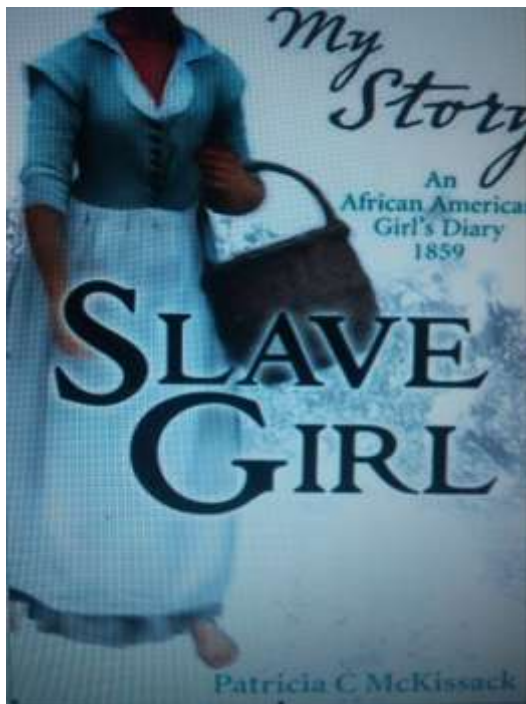


**A Picture of Freedom: The Diary of Clotee, a Slave Girl, Belmont Plantation, Virginia 1859 (Dear America Series) by Patricia C. McKissack**

I have read a series of books called "My Story".

I would like to tell you some words about one book called "A Picture of Freedom: The Diary of Clotee, a Slave Girl ". It's a book about a small girl Clotee who was a slave in a cotton plantation located in North America. Clotee is an orphan. Her owners have put her to work fanning Miz Lilly and her young son William during tutoring sessions. William may not be keen to learn, but Clotee is. She has learned to read while looking over the boy's shoulder .

While she was working in the field she helped other slaves run away in secret. One day walking past a dustbin she finds some paper and slips away some blackcurrant ink from the house. Then she had a diary where he wrote some things when no one could see her. In the book, Clotee shares her feelings, experiences and thoughts about slavery. She describes her life on the plantation.



Clotee's mother was sent away to South America because she had learnt how to read and write. Clotee didn't know why master didn't want his slaves to be educated. Every word Clotee knows shows her a picture of something. The word "tree" shows her a picture of her master's house. But the word 'freedom' shows Clotee no picture. She thinks that freedom is spelt FREDUM .Through out the book Clotee is thinking about the picture for the word 'freedom'. At last it shows Clotee a picture of herself. The book is very interesting and makes you think about many things.

I recommend this book to the children of 9-12 years old and who is really interested in history.

**Forrest Katerina, form 4**