

150th Anniversary

OF THE

**Emancipation
Proclamation**

forever free; and

United States, in

authority thereof

**Emancipation Proclamation
Commemorative Coloring Book**

THE
NATIONAL
ARCHIVES
EXPERIENCE

President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, announcing, "that all persons held as slaves. . . henceforward shall be free."

This book belongs to

I celebrated the 150th Anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation at the National Archives, Washington, D.C.

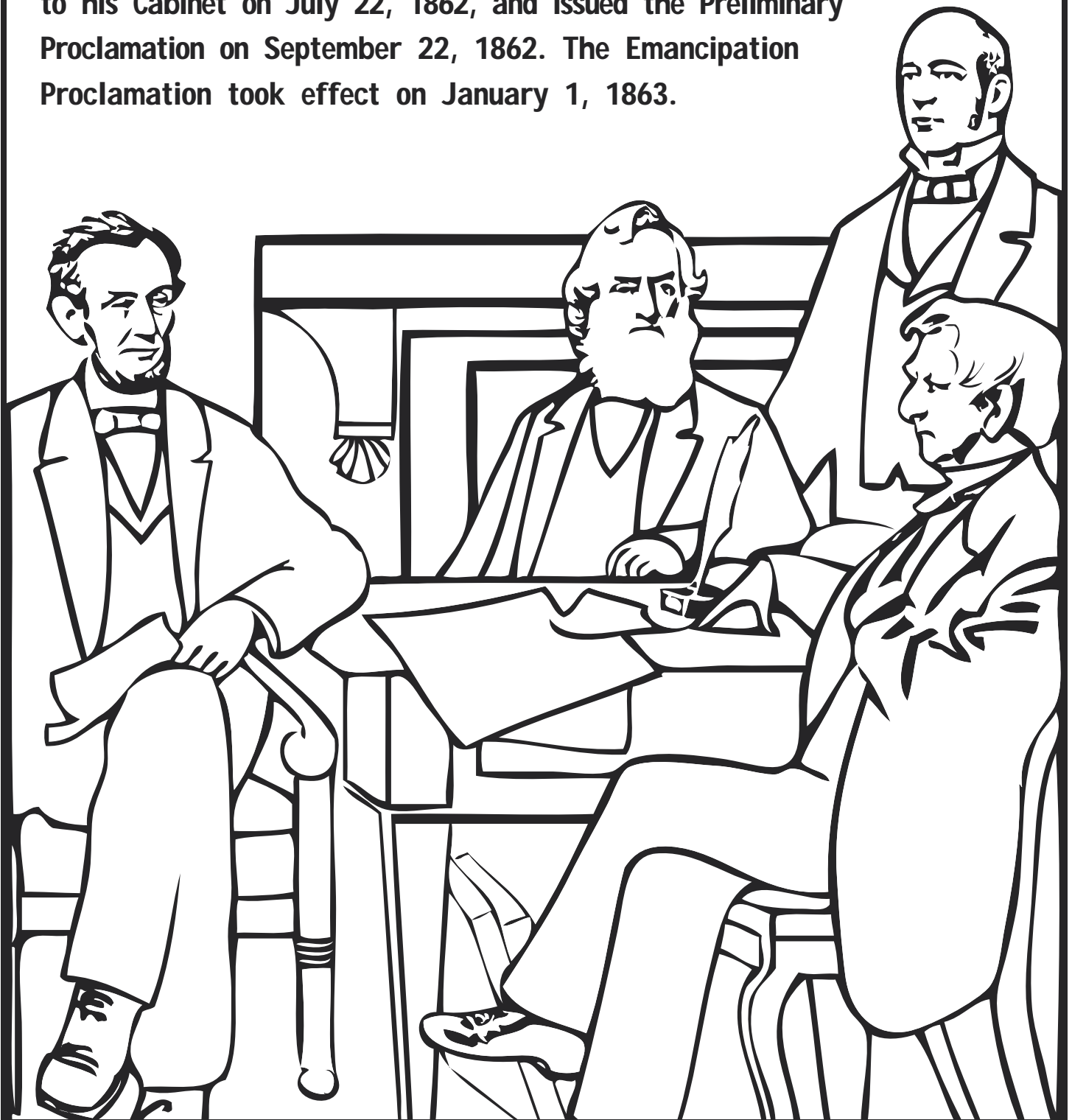
The Emancipation Proclamation

The Emancipation Proclamation was an order issued by President Abraham Lincoln that began the process of freeing all the slaves in the United States. It was signed January 1, 1863. The order freed all slaves held by the Confederate States that were not in control of Union forces. The Emancipation Proclamation, followed by the 13th Amendment to the Constitution, would eventually free four million enslaved Americans.

The order also allowed freed slaves to join the U.S. military. By the end of the Civil War in 1865, 200,000 African American troops, most of whom were former slaves, served in the Union armed forces. These added troops, as well as the political effect of the Emancipation Proclamation, helped the Union win the Civil War.

