

GOODSPEED MUSICALS

students
GUIDE TO THE THEATRE

AMAZING GRACE

AN EPIC NEW MUSICAL



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The Max Showalter Center for
Education in Musical Theatre

AMAZING GRACE

The Norma Terris Theatre
May 17 - June 10, 2012

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY
CHRISTOPHER SMITH

BOOK BY
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&
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AMAZING GRACE

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WHAT IS THAT???

Abolitionist: A person who wanted to help end slavery.

Civil Authorities: A form of local government that enforces the law without affiliation with the military.

Press-Gang: A group of soldiers who work for the military and are legally allowed to force people into military or naval service.

Midshipman: A cadet in-training for promotion as an officer.

Royal Africa Company: A slave trading company.

ABOUT THE SHOW

The Story

ACT I

On December 24, 1739, 14 year old John Newton is with his family and friends celebrating the Christmas season at his home in Chatham, England. Everyone is gathered around the piano singing a song that John has composed. Mary Catlett, 14, stands behind John as he plays, Mrs. Newton, John's mother, sits beside him in a wheelchair, and many others are among them enjoying the festivities. Mrs. Newton, gravely ill, speaks to John and Mary about their future and they all toast to Captain Newton, John's father, who is away on a sailing expedition.

The scene fades and John appears with Mary at Mrs. Newton's grave. Captain Newton enters with a sea bag slung across one of his arms and a gift in the other. The Captain shows little sympathy for the sadness that his son feels but hands him the gift. It is a small model of the ship, the *Greyhound*, which Captain Newton says is John's future. John becomes concerned because he had plans to pursue music at a conservatory. Captain Newton insists that John needs to forget this dream and become a man. John says goodbye to Mary and boards the ship with his father.

John and Captain Newton are at sea for several years. In December 1743, they approach the docks of Chatham, England. John and Mary greet each other, and Mary explains that she thought sailing was only temporary for John. John expresses that he wants to own a ship. As Mary notices a drastic change in John, the women are asked to leave the docks, but she stays and hides. A line of chained slaves are led down the plank of the ship that John and Captain Newton just docked. There are whips cracking as the slaves are led to a holding pen where

they remain as John auctions them off one-by-one. When he opens up bidding for a pregnant slave, Mary, feels like she no longer knows him.

A group of hooded men hurry to the pregnant slave and unchain her. John is knocked to the ground in the chaos and notices Mary, who has been there the whole time. The hooded men rush the slave away from the scene and freeze in front of Mary as they are about to exit. Mary, showing compassion for the woman, unfastens her cloak and gently places it around the slave's shoulders. John struggles to his feet, the hooded men pass out of view with the female slave, and a gunshot is fired. The redcoats enter, followed by Major Gray, Captain Newton, and Hawies. The Redcoats accuse Mary of hiding and being on the lookout for the hooded men, but Captain Newton convinces Major Gray to let her go. Major Gray then offers Mary his cloak, noting that he will be by to retrieve it later, and authoritatively orders John to go find the pregnant slave.

Mary goes home and Mrs. Catlett, her mother, inquires about the foreign cloak that Mary is wearing. Mary informs her mother that it belongs to Major Gray and her mother begins to gush about how handsome and royal he is. Mary, uninterested in the prospect, refuses to join in on her mother's gushing but Mrs. Catlett insists that Mary be accepting and receptive to Major Gray.

Nanna, Mary's maidservant, enters with Mary's cloak and says that she found it on the front porch. Mary goes to hang up her cloak and a letter from abolitionists of Chatham falls from the pocket. The **abolitionists** commend Mary for her compassion towards the pregnant slave at the dock and invite her to contact them. If she chooses to, she must "display something conspicuously yellow at the ball" that evening. Nanna tries to discourage Mary from joining the abolitionists, saying that slavery is now a part of life and that those people will die in jail cells. In response, Mary asks Nanna about what happened to her and how she became a slave. Nanna begins by telling Mary her real name, Ayotunde, and then tells the story of her capture.

At the ball, Mary, wearing a yellow dress, dances with Major Gray and John dances with Sophie, Mary's cousin. The Redcoats enter dragging two badly beaten



Chris Peluso, Charles E. Wallace, Abdur-Rahim Jackson, Tyrone Davis, Jr. and Jonathan Burke. Photo by Diane Sobolewski.

ABOUT THE SHOW

The Story

abolitionists and the pregnant slave, who is in chains and bloodied. Major Gray approaches Newton rubbing in the fact that the Redcoats took care of the work that John and his **civil authorities** were unable to do. Major Gray asks if there is anything more that he can take care of for John and leaves with Mary. As she exits, a waiter slips Mary a note. She quickly reads it as the ball fades around her and she is on High Street, searching for an address.

Mary finds the building that she is looking for and is welcomed by the abolitionists who helped the pregnant slave escape from the auction. They ask for Mary's help and request that she enter a relationship with Major Gray so she can spy. She agrees to join them.

Meanwhile, John is at the Chatham cemetery. A group of Navy sailors approach and attempt to force John into the service. The law states that the **press-gang** can impress service upon any man who isn't engaged in meaningful labor. John explains his position on the *Greyhound* and tells them who his father is, but the Navy sailors are unmoved. John tries to escape but the sailors club him and he falls unconscious.

Major Gray discusses John's capture with Captain Newton. Major Gray suggests that John's father leave him so that John can find "purpose and self-control in the service." Captain Newton agrees with Major Gray but decides to ask the captain of the Navy's ship to promote John to a **midshipman** rather than a common sailor.

Back in Chatham, Major Gray proposes to Mary. He expresses, since he is a relative of King George II, that in order to receive the consent to marry he must introduce Mary to the King. Mary meets Tyler, an emancipated slave who works as an abolitionist in Chatham, at St. Mary's Church and expresses that they have gone too far. She tells Tyler that Major Gray proposed to her and she has to meet the King so he can give his consent. Tyler strongly urges that Mary follow through so that she can confront the King publicly about the evils of slavery.

ACT II

John and Thomas, John's slave who serves on the ship with him, find their way to the jungle of Sierra Leone. John and Thomas are surrounded by African warriors with their Princess who welcomes the delirious John Newton to the island and strikes him with a whip. Princess Peyai is about to kill John, but Thomas informs her that John's father is head of the **Royal Africa Company**. She tries to get more information out of John but he refuses.

As suggested by one of her warriors, Princess Peyai sends a ransom letter for John to Captain Newton. She requests 5000 pound sterling for his safe release. Captain Newton orders Hawies to ready the ship and prepares to sail to Sierra Leone to rescue his son. Mary arrives at the dock to

wish Captain Newton a safe trip and to give him a letter for John.

Out of necessity, John gives the Princess information about the Royal Africa Company. The Princess keeps him alive and a month later, John now wears the garb of a slave trader. He is in charge of deciding how to break up families and assign slaves to ships. He also appears to have an amicable kinship with Princess Peyai.

Thomas approaches John and tells him that the Princess is displeased with him because he spoke up for one of her slaves and now she plans to sell Thomas as a slave bound for Barbados. Thomas asks John to help but John feels that if he shows compassion for a slave he will lose the Princess's trust. After years of loyalty to John, Thomas cannot believe that he will not help him in his greatest time of need.

Captain Newton arrives in Sierra Leone to bring John home. The Princess has her warriors seize John by the arms but, after a short scuffle, Captain Newton shoots one of the warriors and the others release John. As Captain Newton moves to John, the Princess reaches for a dropped pistol and shoots Captain Newton. John then takes his father's pistol from his hands and shoots Princess Peyai. Captain Newton's sailors take him back to the ship and John orders them to leave Princess Peyai to die in the dust and burn down the village. Back on board the ship, Captain Newton's wound has become septic and he dies. John lays his father's coat over the ship's rail and unexpectedly finds the letter from Mary in the coat pocket. His father's death and the letter cause John to have a change of heart. He alters the ship's course and heads towards Barbados to find Thomas.

Meanwhile, in England, Mr. Whitley, Mary's teacher, expresses concerns to Major Gray about Mary working with the abolitionists. Major Gray sends a message to Mary, asking her to meet him at the jail cells of the Royal Dockyards. He has locked up Ayotunde, Mary's maidservant, and threatens that if Mary does anything foolish when meeting the King, Ayotunde will be harmed.

Back in England, Mary and Major Gray attend the meeting with the King. Despite Gray's threats, Mary speaks openly to the room about her feelings on slavery. She is seized by Major Gray and the Redcoats. They hold her but she continues speaking, now directly to the King. As the King and Major Gray attempt to quiet her, John and Thomas enter. John joins in Mary's argument and admits he is one of the men with blood on his hands, but he learned that slaves have souls and that they are people. He also exclaims that Thomas was once his slave but that he is now a free man. Mary is touched by John's transformation and the two happily reunite.

WHAT IS THAT???

