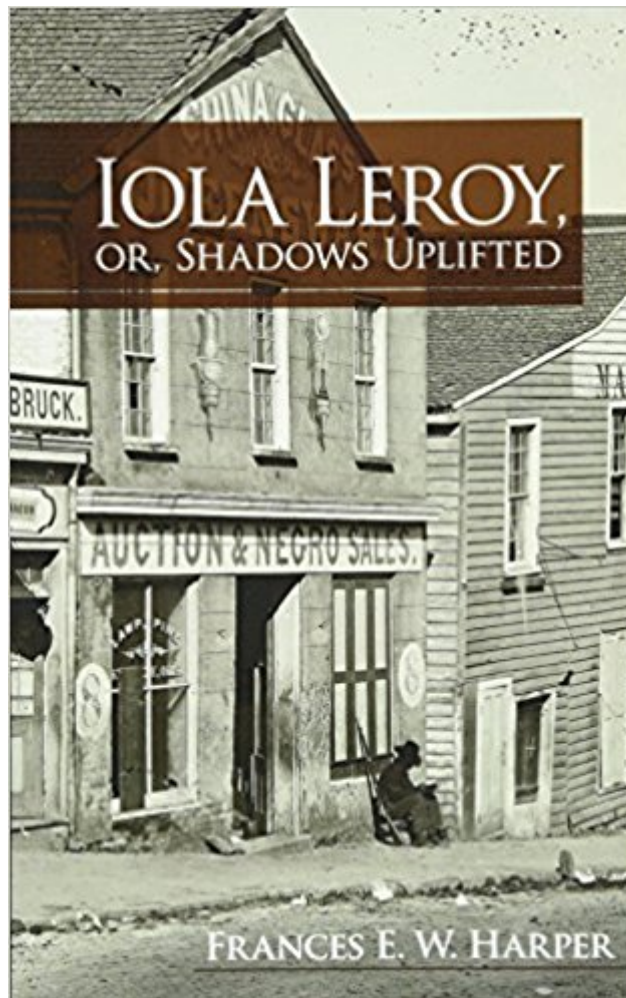




Ebook Directory
the best source of ebook

The book was found

Iola Leroy, Or, Shadows Uplifted (Dover Books On Literature & Drama)



Synopsis

The daughter of a wealthy Mississippi planter, *Iola Leroy* led a life of comfort and privilege, never guessing at her mixed-race ancestry until her father died and a treacherous relative sold her into slavery. This stirring tale of life during the Civil War and Reconstruction traces a young woman's struggles and triumphs on the path to self-discovery. Confronted with the truth of her origins, *Iola Leroy* rejects the secrecy and shame inherent to a life of passing as white. Instead, she devotes herself to the improvement of black society in this compelling exploration of race, politics, and class. The New York Times noted that this 1892 work was "probably the bestselling novel by an African-American before the twentieth century." It bears the additional distinction of being among the first novels published by an African-American woman. Author Frances E. W. Harper, a popular lecturer and poet, was a leader in the suffrage and temperance movements and a founding member of the National Association of Colored Women. In *Iola Leroy*, she advocates female self-sufficiency and independence within the context of a gripping work of historical fiction.

Book Information

Series: Dover Books on Literature & Drama

Paperback: 224 pages

Publisher: Dover Publications; 2nd edition (December 22, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 9780486479019

ISBN-13: 978-0486479019

ASIN: 0486479013

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.5 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.4 out of 5 stars 9 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #35,698 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #65 in Books > Literature & Fiction > African American > Historical #902 in Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Literature #1140 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Contemporary

Customer Reviews

One of the most significant contributions to early Black literature. -Jane Campbell, *Belle Lettres*"This edition of *Iola Leroy*, with Hazel Carby's introduction, is required reading." -Henry Louis Gates, Jr."A moving rite of passage story, the 'ordeal of suffering' of an enlightened black girl growing up. . . . A superior book." -Doris Grumbach, National Public Radio"In an era full of extraordinary black women,

Frances Watkins Harper . . . was one of the most extraordinary among them. If she had published nothing else, *Iola Leroy* would have been sufficient of her to claim a place among the intellectuals of her time." -Nellie McKay, University of Wisconsin-Madison --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

A poet, author, and popular public speaker, Frances E. W. Harper (1825-1911) was active in the suffrage and temperance movements and a founding member of the National Association of Colored Women.

Iola Leroy is a novel that shows the plight of slaves and former slaves around the time of the Civil War. Through stories of several generations, Harper shows how different segments of society react to the notion of freedom. With all the turmoil and strife in this period, Harper still manages to end on a note of hope and optimism.

Well written novel about the traditional tragic mulatto figure. It also focuses on racial uplift and Christianity.

It has been some time since I read this book. I have positive feelings from reading it and I certainly learned a lot more than I once knew about the trials and tribulations of our African American fellow citizens. I am also reminded of the bias and cruelty of many of our citizens toward minorities and other less fortunate people.