As a milestone along the road to end slavery, with the post-Civil War struggles, and the modern legacy of civil rights, the Emancipation Proclamation has assumed a place among the great documents of human freedom.

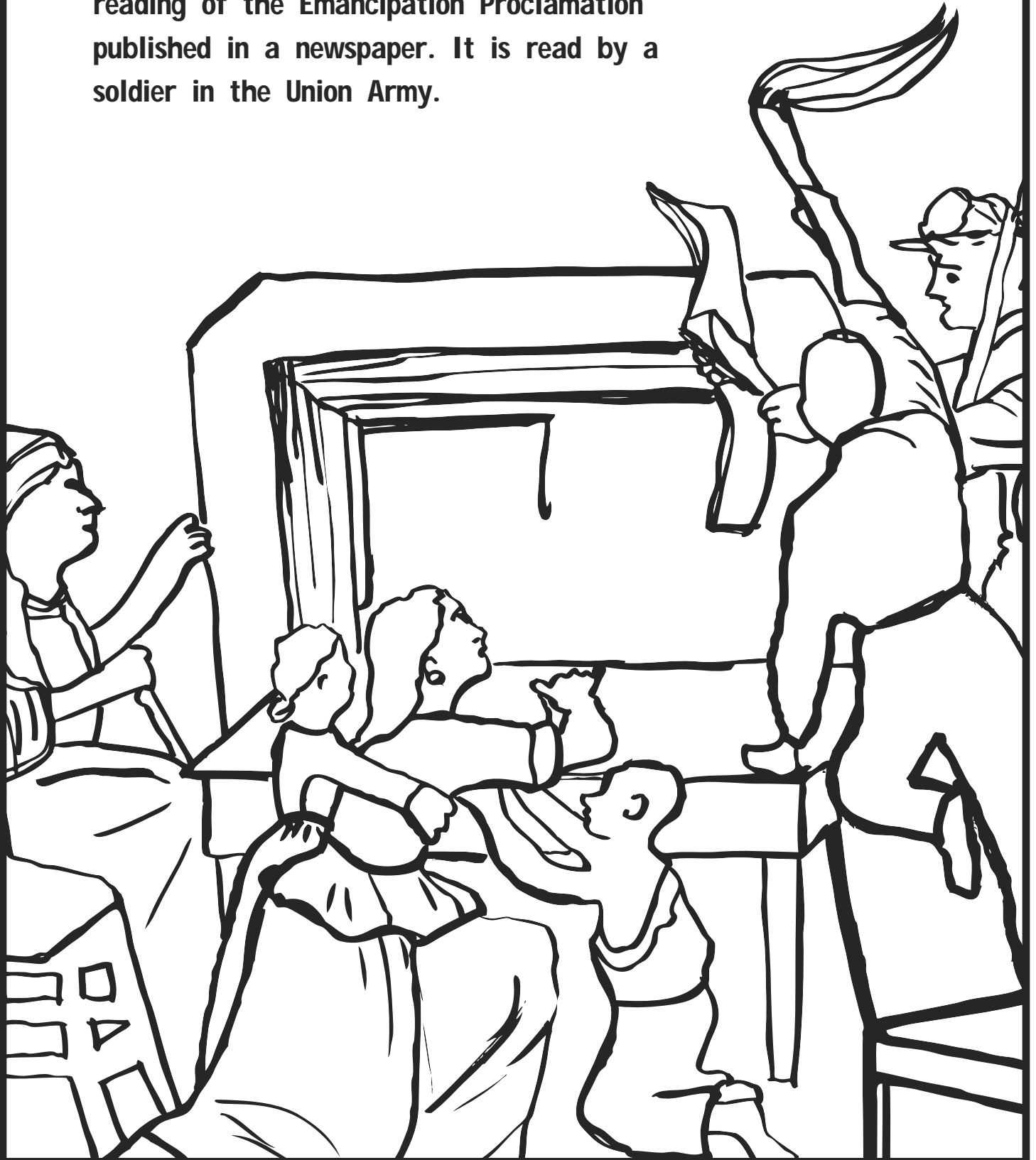
Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President of the United States, and his Cabinet members read over the Emancipation Proclamation, which proclaimed the freedom of slaves in the 10 states rebelling against the Union in the Civil War. Lincoln first presented the Emancipation Proclamation to his Cabinet on July 22, 1862, and issued the Preliminary Proclamation on September 22, 1862. The Emancipation Proclamation took effect on January 1, 1863.



On December 31, 1862, many enslaved African Americans gathered in churches and prayed. Throughout the night, they waited for the moment when the Emancipation Proclamation would take effect. This special night became known as "Watch Night," and continues to be celebrated today in many African American churches on New Year's Eve.