ABOUT THE SHOW

The Characters

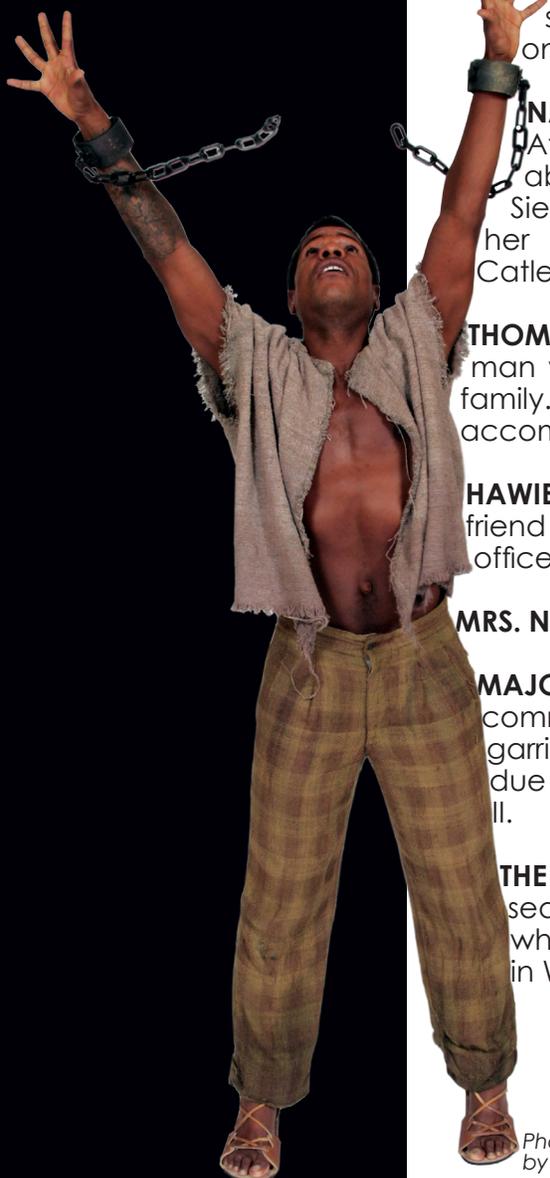
Principal Role: A performer who has many lines and often has at least one solo. Principal roles are the main characters in the story.

Ensemble: A group of actors, singers, or dancers who perform together on stage.

Understudies: Actors who play the principal roles when the regular actor is sick or for some reason cannot perform.

Swing: A substitute for the understudies when they must take over for a lead role. Swings must learn many parts so they are ready to fill in for whomever is needed.

Company: The cast and crew of a show and any other staff who work on the show.



JOHN NEWTON: A brilliant, young composer who, upon the death of his beloved mother, is taken to sea by his father. John chooses to turn his back on both his talent and faith during his journeys at sea but finds his way back home to his true love, Mary Catlett.

MARY CATLETT: A beautiful, up-and-coming soprano from the English shipping town of Chatham. Strong in her convictions, she sympathizes with the abolitionists.

CAPTAIN NEWTON: John's father who is head of the Royal Africa Company, a successful slave trading business. He owns the prized ship, the *Greyhound*, which was the first ship that he and his son worked on together.

ANANNA / AYOTUNDE: A West African woman who was abducted from her home in Sierra Leone where she lost her daughter, Konah. She is the Catlett's house slave/maidservant.

THOMAS / KEITA: A West African man who is a slave to the Newton family. He serves as John's valet and accompanies him everywhere.

HAWIES: John's boarding school friend who now works at the shipping office.

MRS. NEWTON: John's devout mother.

MAJOR GRAY: The young military commander of the Chatham garrison, a position he was given due to his relation to King George III.

THE PRINCESS: A beautiful and seductive African slave trader who is a traitor to her own people in West Africa.

KONAH: Ayotunde's daughter who is enslaved by the Princess in Sierra Leone.

SOPHIE: Mary's dim-witted cousin.

MR. WHITLEY: Mary's vocal tutor and conductor of the town orchestra.

MRS. CATLETT: Mary's controlling mother. She is stolid, traditional, and seeks to preserve the status quo and keep Mary's behavior within society's expectations.

BILLINGSLEY: Captain of the *HMS Harwich*.

MONSIEUR CLOW: A French administrator who is an advisor and ally of Princess Peyai.

QUIGLEY: Leader of the underground abolitionist movement in Chatham.

TYLER: An emancipated slave who is a firebrand for the liberation of his people.

BRIGGS: An acquaintance of Major Gray and First Mate of the *HMS Harwich*.

DR. FORBES: Surgeon aboard the *Greyhound*.

GEORGE II: King of Great Britain, distant cousin to Major Gray.

Photo of Abdur-Rahim Jackson
by Diane Sobolewski.

WHAT IS THAT???

Director: The person who is in charge of everything that happens onstage. The director provides the vision of how a show should be presented, works with the actors on their roles, develops the blocking, and is in charge of the rehearsals.

Producer: The person (or people) who decides to put on a show and decides what the show is. He or she will then assemble the playwright, director, designers, actors, etc. and supervise their work.

Composer: The person who writes the melodies and music of the songs.

Lyricist: The person who writes the words that go with the composer's music.

Playwright or Librettist: The person who writes the story and the dialogue of a play, as well as many of the stage directions that the actors and director follow, to tell a story for the stage.

Choreographer: The person who creates dances and arranges movements for a musical.

ABOUT THE SHOW

The Writers



CHRISTOPHER SMITH (*Music, Lyrics, Book*) wrote his first musical at the age of 17. That musical was performed at the University of Delaware when Smith was a senior in high school. Smith had left theatre behind to work as a police officer and as a youth director at his local church when the idea of *Amazing Grace* fell into his lap. A chance stroll through the church school library led him to pick up a book about a person he hardly knew: John Newton. Chris became convinced that his was a story that could bridge the gap between ordinary experience and deep struggles of the soul.



ARTHUR GIRON (*Book*)

Arthur Giron has written 15 plays which are performed continuously around the country. Arthur's shows have broken the box office records of three theaters: the Pittsburgh Public Theater (*Edith Stein*); Urban Stages in New York (*A Dream of Wealth*); and Ensemble Studio Theatre (*EST*), also in New York (*Flight*). For many years Arthur helped develop the next generation of playwrights as he served as Head of the Graduate Playwriting Program at Carnegie Mellon University, home of the first drama degree in history.

In addition to his work in theatre, Arthur has received a commission to write an opera libretto for the Metropolitan Opera Guild. Arthur continues to teach and lecture at such places as Sarah Lawrence College.

BEHIND THE SCENES

Creating the Set: A Ship at Sea



SCENIC DESIGN BY
BEOWULF BORITT

Behind a Goodspeed production is a wealth of technical and engineering expertise. The Scene Shop on the Goodspeed campus is one of the largest and best-equipped workshops in the country. In this facility, numerous craftsmen and women build, weld and paint all the scenery and props used in each Goodspeed show. Below are the **set models** for *Amazing Grace*. These models are built by the **Scenic Designer** to show the the creative team and artisans how the set should look once it is complete.

WHAT IS THAT???

Scenic Designer: The person who is responsible for the scenery on stage. He or she designs the background and atmosphere for the entire production.

Set Models: Miniature versions of what will become the full set of a show. They help the designer visualize how the set will actually look on stage.



Glossary

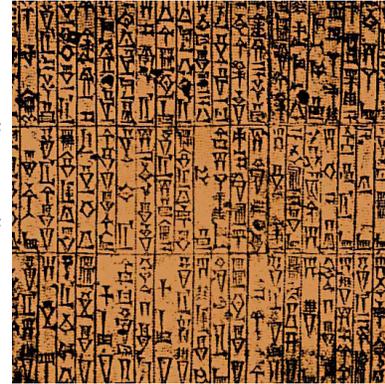
Slavery: a form of servitude in which people are owned and treated as property. They are bought, sold, economically exploited, and forced to work, usually through violence or threats, by an owner with absolute power. Slaves are often captured or taken against their will and sold as a labor force. Slaves have little to no rights and are usually physically abused.

SLAVERY

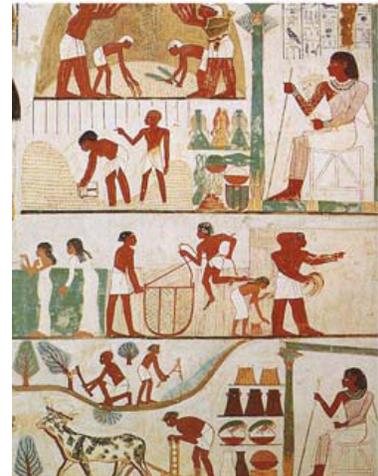
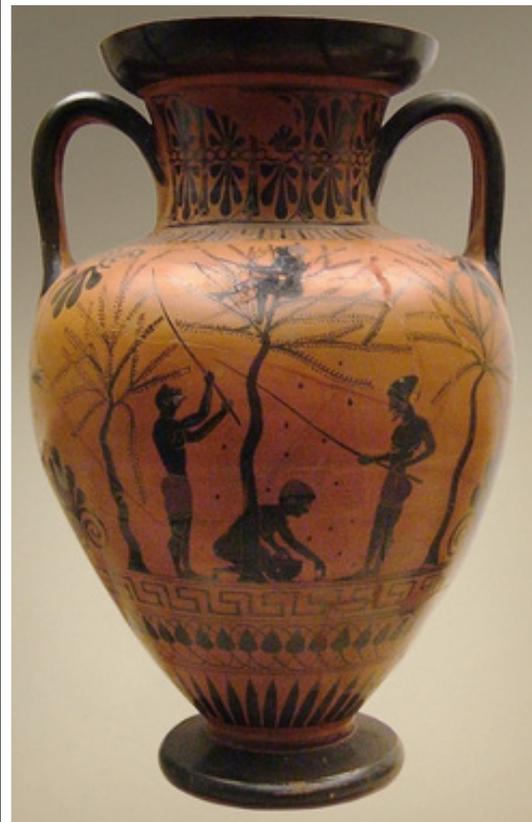
THE BEGINNING OF SLAVERY

There are artifacts from as early as 8000 B.C.E. showing proof of humans mistreating others and using them for forced labor. The earliest written record of slavery exists in "The Code of Hammurabi" from 1760 B.C.E. and states that any person who assists a slave or a fugitive escape is punishable by death. Throughout history slavery has been known as a social and economic system which involves the ownership of people through the acts of buying, selling, and trading.

