

QUICK CARD: UNCLE TOM'S CABIN



<i>Reference</i>	<i>Uncle Tom's Cabin.</i> Harriet Beecher Stowe. (1852) ISBN-13: 978-1840224023
<i>Plot</i>	The main character, Uncle Tom, endures racial slavery, continuing to faithfully serve his masters in spite of the injustice of slavery and his own desire for freedom and family. Meanwhile, Eliza and her husband George flee slavery for freedom in Canada.
<i>Setting</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American South around 1850 during the time of American Southern racial slavery • Ranges from Louisiana to Canada • Shelby's plantation • St. Clare's New Orleans estate • Simon Legree's swamp plantation
<i>Characters</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uncle Tom – (protagonist) African American slave who honors Christ and faithfully serves the family who “owns” him • Aunt Chloe – Tom's wife; a good, Christian woman • Eliza – (protagonist) African American slave who flees her master in order to ensure that her son, Harry, wouldn't be sold away from her, but would grow up free • George Harris – (protagonist) slave and husband of Eliza who flees his master's cruelty, proposing that Eliza meet him in Canada to embark on a new life together • Madame de Thoux – an ex-slave who has found happiness, freedom and love. Sister of George. • Arthur Shelby – Eliza's and Tom's kind master, whose personal debts drive him to conspire to sell Eliza's son and Tom away from their families • Emily Shelby – Arthur's wife, a Christian woman whose faith inspires her to treat her slaves with kindness

<p><i>Characters Cont.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • George Shelby – son of Arthur and Emily and friend of Tom. He works to right the wrongs done Tom. • Mr. Haley – slave trader • Tom Loker – slave hunter • Eva St. Clare – the good little girl that Uncle Tom serves • Augustine St. Clare – Eva’s father and briefly the owner of Tom • Marie St. Clare – Eva’s selfish mother, a hypochondriac • Miss Ophelia – St. Clare’s cousin and an abolitionist from the North • Topsy – amoral slave girl whom the St. Clares rescue • Alfred St. Clare – Augustine’s brother, who champions the institution of slavery as a Southerner’s right • Henrique St. Clare – Alfred’s son • Senator and Mrs. Bird – kindhearted politician whose legislative works come into contradiction with his personal convictions • Quakers – a Christian religious sect that opposes slavery • Phineas – a Quaker who helps Eliza and George • Mr. Wilson – George Harris’s employer at the factory • Simon Legree – villainous southern plantation owner that acquires Tom and abuses him • Cassey – female slave whom Legree abuses sexually • Emmeline – another young slave girl who falls into the hands of the lecherous Legree <p>Antagonists in this story include anyone who participates in the practice of slavery, good and evil, since they all represent obstacles to the protagonists.</p>
<p><i>Conflict</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Man vs. Man • Man vs. Society • Man vs. Himself

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Theme</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The injustice of racial slavery • The effects of Christianity on an individual’s soul, perspective, and actions • Faithfulness • Love • Freedom • Definition of man – humanity • The human response to injustice or evil • Conscience <p>“I would write something that would make this whole nation feel what an accursed thing slavery is.” (Harriet Beecher Stowe)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Literary Devices</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allusions – referencing another historical event, personality, literary or artistic work or idea for the sake of importing all the ideas associated with the reference to the present text and context. Consider the allusion the the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850. • Foreshadowing – hints planted in the text that suggest future plot developments.