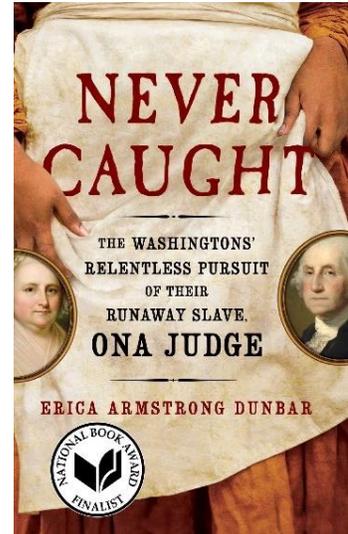


***Never Caught* Toolkit for Book Groups**

Questions to consider before you read the book:

1. How much do you know about New Hampshire history?
2. How much do you know about the history of slavery in the United States?
3. What can one person's story tell us about the time period in which they lived?
4. Who decides which stories we learn about the past?



Book discussion questions:

1. Why does Ona escape from slavery and the President's household? How does she do it and who helps her?
2. What was slavery like in New Hampshire during this time period? How were free Black people treated in New Hampshire?
3. What does Ona's story tell us about the lives of fugitive slaves?
4. What were some of the new challenges that Ona faced once she had escaped? How does her life change in New Hampshire?
5. When was slavery abolished in New Hampshire? How does that compare to the rest of New England and the North?
6. Did you gain a new perspective about George Washington from reading this book?
7. How does this history continue to impact the United States today?

For more information on these topics:

Shadows Fall North, a 2016 documentary from the UNH Center for the Humanities and Atlantic Media, explores Black history in New Hampshire. New Hampshire Humanities supported this work through our Community Project Grants. You can watch the full film here by using the password SFN2016. <https://vimeo.com/194591588>

Talking About Race: The Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture has created a new online portal with resources to help educators, parents, and individuals talk about race. <https://nmaahc.si.edu/learn/talking-about-race>

The Freedom Petition written by enslaved people in Portsmouth in 1779:

[https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Petition_To_The_New_Hampshire_Government_\(1779\)](https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Petition_To_The_New_Hampshire_Government_(1779))

The Black Heritage Trail provides programs and tours related to New Hampshire's Black history, including the story of Ona Judge and sites in Portsmouth featured in the book. <http://blackheritagetrailnh.org/>

“Richard Allen: Apostle of Freedom” is an online exhibit about Richard Allen, a Black abolitionist and contemporary of Ona Judge from the Historical Society of Pennsylvania: <https://hsp.org/history-online/exhibits/richard-allen-apostle-of-freedom>

Mount Vernon, where the Washingtons and Ona Judge lived: <https://wamu.org/story/20/08/06/va-mount-vernon-george-washington-former-slaves/>

The Young Readers version of *Never Caught* is also available: <https://www.simonandschuster.com/books/Never-Caught-the-Story-of-Ona-Judge/Erica-Armstrong-Dunbar/9781534416178>

About the author of *Never Caught*:



Dr. Erica Armstrong Dunbar is Professor of History at Rutgers University. Her first book, *A Fragile Freedom: African American Women and Emancipation in the Antebellum City*, was published by Yale University Press in 2008. Her second book, *Never Caught: The Washingtons' Relentless Pursuit of Their Runaway Slave, Ona Judge* was a 2017 finalist for the National Book Award in nonfiction and a winner of the 2018 Frederick Douglass Book Award. Find out more on her website: <https://ericaarmstrongdunbar.com/>

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