Look at the pictures below. What evidence is there of slavery? Who appears to be the enslaved? How do you think these historical artifacts may have influenced those who used slavery when John Newton was alive?



The Code of Hammurabi



A Note from the Authors

The theatre has a rich tradition of using history as a jumping-off point to tell larger stories. From Shakespeare's *Henry V* to Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Evita*, liberties have always been taken to adapt history and make the past vivid and relevant. With *Amazing Grace* we have endeavored to not only tell the story of John Newton but also to illuminate the struggles of ordinary men and women who risked everything to end slavery in Britain. Slavery still exists in our world today on a scale that early abolitionists could not have imagined. A new generation of abolitionists has risen up to join their forefathers in standing for the life and dignity of all people. The faith and courage of these men and women, both historical and contemporary, demand our highest respect and it is to them that we dedicate this work.

-Christopher Smith & Arthur Giron



WHAT IS THAT???

THE SLAVE TRADE

Prince Henry of Portugal:

A Portuguese prince, and soldier who sent many ships to explore and create maps of Africa. Also known as Henry the Navigator, he is said to have created the path for European overseas trading.



Temporary Imprisonment Sites:

areas in which Africans were locked while waiting to be transported across the Atlantic Ocean by ship.

THE TRANSATLANTIC SLAVE TRADE

In the 1400s, **Prince Henry of Portugal**, also known as Henry the Navigator, sent his ships to explore the coast of West Africa. While exploring, the ship stopped in Africa to trade goods such as gold and animal skins. It was here, in 1441, that the Portuguese captured their first group of slaves. They captured 12 Africans and brought them back to Portugal to be sold for their labor.

Capturing slaves was a growing trend for Portugal and Spain. Year after year, these two countries brought back increased numbers of African men, women and children. By the end of the 15th century, the Portuguese and Spanish had abducted nearly 200,000 Africans and sold them as slaves. This marked the beginning of the Transatlantic Slave Trade.

At the time, Portugal was given control of Africa and most of Brazil. Spain was given control of everything else. Since Portugal controlled Africa, it controlled

the African slave trade for the next two centuries.

EUROPE JOINS THE TRADE

Later in the 1490s, European countries observed Portugal's enhanced economy and wanted to similarly benefit from the profits of the slave trade. In the mid 1500s, France and Britain had joined the African slave trade.

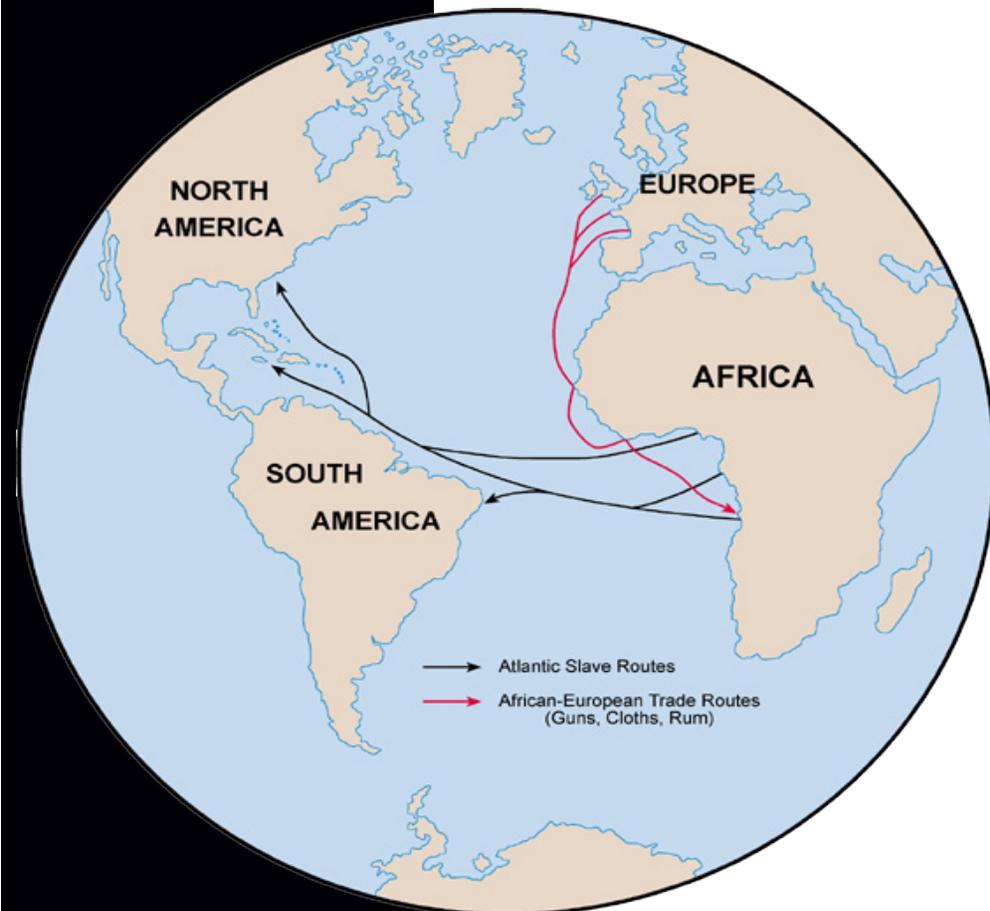
During the 1600s, the Netherlands also decided that they wanted to benefit from the slave trade. In 1620, they started a war with Portugal so they could begin capturing slaves from the west coast of Africa. Slowly, Belgium, Germany, Denmark, and nearly all of the European nations followed the Netherlands' example and fought for power in the transatlantic slave trade.

SLAVES IN CAPTIVITY

As more Africans were captured, they were often marched to assorted **temporary imprisonment sites**, or holding pens, along the coast of Africa. These marches often lasted for weeks or months so by the time the slaves had approached their destinations, the ones who lived were often gravely weak and ill. At these imprisonment sites, European slave traders would bid on and buy Africans. Their intent was to sail the purchased Africans back to Europe and sell them for even more money as slaves.



In 1738, English slave trader Francis Moore observed the treatment of slaves as they were marched to temporary imprisonment sites, or holding pens, in Africa. He wrote, the raiders' "way of bringing [captives] is, tying them by the neck with leather thongs, at about a yard distance from each other, 30 or 40 on a string." Due to these conditions



Transatlantic Trade Routes

WHAT IS THAT???

THE SLAVE TRADE

Spanish West Indies: An area of land that separated the Caribbean Sea from the Atlantic Ocean. It was explored mainly by Christopher Columbus and consisted of the present day countries, Trinidad, Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Cuba, Caiman Islands, Jamaica, the Bay Islands, and Puerto Rico.



and the lack of water and food, many Africans died from hunger, illness, exhaustion, injury, or thirst. The Africans who survived the march were often rejected by slave traders because a weak or ill slave had no worth to them.

The healthy captives were sold to plantation owners. On these plantations, the slaves would work from sunrise to sunset picking coffee and cocoa beans, hauling tobacco, planting and harvesting rice, and cultivating sugar. They were forced to work extremely hard after receiving little food and water.

BRITAIN SAILS AHEAD

While many countries were involved in the slave trade, none had as significant an impact as Great Britain.

In 1562, John Hawkins of Great Britain sailed to West Africa to capture a group of slaves. Hawkins captured 300 slaves on this journey and took them to the **Spanish West Indies** where he sold and traded them for products that he could bring back to England.

After Hawkins' trips, Queen Elizabeth I authorized the creation of a British colony in the New World. After several failed attempts at beginning a British settlement in North America, the first permanent settlement was established in 1607 in Jamestown, Virginia.

Jamestown was a thriving economy for Great Britain. It was mainly inhabited by English citizens, indentured servants, and African slaves. Jamestown became a "boomtown" from the delivery of thousands of slaves to North American colonies and the export of tobacco to England. Jamestown gained the legal right to import slaves to the Spanish West Indies and was also one of the main suppliers of slaves for the Dutch and the French. By 1700, Great Britain was the largest slaving nation in the world and had captured more than half of all captives taken from Africa.

END OF THE TRANSATLANTIC SLAVE TRADE

In the United States, there was a significant amount of debate about the controversial issues that came from slavery and the slave trade. While the northern United States were veering away from slavery, the southern states relied on the strong labor force keeping their plantations alive and their economies prosperous. There were many arguments between the North and the South, which led to a divided country. In 1787, as a compromise between the North and the South, the Constitution adopted a **clause** which stated that Congress was prohibited to abolish the slave trade for a period of 20 years. After this 20 year period, on January 1, 1808, the **Act to Prohibit the Importation of Slaves** took effect immediately. This act officially ended America's participation in the transatlantic slave trade.

Great Britain, the country that had dominated the slave trade, was the first European nation to abolish trading slaves. In 1807, just before the United States ceased their involvement in the transatlantic slave trade, the British Parliament passed the Abolition of the Slave Trade Act, making it illegal to capture or transport slaves. Though slow to follow, Austria, Sweden, the Netherlands, Spain, Belgium, France, and Russia all passed the same law by 1820.

Clause: A section of a legal document stating some form of contract.

Act to Prohibit the Importation of Slaves: A law, enacted in 1808 by the United States, which stated that the capture and transport of slaves overseas was illegal.



