

Novel Bondage: Slavery, Marriage, And Freedom In Nineteenth-century America - Tess Chakkalakal

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Novel Bondage unravels the interconnections between marriage, slavery and freedom through renewed readings of canonical nineteenth-century novels and short stories by black and white authors. Situating close readings of fiction alongside archival material concerning the actual marriages of authors such as Lydia Maria Child, Harriet Beecher Stowe, William Wells Brown, and Frank J. Webb, Chakkalakal examines how these early novels established literary conventions for describing the domestic lives of American slaves in describing their aspirations for personal and civic freedom. Exploring this theme in post-Civil War works by Frances E. W. Harper and Charles Chesnutt, she further reveals how the slave-marriage plot served as a fictional model for reforming marriage laws. Chakkalakal invites readers to rethink "marital work" of nineteenth-century fiction and the historical role it played in shaping our understanding of the literary and political meaning of marriage, then and now. Author: Chakkalakal, Tess Publisher: University of Illinois Press Illustration: N Language: ENG Title: Novel Bondage: Slavery, Marriage, and Freedom in Nineteenth-Century America Pages: 00160 (Encrypted EPUB) / 00160 (Encrypted PDF) On Sale: 2011-07-13 SKU-13/ISBN: 9780252036330 Category: History : United States - 19th Century Category: Literary Criticism : American - African American Category: Social Science : Sociology - Marriage & Family

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