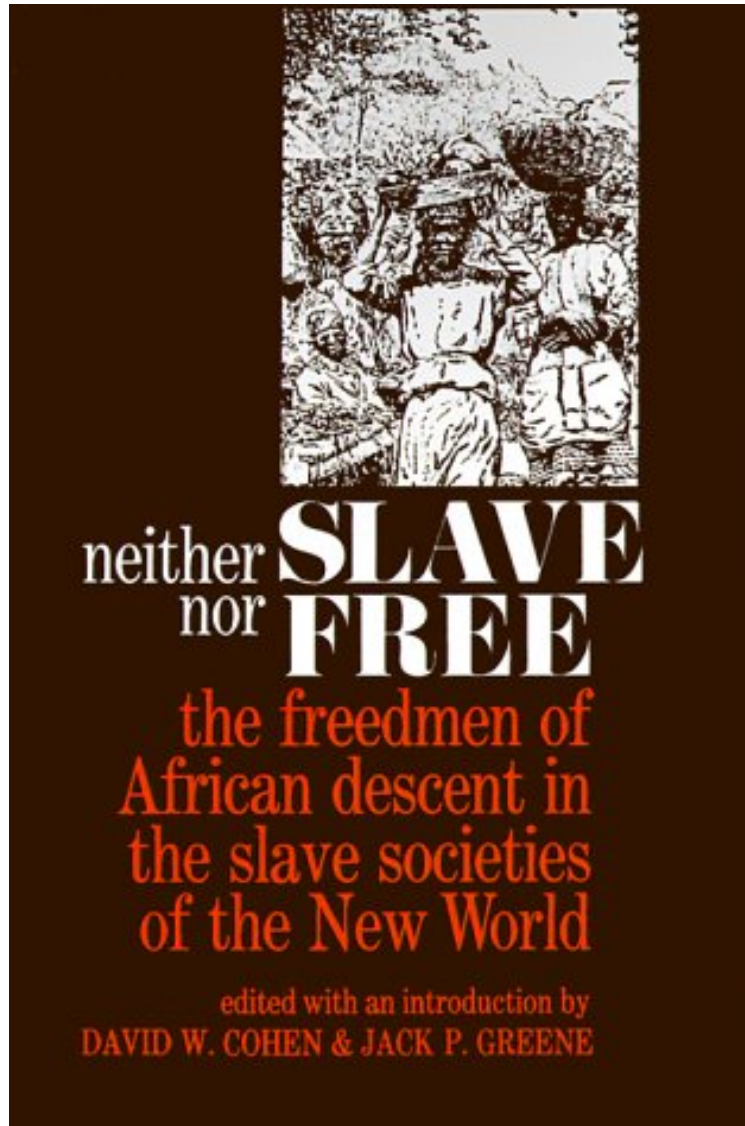


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Neither Slave nor Free: The Freedmen of African Descent in the Slave Societies of the New World (The Johns Hopkins Symposia in Comparative History)

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Freedmen of African Descent in the Slave Societies of the New World (The Johns Hopkins Symposia in Comparative History):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Different perspective that is important not to forget
By Ehav Eliyahu
EverI am currently writing a book, and as a part of that process I wanted to find information about African Americans who either were not affected by slavery (i.e. free) or those who had been free since about the 1700's or the 1800's. I was also looking for something that deals (realistically) with the relationship between Sephardic Jews in the Americas and African Americans. This book helped me on both fronts (even though some of the information I was looking for is only in small amounts in this book). This is not a novel per se so for me it was not something I read from front to back, but it has served as a good reference book. Because it deals with South America for the most part there is more information on the topic of free African Americans from those sources that had less reason to hide or not discuss the issues of free West Africans in the Americas. Much of the book is based on either statistical data and other accounts, this is due to the fact that there isn't a great deal of information on Free African Americans. This book also discusses why that is the case since the outside definition between free and enslaved West Africans in the Americas is often blurry. I would recommend this book for anyone who is looking for additional references for the bigger picture of the African experience in America.
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars
By John W. Thomas III
Excellent book

These ten essays constitute "a distinctive contribution to the enticing but treacherous domain of a comparative history. (The book) succeeds because it is written by qualified scholars who address a delimited, manageable subject" ("American Historical Review").

"An important collection of 10 essays on the almost totally neglected subject of the freedman in North and South American slave societies that developed out of a symposium held at Johns Hopkins University in 1970... All of these essays furnish important insights into our understanding of racism and slave societies in the Americas. Much significance is attached to the ratios of freedmen to slaves; the statistical information alone is invaluable. All this and much more makes this book one that belongs in every college library." (Choice)