MODERN-DAY SLAVERY



Many believe that slavery does not still exist today, though this is not the case. Modern-day slavery exists in almost every single country in the world. There are approximately 27 million people who are enslaved today and 15-20 million of them are enslaved in India, Pakistan, and Nepal. The remaining numbers of modern-day slaves are from different countries all over the world; however, the majority of them are located in Southeast Asia, northern and western Africa, South America, the United States, Canada, and Japan.

THE DIFFERENCES IN SLAVERY TODAY

Slavery is much different than it was in the 16th, 17th, and 18th centuries. Slavery today is cheaper and more temporary than it has been historically. In some parts of the world, a person could purchase a slave for as low as \$10 and keep that person in bondage for any period of time. During the 16th, 17th, and 18th centuries, slaves were mostly sentenced to an entire lifetime of slavery. An owner today could require a slave to work for as little as a few days to a couple of years. While the terms are shorter, the risks for the enslaved person are greater. With a shorter time to serve comes less incentive for the owners to keep their slaves healthy and alive. Slaves are much more expendable in modern-day slavery.

TYPES OF MODERN-DAY SLAVERY

Though modern-day slavery is much different than slavery was when John Newton was alive, it still has a presence in the world. There are many types of slavery as well. Listed below are the most common types of modern-day slavery and their definitions.

Debt Bondage/Bonded Labor: Labor that is required as a way of repayment for a payment advance or loan.

Chattel Slavery: One person is owned by another person and can be inherited as property.

Restavec: A form of slavery in which parents send their child to another household to be a domestic servant. The parents often cannot provide proper care for the child and must send the child away for his or her own survival.



Trafficking: When people are transported or traded from one place to another and then forced into a form of slavery.

Forced Labor: People who are illegally recruited by individuals, governments, or political parties, and are forced to work under threats of physical violence.

Indentured Servitude: A form of slavery in which a person agrees to work for a specific period of time to repay money that she or he borrowed. Often indentured servants must pay for the cost of travel to a new country and the cost of living in that country.



CLICK THE LINKS
to learn more about
modern-day slavery:

<http://thecnnfreedomproject.blogs.cnn.com/>

<http://discoverhumanrights.org/>

JOHN NEWTON

EARLY LIFE

John Newton was born in 1725 in Wapping, London. The son of John Newton Sr. and Elizabeth Newton, John was homeschooled for the first seven years of his life. In 1732, John's mother died of Tuberculosis and, shortly after his father's remarriage, he was sent away to boarding school. When he was 11 years old, John left school and went to sea with his father who was a Sea Captain for the East India Company.

A LIFE AT SEA

In 1743, at age 18, Newton was captured and forced into service by the Royal Navy. He was put into service on the HMS Harwich. Newton's father, however, would not stand for this. Being that he held a position of such high authority, Captain John Newton attempted to have his son released. He could not get John completely released, however, so he had him promoted on the HMS Harwich from a common sailor to a midshipman, a cadet in-training for a promotion as an officer.

Newton later chose to exchange his position as a seaman on the HMS Harwich for a position on a slave ship heading for West Africa. The ship carried goods to Africa that would be traded for African slaves. Newton's job consisted of manipulating and capturing Sierra Leone natives so that they could be taken to European and American countries to be sold. Once the ship arrived on the Plantain Island, just off the coast of Sierra Leone, Newton was abandoned by his ship and left to work with Amos Clowe, a slave dealer. Newton was not a slave; however, he was treated similarly to a slave and was frequently abused by Amos Clowe's wife.

In 1748, after Newton had written home about the horrible conditions in Sierra Leone, his father sent a friend and fellow sea captain to rescue him. The journey to Sierra Leone was successful but on their journey home a horrendous storm hit and nearly sunk the ship. Newton "was awaked from a sound sleep by the force of a violent sea, which broke on board us." After the hard hit of the storm, Newton spent hours bailing out

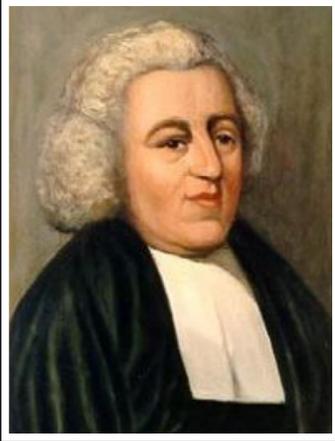


water and fixing leaks to keep the ship above water. After a night of trying to save the ship, Newton then steered the ship for roughly 12 hours. Nearly all of their supplies had gone overboard and many members of the crew were lost. The remaining crew members fought to stay alive while hoping they would make it to a port before the ship sunk. They made it to an Irish port and after making that voyage Newton found his religious faith. Newton celebrated that date, March 10, 1748, every year for the anniversary of when he found his religion.

While Newton had found a new interest in religion, he continued transporting slaves until 1754. It was said however, that he showed more compassion to his slaves than most slave traders. Just before his 4th journey to Africa, Newton became quite ill. He resigned command of the journey the day before it was set to sail.

MARY CATLETT

Mary Catlett, most commonly called Polly, was John Newton's childhood sweetheart. In 1742, after years of friendship with the Newton's, the Catletts had sent an invitation to John to visit their home in Kent. When John knocked on the door to the Catlett's home, their eldest daughter, Mary (or Polly) opened the door. He wrote later "Almost at first sight of this girl, I felt an affection for her that never abated." John married Polly Catlett on February 11, 1750, the same year his father passed away. In August 1750, John set sail as Captain on the *Duke of Argyle*, leaving Mary at home but writing her letters frequently. These letters often focused on John's experiences as a



JOHN NEWTON



first-time captain and his love for Polly. John wrote 127 letters to Mary during his slaving journeys. Two such letters that were sent to Mary during his voyage on the *Duke of Argyle* stated:

"My condition when abroad, and even in Guinea, might be envied by multitudes who stay at home. I am as absolutely in my small dominions (life and death excepted) as any potentate in Europe. If I say to one, Come, he comes; if to another, Go, he flies. If I order one person to do something, perhaps three or four will be ambitious for a share in the service. Not a man in the ship must eat his dinner till I please to give him leave; nay, nobody dares to say so first. There is a mighty business of attendance when I leave the ship, and strict watch kept while I am absent, lest I should return unawares, and not be received in due form. And should I stay out till midnight, (which for that reason, I never do without necessity) nobody must presume to shut their eyes, till they have had to honour of seeing me again. I would have you judge from my manner of relating these ceremonials, that I do not value them highly for their own sake; for, without a strict discipline, the common sailors would be unmanageable."

"I am sitting by a person in his last agonies who only five days since was healthy and florid. I fear he must go, cut short in the vigor of life....I have often found some relief by venting my mind to him in talking about you. I have none with me now but mere sailors to whom I should degrade your name if I mentioned it and shall therefore keep my pleasures and pains to myself."

In 1754, Newton left the slave trade business and spent the remaining forty years with Polly until her death in 1794.

RELIGION

After resigning from what would have been his fourth journey, Newton became attracted to a new type of religion that was preached by George Whitefield and John Wesley, founders of the Methodist Church. He also took interest in evangelical religions, which were based on the Church of England.

At age 39, John Newton became the curate of the Parish Church of St. Peter and St. Paul in Olney, England. It was

here that John wrote **The Olney Hymns**, the hymnal which included his most famous hymn, "Hymn 41," or "Amazing Grace."

LATE LIFE

In 1788, Newton wrote a pamphlet, **"Thoughts Upon the African Slave Trade,"** which was about the horrors he witnessed while working in the slave business. He reflected on his involvement with the slave trade and named himself a sinner who had realized the wrongs that he had done. He wrote, "Disagreeable I had long found the trade; but I think I should have quitted it sooner, had I considered it as much as I now do..."



CLICK HERE to read John Newton's pamphlet **"Thoughts Upon the Slave Trade."**

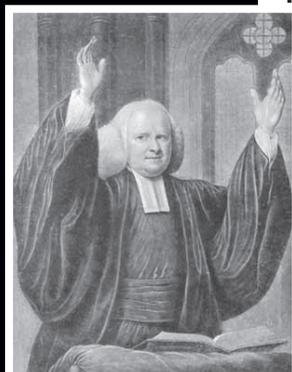
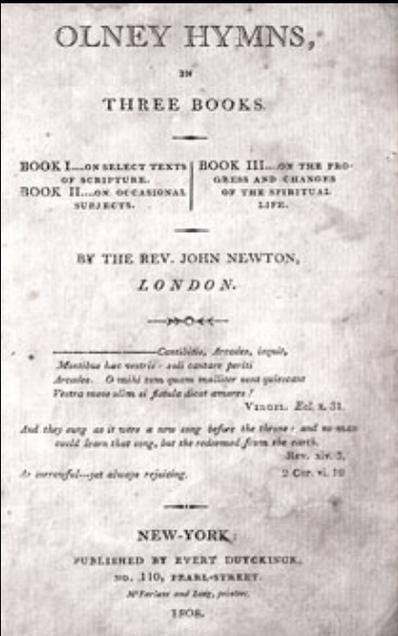
Newton presented "Thoughts Upon the African Slave Trade" to Parliament and by 1792, nearly half a million British citizens had signed assorted petitions to end the slave trade. The slave trade ended in Britain in 1808 but slavery itself remained legal in Britain until 1838.

John Newton died at the age of 82 in 1807, the same year that Britain abolished the slave trade. Newton's tombstone reads:

JOHN NEWTON
CLERK
ONCE AN INFIDEL AND LIBERTINE
A SERVANT OF SLAVES IN AFRICA
WAS
BY THE RICH MERCY OF OUR LORD AND
SAVIOUR
JESUS CHRIST
PRESERVED, RESTORED, PARDONED,
AND APPOINTED TO PREACH THE FAITH
HE HAD LONG LABORED TO DESTROY



CLICK HERE to read Newton's **Olney Hymns**



Glossary

Hymnal: A collection of religious songs that have been compiled into a book.

