



Chained to the Rock of Adversity: To Be Free, Black, & Female in the Old South

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Chained to the Rock of Adversity offers valuable insight into the lives of the Old South's free women of color, using personal letters and a diary to tell an extraordinary story.

The letters, from family members and friends, were written between 1844 and 1899 to Ann Battles Johnson, wife of prominent Natchez businessman William T. Johnson, and her daughter Anna, while Ann's daughter Catharine wrote the diary. A freed slave herself, Ann Johnson became the head of her family and a slaveholder before the Civil War. Her days were filled with the often tedious and sometimes overwhelming duties assigned to slaveholding women, but her race separated her from most other women of this class. The writings depict a tight-knit network of family and friends and show a family well aware of its precarious position in society, feared by most whites and resented by other blacks.

Editor Virginia Meacham Gould provides an extensive introduction, a cast of characters, identifying notes, and a brief afterword tracing the Johnson family to the present day.

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From reader reviews:

Toni Styer:

Often the book Chained to the Rock of Adversity: To Be Free, Black, & Female in the Old South has a lot details on it. So when you make sure to read this book you can get a lot of benefit. The book was published by the very famous author. The writer makes some research prior to write this book. This specific book very easy to read you can find the point easily after reading this book.

James Boyd:

The reason why? Because this Chained to the Rock of Adversity: To Be Free, Black, & Female in the Old South is an unordinary book that the inside of the e-book waiting for you to snap the idea but latter it will shock you with the secret the item inside. Reading this book beside it was fantastic author who all write the book in such wonderful way makes the content on the inside easier to understand, entertaining technique but still convey the meaning fully. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this ever again or you going to regret it. This book will give you a lot of benefits than the other book get such as help improving your expertise and your critical thinking way. So , still want to postpone having that book? If I had been you I will go to the e-book store hurriedly.

Linda Howard:

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