One of the worst books I have read so far, not a fan of the novel of sentiment. But the seller did a great job, thanks! (Read it for university)

Frances Watkins Harper was born free in 1825 in Baltimore and was 67 years old when *Iola Leroy* was published. Before the Civil War she was a public speaker and political activist in the Abolitionist Movement and helped escaping slaves along the Underground Railroad. After the war she travelled the South speaking out for temperance, and the rights of women and African Americans, and other social causes. *Iola Leroy* or, *Shadows Uplifted* is one of the first novels published by an African-American woman. It tells the story of a wealthy Mississippi planter who frees and marries his mixed-race slave. They have two children, *Iola* and *Harry*, that are raised without knowledge of their mixed background and educated in the North. In spite of his sincerest efforts to secure their future,

after his death greedy relatives thrust lola and her mother into slavery. The book deals with lola's emancipation and the period after the war when she tries to find her mother and brother and reestablish their lives together. As lola and her brother are light skinned and highly educated, the book also deals with issues of passing and miscegenation. The concept of a single-drop of African blood making a person non-White and subject to ill-treatment by Society is a major theme. Written less than a decade before the Wilmington Massacre of 1898, this was a time when African-American prospects were still promising but were being threatened by racism and separatist thinking. This novel is a great window on the era prior to the extreme racial repressions of the 20th Century, when Black people had hoped that education, hard work, and social responsibility could bring them social justice in the nation. As such, it is a great source of information written by a leader in the social justice movement of the time.

This love story was just that, a love story with predictable results. Being a female, I enjoy a good get-together ending, but this was sappy all the way through.

Harper was a major political, economic, and educational figure in the entire period from the civil war until the turn of the century. The sweep of this book is that entire period. In this way Harper is really registering what is the last in a long dialog of texts about what social power can or did overthrow slavery, and what forces are behind this. Harper's opening chapters about the slaves under slavery, the slaves during the civil war, their actual role in stopping the confederacy, the intelligence of the slaves, and all are not just idle depictions, but responses to those like Delany who felt the slaves were incapable of revoltion. Harper's analysis of the strength and the struggle of the freedmen and freedwomen after slavery tends to also reply to the debate about whether they were worthy of freedom, and whether the fall of reconstruction was inevitable. At times Harper's concern for these debates weakens the plot as a modern reader would see it. Moreover, though her description of struggle through out the early parts of the book is gripping, as you gets to the close without more to offer than education and social uplift, the book also tends to seem weak to the modern reader trained to more visceral and personalized plotting. When Harper wrote, particularly in the tradition she writes, often the overall message as she delivers it, was seen so much more important than the plot. A message such as this was what the reader bought a book for then. Like *Blake and Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* this is a historic document. Unlike so of those texts, this is written with hind sight from decades latter, by one of the last of the pre-civil war Black literary/political intellectuals to survive.

While it might easily be regarded solely as a criticism on slavery, Frances E.W. Harper's *Iola Leroy* is a novel that tackles an infinite array of issues affecting the black race, and America in general, during the late 19th century. These issues range from gender, to internalized racism among the Negro of lighter skin color, the infamous "Negro question," the hypocrisy of religion, and many others. The most undeniable value of the book, is the call that the author makes for literacy, temperance, and the uplifting of the race. Harper, like Dubois, is optimistic about the future and potential of African-Americans. She sustains that now that the doors of education, religious freedom, and of economy and capitalism are open to the race the expectations are great both on the part of the whites and the blacks themselves. The undeniable value of the book, is the call that the author makes for literacy, temperance, and the uplifting of the race. This novel deserves extensive study not only as a feminist or ethnic work; it is one of the basic works of American Literature which can be read and enjoyed by anyone interested in social issues and fine reading material.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Iola Leroy, or, *Shadows Uplifted* (Dover Books on Literature & Drama) *Wicca Book of Shadows: A Wiccan's Book of Shadows! Your Personal Spell Book* (Wicca, Wiccan, Book of Shadows) *The Prose Edda: Tales from Norse Mythology* (Dover Books on Literature & Drama) Leroy Ninker *Saddles Up: Tales from Deckawoo Drive, Volume One* *The Flight of Jesse Leroy Brown* *Black Intellectual Thought in Education: The Missing Traditions of Anna Julia Cooper*, Carter G. Woodson, and Alain LeRoy Locke *Rand McNally Streets of Bloomington/Normal: Communities Included: Chenoa, Downs, Heyworth, Hudson, LeRoy, Lexington, Towanda* *Guide to Law and Literature for Teachers, Students, and Researchers: Companion Text to Literature and Legal Problem Solving : Law and Literature As Ethical Discourse* *Jamaican American Thug Drama* (The Jamaican American Thug Drama Saga Book 1) (Volume 1) Charles Dickens: *The BBC Radio Drama Collection: Volume One: Classic Drama From the BBC Radio Archive* *Othello: Lenny Henry in Shakespeare's Othello* (BBC Radio Drama Full Cast Drama) **READING ORDER: TAMI HOAG: BOOKS LIST OF THE BITTER SEASON, KOVAC/LISKA BOOKS, HENNESSY BOOKS, QUAID HORSES, DOUCET BOOKS, DEER LAKE BOOKS, ELENA ESTES BOOKS, OAK KNOLL BOOKS BY TAMI HOAG** *Dark Shadows - The Tony & Cassandra Mysteries* (Dark Shadows Special Releases) *American Gods: Shadows #1* (Neil Gaiman's *American Gods: The Shadows*) *Wicca Book of Shadows: A Beginner's Guide to Keeping Your Own Book of Shadows and the History of Grimoires* (Practicing the Craft) (Volume 1) *Wicca Book of Shadows: A Beginner's Guide to Keeping Your Own Book of Shadows and the History of Grimoires* *The Complete Book of Hand Shadows:*

Instructions for Shadowgraphy (Dover Books on Magic, Games and Puzzles) Fun with Hand
Shadows (Dover Children's Activity Books) Literature: An Introduction to Fiction, Poetry, Drama, and
Writing, MLA Update Edition (13th Edition) Literature: An Introduction to Fiction, Poetry, Drama, and
Writing (13th Edition)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)