Sheet Music: Music that has been published in a printed format which shows the musical notes in their written form.

AMAZING GRACE

John Newton spent a large portion of his life lacking a religious identity. After struggling through several difficult life experiences, however, he found solace in the Church of England in 1764. It was there in Olney, England that Newton found his faith and met long time friend, William Cowper.

Newton and Cowper began writing the hymnal, *Olney Hymns*, together but they did not finish it together. Cowper suffered from reoccurring mental illness and Newton had to finish writing the collection alone. The collection included 281 hymns written by Newton and 67 hymns written by Cowper. "Amazing Grace," which was written for a New Years Day sermon in 1773, was first published in the *Olney Hymns*.

During Newton's lifetime, **hymnals** did not have **sheet music**. Instead, they only had lyrics. *Olney Hymns* actually looks like a book of poems rather than a book of songs. Before hymnals had sheet music, hymns were repeated by chanting after following a leader's singing. The leader was the only person who had the musical notation.

When the words of "Amazing Grace" were first published, it was still considered to be an obscure piece of music in England. After its publication in England in 1764, "Amazing Grace" was published in New York in 1790 and Philadelphia in 1791.

In 1835, the sheet music of "Amazing Grace" was published for the first time in *The Southern Harmony*. The lyrics to "Amazing Grace" were matched with the song "Great Britain," creating the version that is used today. It is unknown where the "Great Britain" tune came from, but *The Southern Harmony* sold six hundred thousand copies in the first decade after its publication.

Today, "Amazing Grace" is frequently used at parties, church services, funerals, weddings, baptisms, sporting event openings, and many other functions. It is one of the most popularly performed and recorded songs in history. While some of the lyrics have changed over time, they have maintained Newton's message of forgiveness. With its many versions, arrangements, and adaptations, the song has become one of the most recognizable songs in the world.

Lyrics from Goodspeed's Amazing Grace



CLICK HERE to listen to a demo recording of the song from the show.

Amazing Grace! (How sweet the sound)
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear,
The hour I first believed

Thro' many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me.
His word my hope secures'
He will my shield and portion be,
As long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun

Amazing Grace (how sweet the sound)
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now am found
Was blind but now I see

81

Amazing Grace.

John Newton.

McIntosh. C. M.

Arr. by E. O. Excell.



1. A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound, That saved a wretch like me! I
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears re-lieved; How
3. Thro' man - y dan-gers, toils and snares, I have al - read - y come; 'Tis
4. When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shin-ing as the sun, We've



once was lost, but now am found, Was blind, but now I see.
pre - cious did that grace ap - pear The hour I first be-lieved!
grace hath bro't me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.
no less days to sing God's praise Than when we first be - gun. A - MEN.



AMAZING GRACE LYRICS

TRULY ALIVE

JOHN

THERE'S A WORLD I HAVE SEEN
HORIZONS ONLY I'VE EXPLORED
WHERE THINGS ARE NOT ALL THAT THEY SEEM
AND COURAGE IS ITS OWN REWARD

TO BE TRULY ALIVE
I NEED TO SAIL WHERE THE STRONGEST SURVIVE
AND FIND MY WAY
THROUGH THE WIND AND THE SPRAY TO A PLACE
I CALL MY OWN
MAYBE THERE
I'LL FIND MY HOME

IT IS EVERY YOUNG MAN'S DREAM
TO CHART A COURSE AND FIND THE WAYS
TO BE MORE THAN HIS FATHER COULD BE
THE MASTER OF ALL HE SURVEYS

TO BE TRULY ALIVE
I NEED TO SAIL WHERE THE STRONGEST SURVIVE
AND FIND MY WAY
THROUGH THE WIND AND THE SPRAY TO A PLACE
I CALL MY OWN
MAYBE THERE
I'LL FIND MY HOME

MARY

WHAT ABOUT THE HOPES WE SHARED
OUR LIVES THE WAY WE DREAMED THEY COULD BE

JOHN

BUT THERE'S A FORTUNE WAITING
FOR THE MAN WHO CAN STAND AGAINST THE SEA
YOU WILL SEE----
THAT TO BE TRULY ALIVE
I NEED TO SAIL WHERE THE STRONGEST SURVIVE
AND FIND MY WAY
THROUGH THE WIND AND THE SPRAY TO A PLACE
I CALL MY OWN
MAYBE THERE
I'LL BE TRULY ALIVE

BECOME A MAN

JOHN

I HAVE BECOME A MAN
JUST AS MY FATHER SAID I WOULD
MAYBE NOT THE WAY YOU PLANNED
OR UNDERSTOOD
BUT I LEARNED I COULD
SOMEHOW FIND MY WAY

NOW I MUST FACE THE WORLD AS MAN
MAYBE NOT THE ONE YOU HOPED I'D BE
BUT NOW SOMEHOW RIGHT OR WRONG
I MUST LEARN TO WRITE MY SONG
IN THE ONLY WAY I CAN

AND NOW I KNOW THAT I MUST SING IT LOUD
AND SOMEDAY EVEN YOU'LL BE PROUD
WHEN I CAN PROVE... I AM... A MAN.

WE ARE DETERMINED

ABOLITIONIST ENSEMBLE

IT BEGINS...IN THE DARK
WHISP-RING VOICES
STRIKE THE SPARK
WHICH BECOMES THE FLAME
OF A CHANGE
OF A TURNING
OF THE FEW WHO DARE

TO BREAK THE CHAINS
OUR BROTHERS MUST BEAR

FOR WE ARE DETERMINED TO LIVE AND TO DIE
FOR THE FREEDOM OF THOSE
THAT OUR NATION DENIES
AND ONE DAY THEIR VOICES
WILL ROAR LIKE THE SEA
WHEN THEY BREATHE FREE

TYLER

NOW WE MUST SEARCH DEEP INSIDE
FOR THE COURAGE, TO DECIDE
IS THIS WORTH OUR LIVES?
CAN WE LIVE
WITH THE KNOWLEDGE
THAT WE COULD NOT BEAR
TO BREAK THESE CHAINS
OUR CONSCIENCES WEAR

ALL

OR ARE WE DETERMINED
TO LIVE AND TO DIE
FOR THE FREEDOM OF THOSE
THAT OUR NATION DENIES

AND ONE DAY THEIR VOICES
WILL ROAR LIKE THE SEA
WHEN THEY BREATHE FREE
(MARY joins.)

SOMEDAY WE WILL DISCOVER
WHAT WE CAN BECOME
WHEN AT LAST WE ATONE
FOR THESE THINGS WE HAVE DONE
FOR THERE IN THAT MOMENT
OUR OWN CHAINS WILL FALL
WHEN WE HEED THIS CALL

SHADOWS OF INNOCENCE

JOHN

I HEAR A MOURNFUL SONG ON THE BREEZE
WHISTLING THROUGH THE SAILS AND RIGGING
OF MY PRISON AT SEA
WHISPERING OF A FACE I SEE
WHEN I CLOSE MY EYES TO SLEEP

AND THERE THROUGH THE MIST OF TIME
IN A CORNER OF MY MIND
I SEE MOMENTARY GLIMPSES
SHADOWS OF AN INNOCENCE
I SINCE HAVE LEFT BEHIND
WOULD I BE THERE IN HER ARMS TONIGHT
IF I'D LAID ASIDE MY PRIDE?

MARY

CAN I EVER EXPLAIN
WAITING FOR A MAN WHO BRINGS ME ONLY LONGING AND PAIN?
WHO HOLDS MY FAITH IN SUCH DEEP DISDAIN
HE WON'T EVEN SPEAK YOUR NAME

AND TELL ME WHY IS MY HEART STILL DRAWN
TO A LOVE I KNOW IS WRONG?
SOMETIMES ALL THAT IS WITHIN ME
LONGS FOR YOU TO GIVE ME
THE STRENGTH TO JUST MOVE ON
AND WHY MUST I FACE THIS SLEEPLESS NIGHT
AND ANOTHER TEARFUL DAWN?

JOHN AND MARY

FOR THERE THROUGH THE MIST OF TIME
IN A CORNER OF MY MIND
I SEE MOMENTARY GLIMPSES
SHADOWS OF AN INNOCENCE
I SINCE HAVE LEFT BEHIND

AMAZING GRACE LYRICS

JOHN

WOULD I BE THERE IN HER ARMS TONIGHT
IF I'D LAID ASIDE MY PRIDE

MARY

AND WHY MUST I FACE THIS SLEEPLESS NIGHT

JOHN AND MARY

AND ANOTHER TEARFUL DAWN

EXPECTATIONS

MAJOR GRAY

THE INFLUENTIAL MAN MUST ALWAYS BE
KEEN TO PASS HIS NOBLE TRAITS TO POSTERITY
THE CARE WHICH HE MUST USE
WITH THE WIFE HE MUST CHOOSE
IS A MATTER OF THE UTMOST GRAVITY

FOR... SHE... MUST...
LIVE UP TO EXPECTATIONS
NOBODY CAN DOUBT HER LOYALTY
NO QUESTIONS OR EXPLANATIONS
A WIFE OF CHRISTIAN TACT AND DIGNITY
THIS IS WHAT A WIFE IS MEANT TO BE

YOU KNOW I HAVE TRAVELLED FAR AND WIDE
AND NEVER FOUND A WOMAN THAT I
WANTED BY MY SIDE
MOST WERE RATHER PLAIN
SOME WERE BARELY SANE
THEY WANTED ME, BUT I COULD NOT OBLIGE

FOR... IT... WOULD...
RUIN MY REPUTATION
TO SETTLE FOR A HOMELY GIRL WHO DID NOT
LIVE UP TO EXPECTATIONS
AND THIS IS WHY I'VE ASKED YOU HERE TODAY
TO SAY THE WORDS YOU'VE ALWAYS DREAMED I'D SAY

FOR NO ONE ELSE FULFILLS MY STANDARDS QUITE
THE WAY YOU DO
AND THIS IS WHY I FEEL THAT I MUST OFFER THIS
TO....YOU....
FOR YOU WILL
LIVE UP TO EXPECTATIONS

TELL ME WHY

MARY

GOD PLEASE SAY I'M DREAMING, TELL ME IT'S NOT REAL
I MUST AWAKE, I MUST ESCAPE
THIS EMPTINESS I FEEL

YET I ALWAYS KNEW IT COULD SOMEHOW END THIS WAY
THAT THIS WORLD WOULD TEAR US APART
AND ALL THESE THINGS I DO
ALL THESE FOOLISH PRAYERS I PRAYED
COULDN'T CHANGE HIS UNWILLING HEART

BUT HOW COULD YOU HAVE LET ME LOVE HIM
WHY GOD?
AND POURED THIS FIRE IN MY SOUL FOR HIM
WHY?
ONLY TO DENY, THE CHANCE, TO SHARE A LIFE
TELL ME WHY, TELL ME...

NOW ANOTHER DARK HORIZON, ANOTHER GREAT UNKNOWN
AND I AM LEFT TO FIND THE ANSWERS, ALL ON MY OWN

BUT WILL I EVER GAZE INTO SOMEONE ELSE'S EYES
AND FEEL WHAT I FELT WITH HIM
WHEN THIS WORLD MOVES ON,
AND ALL THE TEARS HAVE DRIED
WILL IT HEAL THIS EMPTINESS WITHIN?

AND WILL I EVER KNOW THE REASON WHY GOD
YOU POURED THIS FIRE IN MY SOUL FOR HIM, OH WHY?
ONLY TO DENY, THE CHANCE, TO SHARE A LIFE
TELL ME WHY, TELL ME... WHY

REQUIEM/NEVER

CAPTAIN NEWTON (APPARITION)

YET ANOTHER CIRCUMSTANCE YOU HAVE
FAILED TO FORESEE
COULD IT ALL BE CHANCE OR A GRAND CONSPIRACY
HOW COULD THIS BE?

MARY (APPARITION)

AND IT ALL COMES BACK
TO THINGS THAT YOU SHOULD HAVE DONE
WEAKNESSES YOU HAVE FAILED TO OVERCOME

JOHN

Wait... you don't understand.. this is not my fault.

CAPTAIN NEWTON (APPARITION)

THESE ARE THINGS THAT NEVER CHANGE,
CIRCUMSTANCES WE CANNOT RE-ARRANGE
THOUGHTLESS CHOICES CANNOT BE EXCHANGED
FOR WHAT WE WISH TO SEE
WISH TO BE

MARY (APPARITION)

NOW I SEE YOU AS YOU ARE, NOT THE PERSON LONGED
FOR
NOW YOU'LL NEVER KNOW WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN
HAD YOU LET ME IN
AND YOU WILL NEVER FIND WHAT YOU HAVE LEFT BEHIND

JOHN

HOW COULD YOU SAY THESE THINGS TO ME?
I DID THE BEST THAT I COULD DO
BUT THAT WAS NOT ENOUGH FOR YOU
OR YOUR GOD ON HIGH, TELL ME WHY

CAPTAIN NEWTON (APPARITION)

LOOK AT YOU NOW
AFTER ALL I TRIED TO TEACH YOU
LOOK AT YOU NOW
HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO REACH YOU?

YES YOU HAD A CHANCE TO CHANGE
NOW YOU'VE THROWN IT ALL AWAY
NOW YOU'RE TRULY ALL ALONE
NOW YOU'RE TRULY ALL ALONE

HARWICH CREW (APPARITION)

NEVER LISTEN, NEVER LEARNS
NOW YOU'LL GET WHAT YOU DESERVES
NEVER LISTENS, NEVER LEARNS
NOW YOU'LL GET WHAT YOU DESERVES (REPEATS)

JOHN

You would abandon me. Turn me over to my tormentors. You led them
right to me!

DO YOU EXPECT ME TO CARE
WHAT YOU THINK OF MY CONDITIONS
YOU WERE NEVER THERE
HOW CAN YOU QUESTION MY DECISIONS.

JOHN

WHERE WERE YOU
WHEN I WAS CRYING?
WHERE WERE YOU
WHEN ALL MY HOPES WERE DYING?
I WAS ALONE
ALWAYS ALONE

CAPTAIN NEWTON (APPARITION)

LOOK AT YOU NOW

AMAZING GRACE LYRICS

THIS IS NOT THE WAY WE RAISED YOU
LOOK AT YOU NOW
HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO SAVE YOU?
FOR ONLY GOD CAN SAVE YOU NOW

MARY (APPARITION)

MOTHER ALWAYS SAID
I'D BE BETTER OFF THIS WAY
THAT I SHOULD NOT LET YOU
BRING ME SHAME, SULLY MY NAME

MAJOR GRAY (APPARITION)

A GIRL LIKE THAT
WON'T WAIT FOREVER
A GIRL LIKE THAT
WON'T WAIT FOREVER
YOU HAD YOUR CHANCE
YOU HAD YOUR CHANCE

HARWICH CREW (APPARITION)

LET HIM SUFFER LET HIM BURN
THIS IS WHAT HIS SIN DESERVES
LET HIM SUFFER LET HIM BURN
THIS IS WHAT HIS SIN DESERVES

ALL

ONLY GOD CAN SAVE YOU NOW

JOHN

Be gone! I don't need you and I don't need your God.

DID YOU THINK THAT I WOULD BOW
TO YOUR GREAT AND MERCIFUL LORD?
WHEN THIS IS WHAT HE WANTED ALL ALONG
MY LIFE AS A VERSE IN HIS PITIFUL SONG

DO YOU REALLY BELIEVE
THAT I COULD EVER SERVE HIM NOW?
THAT I'LL BREAK BENEATH THE WEIGHT
OF THIS PRESSURE SOMEHOW?

NEVER! NO NEVER
I REFUSE TO CRY HIS NAME

SO LET HIM DO HIS WORST
KILL ME IF HE CAN
I CURSE IN HIS FACE
AND I SPIT ON HIS PLAN

I WILL NOT PRETEND THERE'S SALVATION FOR ME
NOW DEATH IS MY ONLY WAY TO BE FREE.

A CHANCE FOR ME

CAPTAIN NEWTON

WHAT IS THE WORTH OF A FORTUNE AT TIMES LIKE THIS?
WOULD THAT I COULD UNDO MISTAKES THAT I HAVE MADE?
OR BUY BACK THE OPPORTUNITIES I'VE MISSED?
NOW WHO IS THE VICTIM IN ALL OF THESE GAMES I'VE PLAYED?

SOMETIMES IT SEEMS, I'VE SPENT A LIFETIME
PURSUING THINGS THAT JUST WON'T LAST
WHAT I BELIEVED WOULD BRING FULFILLMENT
HAS BECOME THE CHAIN THAT HOLDS ME FAST

I'VE WASTED ALL THESE YEARS
CHOKED BACK A THOUSAND TEARS
AND STARED IN THE FACE OF MY DARKEST FEARS
I BANISHED FROM MY MIND
THE PAIN OF THOSE I LEFT BEHIND
BUT NOW I MUST SEE
IF THERE'S STILL A CHANCE FOR ME
IF I LOOK BACK ON MY DECISIONS
THESE FATEFUL THINGS THAN I HAVE DONE
HAVE I PURSUED MY OWN AMBITIONS
AND FORCED THESE DREAMS AND NIGHTMARES ON MY SON

FOR SOMEDAY SOON THE LORD COULD COME
AND DEMAND MY LIFE FROM ME
EVERYTHING I'VE WORKED FOR
WOULD BECOME A MEMORY

ALL THE PRIDE AND ACHIEVEMENT
WOULD FALL AROUND HIS FEET
AND THESE EYES THAT HAVE BEEN BLINDED
FOR SO LONG WOULD FINALLY SEE
IF THERE'S A CHANCE FOR ME

FOR ONE WHO CAN CLEARLY SEE
THAT THERE MUST BE MORE THAN PROSPERITY
CAN I EVER RETURN TO THESE BRIDGES I HAVE BURNED?
MY HEART'S ONLY PLEA
THAT GOD WILL DECREE
THAT THERE'S STILL A CHANCE FOR ME.

NOWHERE LEFT TO RUN



THOMAS

NOW THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN SAY
TO WIPE AWAY WHAT YOU HAVE DONE
AND I DON'T WANT TO HEAR ANOTHER WORD

YOU CAN GO AND LIVE YOUR LIFE
LIKE AN OUTLAW ON THE RUN
THERE IS NOTHING I COULD SAY
THAT YOU'VE NOT HEARD

SO I'LL ONLY ASK ONE QUESTION NOW
BEFORE I SAIL OFF INTO THE SETTING SUN
WHEN YOUR SIN AND GUILT HAVE WORN YOU DOWN
WHERE WILL YOU GO WHEN THERE'S NOWHERE LEFT TO RUN?

YOU KNOW MANY A MAN HAS COME BEFORE YOU
MANY A MAN HAS PASSED
AND THE WORLD KEEPS ON TURNING JUST THE SAME
BUT YOU SPEND YOUR LIFE CHASING
AFTER THINGS THAT JUST WON'T LAST
BUT NONE OF THEM CAN EVER HEAL YOUR SHAME
BECAUSE SIN IS ONLY GOOD FOR A SEASON
AS A COMPANION ON THIS LONELY ROAD YOU TRUDGE
YES BUT ONE DAY YOU MUST STAND AND GIVE A REASON
BECAUSE NO ONE'S EVER LEAVING HERE UNJUDGED
YOU KNOW, NO ONE'S EVER LEAVING HERE UNJUDGED
SO I'LL ONLY ASK ONE QUESTION NOW
BEFORE I SAIL OFF INTO THE SETTING SUN
WHEN THEY LAY YOUR BODY IN THE GROUND
WHERE WILL YOU GO WHEN THERE'S NOWHERE LEFT TO RUN?
WHERE WILL YOU GO WHEN THERE'S NOWHERE LEFT TO RUN?

I BELIEVE

MARY

I BELIEVE
THAT THE BOY THAT I ONCE KNEW
IS STILL ALIVE INSIDE YOU
IF YOU COULD ONLY SEE

AND I BELIEVE
THAT YOU HAVE NOT BEEN FORSAKEN
AND THIS JOURNEY YOU HAVE TAKEN
CAN SOMEHOW SET YOU FREE

FOR YOU COULD CROSS A THOUSAND MILES
TO HIDE YOURSELF FROM HIM
MAKE A THOUSAND FOOLISH CHOICES
THAT YOU TELL YOURSELF HE NEVER CAN FORGIVE
BUT GOD IS WAITING FOR YOU JUST TO LET HIM IN
DON'T TURN AWAY
DON'T BE AFRAID OF WHAT YOU'LL SEE

FOR ALL THE THINGS YOU ONCE BELIEVED
OR THOUGHT YOU'D HEARD BEFORE
ALL THOSE WORDS OF HOPE YOUR MOTHER SPOKE

AMAZING GRACE LYRICS

WILL MAKE A SOUND
YOU'RE SPIRIT CAN'T IGNORE
THEN THROUGH THE TEARS OF LAUGHTER
YOU WILL LONG FOR MORE
THEN YOU WILL SEE
WHAT JOY CAN BE
MY OLDEST FRIEND
YOU SHOULD KNOW
I STILL BELIEVE

TESTIMONY



JOHN

IN A MOMENT OF TRUTH, I HAVE SEEN WHAT I AM
LIKE A MIST ON THE BAY, THAT IS HERE AND IS GONE
OR A DREAM THAT AWAKES, WITH THE COMING OF DAWN
SO AM I

BUT I CAN FEEL SOMETHING MORE
STIRRING DEEP IN MY SOUL
A BURNING FOR THINGS I'VE NEGLECTED SO LONG
A YEARNING TO SING THE UNFINISHED SONG
OF MY LIFE

AND THAT MAN THAT I WAS
I'LL CAST HIM ON THE FURY OF THE SEA
LET THE WIND AND WAVES
WASH AWAY A LIFETIME OF DECEIT
THEN I WON'T BE ASHAMED TO STAND AND
PROCLAIM I AM FREE, I AM FREE

THERE WAS NOTHING IN ME
THAT THE LORD SHOULD DESIRE
FOR EVERYONE KNOWS OF THE LIFE I HAVE LEAD
AND YOU CAN ATTEST THAT MY CONSCIENCE WAS DEAD
IN MY SIN

AND I KNOW IN MY SOUL
IT WAS NOT IN ME TO CHANGE
BUT GOD IN HIS MERCY HAS CALLED ME BY NAME
AND HE'S LIFTED ME OUT OF THE PIT OF MY SHAME
AND ORDAINED
I SHOULD LIVE

AND THE MAN THAT I WAS CAST UPON
THE FURY OF THE SEA
WHERE THE WIND AND THE WAVES
WASHED AWAY A LIFETIME OF DECEIT
NOW I WON'T BE ASHAMED TO STAND
AND PROCLAIM I AM FREE, I AM FREE

AND I NEVER CAN REPAY WHAT THE LORD
FORGAVE THIS DAY
HE CAME FOR ME
CAME TO SET ME FREE

DAYBREAK



AYOTUNDE

WHEN DAYBREAK IS ONLY A HEARTBEAT AWAY
WITH BARELY A MOMENT TILL DAWN
THE MIST COVERED TREES ARE SHROUDED IN GRAY
AS THE EARTH INTRODUCES ITS SONG

AS THE BIRDS START TO SING A HYMN
PRAISING DARKNESS YIELDING TO LIGHT
AND A NEW DAY SLOWLY BEGINS
SOON THE SUN IS SHINING BRIGHT
LET IT SHINE -----
ON ALL THE WORLD
THE DARKNESS WILL GIVE WAY TO DAY
AND IT'S TIME----- I KNOW IT'S TIME
THESE FEARS THAT HAVE SHAKEN OUR FAITH
FADE AWAY

BUT THE FOREST HAS CREATURES THAT FEAR THE LIGHT

AND THEY HIDE IN THEIR BURROWS AND WAIT FOR NIGHT
BUT YOU ARE NOT ONE OF THEM YOU ARE A CHILD
OF THE LIGHT-----, SO SHINE----- ON ALL THE WORLD
THE DARKNESS WILL GIVE WAY TO DAY
AND IT'S TIME----- IT MUST BE TIME
THAT THESE FEARS THAT HAVE SHAKEN OUR FAITH
FADE AWAY

NOTHING THERE TO LOVE



JOHN

FOR I WAS JUST A FACE WITHIN THE CROWD
TRYING HARD TO FIND MY WAY THE BEST I KNEW HOW
NO ONE EVER SAW THE LONELINESS I HELD INSIDE
AND THE MORE I TRIED TO SHOW MY BEST, THE MORE I HAD TO HIDE

BUT SOMEWHERE IN THE DARKNESS YOU WERE THERE
SHE LISTENED TO MY MUSIC WHEN THE WORLD DIDN'T CARE
YOU THE ONLY ONE WHO SAW BEYOND THE THINGS I'D DONE
WHO HELPED ME SEE A VISION OF THE MAN I COULD BECOME

NOW THIS IS MY SONG FOR THE ONE WHO LOVED ME WHEN
THERE WAS NOTHING THERE TO LOVE
AND THIS IS MY ANTHEM TO THE ONE WHO PRAYED
SOMEDAY I WOULD RISE ABOVE
SOMEWHERE IN HER EYES
I COULD SEE BEYOND MY SORROW
NOW WHEREVER LIFE MAY LEAD
I WANT EVERYONE TO SEE
I BELIEVE IN THEM AS SHE BELIEVED IN ME

MARY

IF YOU HAD ONLY RETURNED
TO BE THE SAME MAN YOU WERE
I'D RESOLVED IN MY MIND
THAT I MUST ALWAYS LOVE YOU FROM AFAR
THOUGH IT WOULD BREAK MY HEART
I WOULD LET YOU GO
AND NEVER LET YOU KNOW
THAT I FEEL WHAT I DO

BUT THERE'S A GOD
WHO CAN MAKE DREAMS COME TRUE
AND THERE'S NOT A STORM
THAT HIS LIGHT CAN'T SHINE THROUGH
AND I BELIEVED THAT HE WAS SEARCHING FOR YOU

JOHN

NOW THIS IS MY SONG FOR THE ONE WHO LOVED ME WHEN
THERE WAS NOTHING THERE TO LOVE
AND THIS IS MY ANTHEM TO THE ONE WHO PRAYED
SOMEDAY I WOULD RISE ABOVE
SOMEWHERE IN YOUR EYES
I COULD SEE BEYOND MY SORROW

MARY

THERE WAS A REASON WHY
MY HEART WAS WEEPING FOR YOU
NOW NO ONE CAN DENY
WHAT THE POWER OF TRUE LOVE CAN DO
SOMEWHERE IN YOUR EYES
I COULD SEE BEYOND MY SORROW

MARY

NOW WHEREVER LIFE MAY LEAD

JOHN

THERE'S A FUTURE I CAN SEE

MARY AND JOHN

AND I WILL FACE IT ALL IF YOU WILL WALK WITH ME

MARY

THERE'S A FUTURE

MARY AND JOHN

I WILL FACE IT ALL IF YOU WILL WALK WITH ME

AMAZING GRACE LYRICS

AMAZING GRACE



JOHN

AMAZING GRACE, HOW SWEET THE SOUND,
THAT SAVED A WRETCH LIKE ME.
I ONCE WAS LOST BUT NOW AM FOUND,
WAS BLIND, BUT NOW I SEE.

JOHN AND MARY

'T WAS GRACE THAT TAUGHT MY HEART TO FEAR.
AND GRACE, MY FEARS RELIEVED.
HOW PRECIOUS DID THAT GRACE APPEAR
THE HOUR I FIRST BELIEVED.

AYOTUNDE, CAPTAIN NEWTON, MRS. NEWTON

THROUGH MANY DANGERS, TOILS AND SNARES
I HAVE ALREADY COME;
'T WAS GRACE THAT BROUGHT ME SAFE THUS FAR
AND GRACE WILL LEAD ME HOME.

KEITA AND HAWIES

THE LORD HAS PROMISED GOOD TO ME.
HIS WORD MY HOPE SECURES.

QUIGLEY AND TYLER

HE WILL MY SHIELD AND PORTION BE,
AS LONG AS LIFE ENDURES.

COMPANY

WHEN WE'VE BEEN THERE TEN THOUSAND YEARS
BRIGHT SHINING AS THE SUN
WE'VE NO LESS DAYS TO SING GOD'S PRAISE
THAN WHEN WE'D FIRST BEGUN

AMAZING GRACE (HOW SWEET THE SOUND)
THAT SAVED A WRETCH LIKE ME
I ONCE WAS LOST, BUT NOW AM FOUND
WAS BLIND BUT NOW I SEE
WAS BLIND BUT NOW I SEE
NOW I SEE

FUN AND GAMES

Word Search

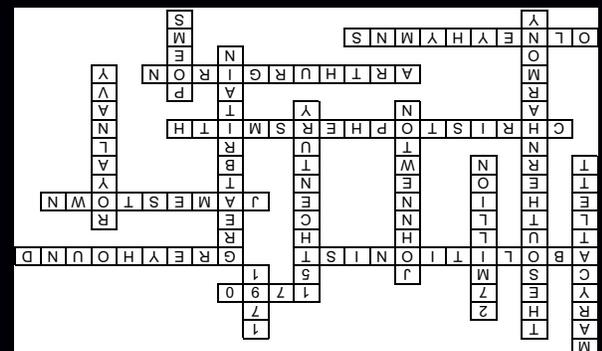
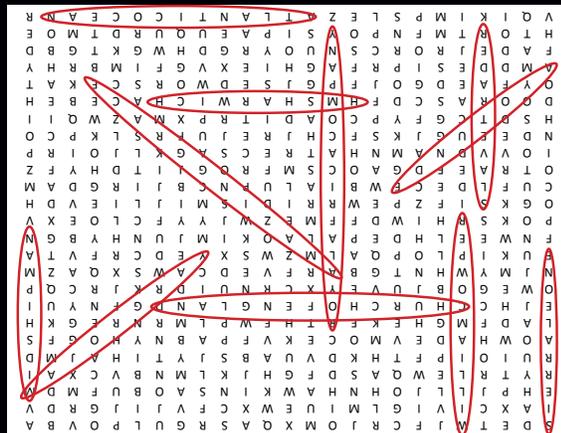
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 A O W H A D E V M O C E K V F P A B N Y H O G F S
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 O W E G O B J U V E Y X C R N U I D R K J R C Q P
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 O G K S I F Z P E W R R I D I S M I J L I E V D H
 C U F L D E C E W B I A L U P N C B J I R G D A M
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 H S D T C G F Y P C O A D I T R P X M A Z W Q I I
 D O O R A S C D F H M S H A R W I C H A C E B E H
 O Y F A E D G O J F P G J S E D W O R S C E K A T
 A M D D E S I P R F A G H I E X V G F I M B R H Y
 F A D E J R O R C S N U O Y R G D H W G K T G B D
 H T O R T M F N P O Y S I P A E U Q U R D T M O E
 V Q I K I M P S L E Z A T L A N T I C O C E A N R

Amazing Grace
 Atlantic Ocean
 Ayotunde
 HMS Harwich

John Hawkins
 Major Gray
 Midshipman
 Royal Africa Company

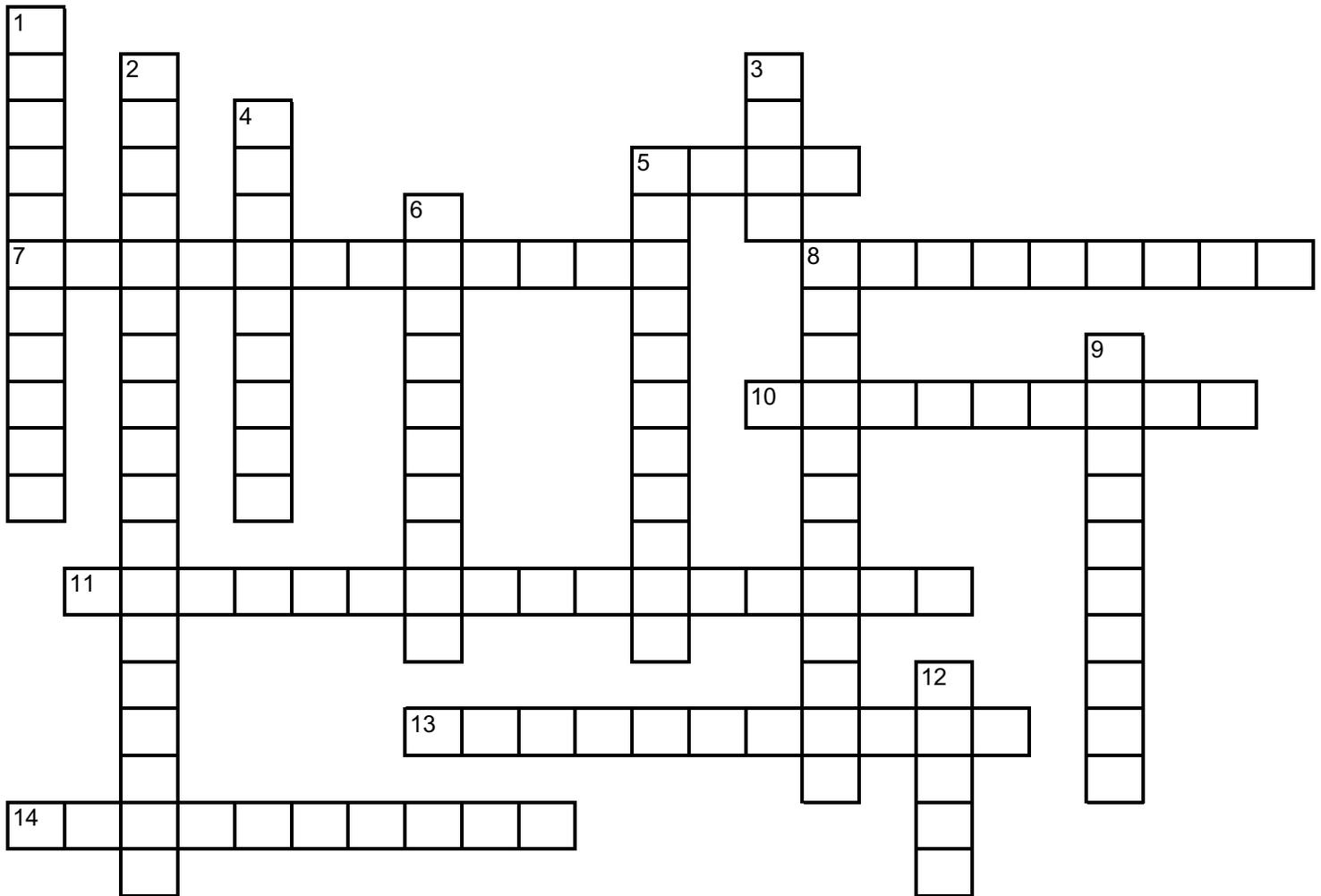
Sierra Leone
 Slave Trader
 William Cowper

ANSWER KEY



FUN AND GAMES

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 5 The year "Amazing Grace" was published in New York.
- 7 A person who wanted to help end slavery.
- 8 John's father gave him a model of this ship.
- 10 The first permanent British settlement was established in 1607 in ____, Virginia.
- 11 Who wrote the book, music, and lyrics to *Amazing Grace* the musical?
- 13 Who co-wrote the book to *Amazing Grace* the musical?
- 14 John Newton wrote the ____ in Olney, England.

DOWN

- 1 John Newton's childhood sweetheart.
- 2 In 1835, the sheet music to "Amazing Grace" was published for the first time in ____.
- 3 The year that "Amazing Grace" was published in Philadelphia.
- 4 There are approximately ____ people who are enslaved today.
- 5 By the end of the ____, the Portuguese and Spanish had abducted nearly two hundred thousand Africans and sold them as slaves.
- 6 Who wrote the hymn "Amazing Grace?"
- 8 While many countries were involved in the slave trade, none had such a significant impact as ____.
- 9 In 1743, Newton was captured and forced into service by the ____.
- 12 *Olney Hymns* actually looked like a book of ____ rather than a book of hymns.

How to Be an Awesome Audience Member

Seeing a musical at the Goodspeed Opera House is a unique and exciting experience. All the members of the production, both cast and crew, work hard to give you a great show. As an audience member, you also have an important job. You must help the performers give their best performance possible. You can do this by practicing these rules of theater etiquette:

- Do laugh when the performance is funny.
- Do applaud when the performance is over. Applause is how you say “Thank you” to the performer. The actors will bow as you applaud. That is how they say “Thank you for coming.”
- Do stand and applaud if you thought the show was outstanding.
- Don’t forget to turn off your cell phone. A ringing or buzzing phone can be very distracting. It can also be embarrassing for you if it is your phone that is disrupting the show!
- Don’t text during the performance.
- Make sure to visit the restroom before the production begins.
- Don’t speak or whisper during the performance...whispering is still speaking, so only in an emergency should whispering occur.
- Remember that the Overture (introductory music) in musical theatre is part of the performance, so remain silent when the show begins.
- Don’t take pictures during the performance. It can be very distracting to the actors and it can result in an accident.
- Don’t put your feet up on the seats or kick the seat in front of you.
- Do sit ONLY when your seat is in the folded down position.
- Do remain in your seat for the entire performance. If you must leave, exit during intermission. In an emergency, calmly walk toward the nearest exit.

The Student Guide to the Theatre for *Amazing Grace* was prepared by Joshua S. Ritter M.F.A, Education & Library Director and Christine Hopkins, M.A, Education & Library Assistant