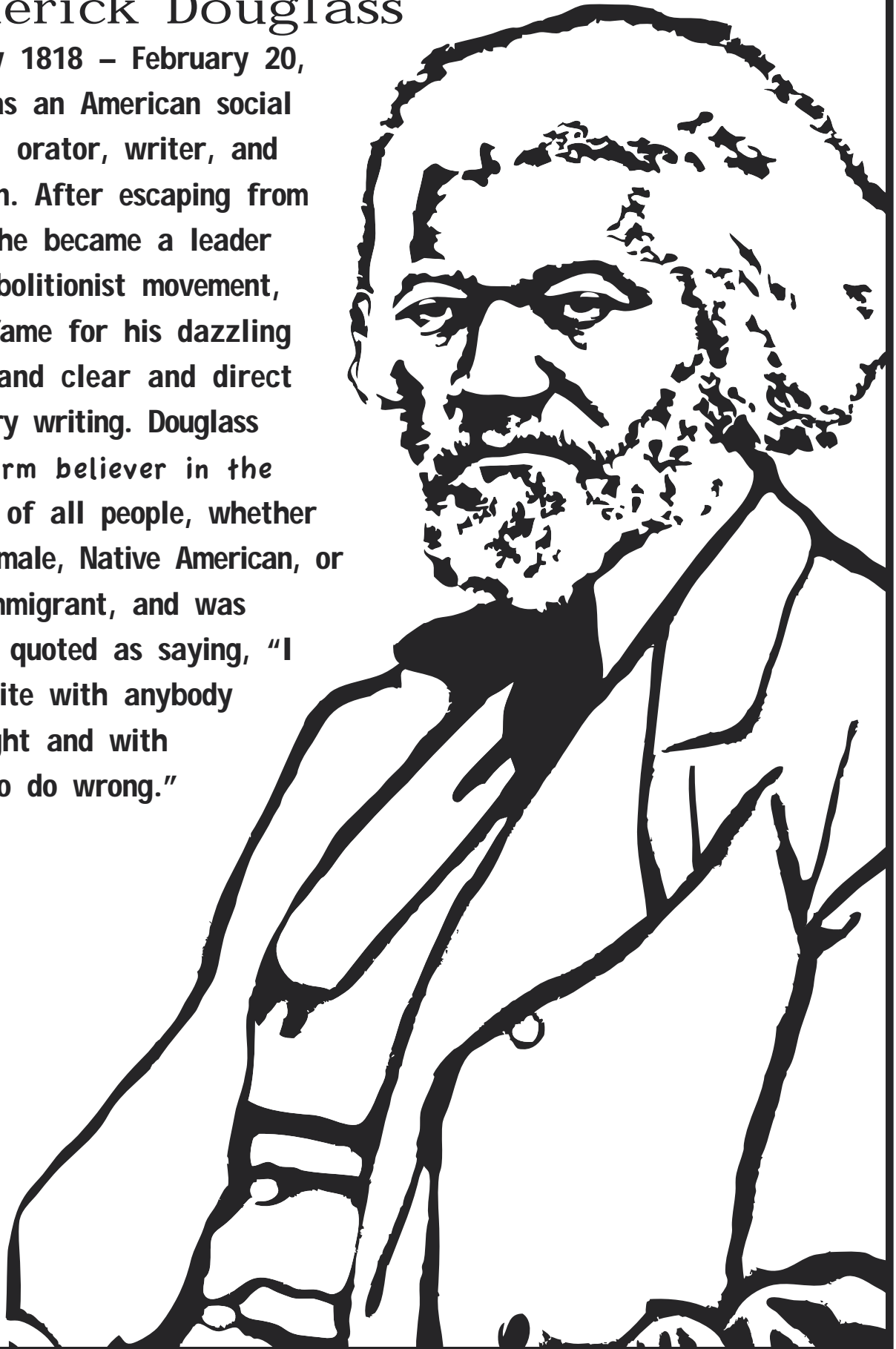


By the light of a torch held by a young boy, a group of African Americans listened to the reading of the Emancipation Proclamation published in a newspaper. It is read by a soldier in the Union Army.



Frederick Douglass

(February 1818 – February 20, 1895) was an American social reformer, orator, writer, and statesman. After escaping from slavery, he became a leader of the abolitionist movement, gaining fame for his dazzling oratory and clear and direct antislavery writing. Douglass was a firm believer in the equality of all people, whether black, female, Native American, or recent immigrant, and was famously quoted as saying, "I would unite with anybody to do right and with nobody to do wrong."



Harriet Tubman

(1820–March 10, 1913) was an African American abolitionist, humanitarian, and Union spy during the Civil War. Born into slavery, Tubman was able to escape, and later made more than 13 missions to rescue more than 70 slaves using the network of abolitionists (people against slavery) known as the “Underground Railroad.” She later joined the fight to win women the right to vote.

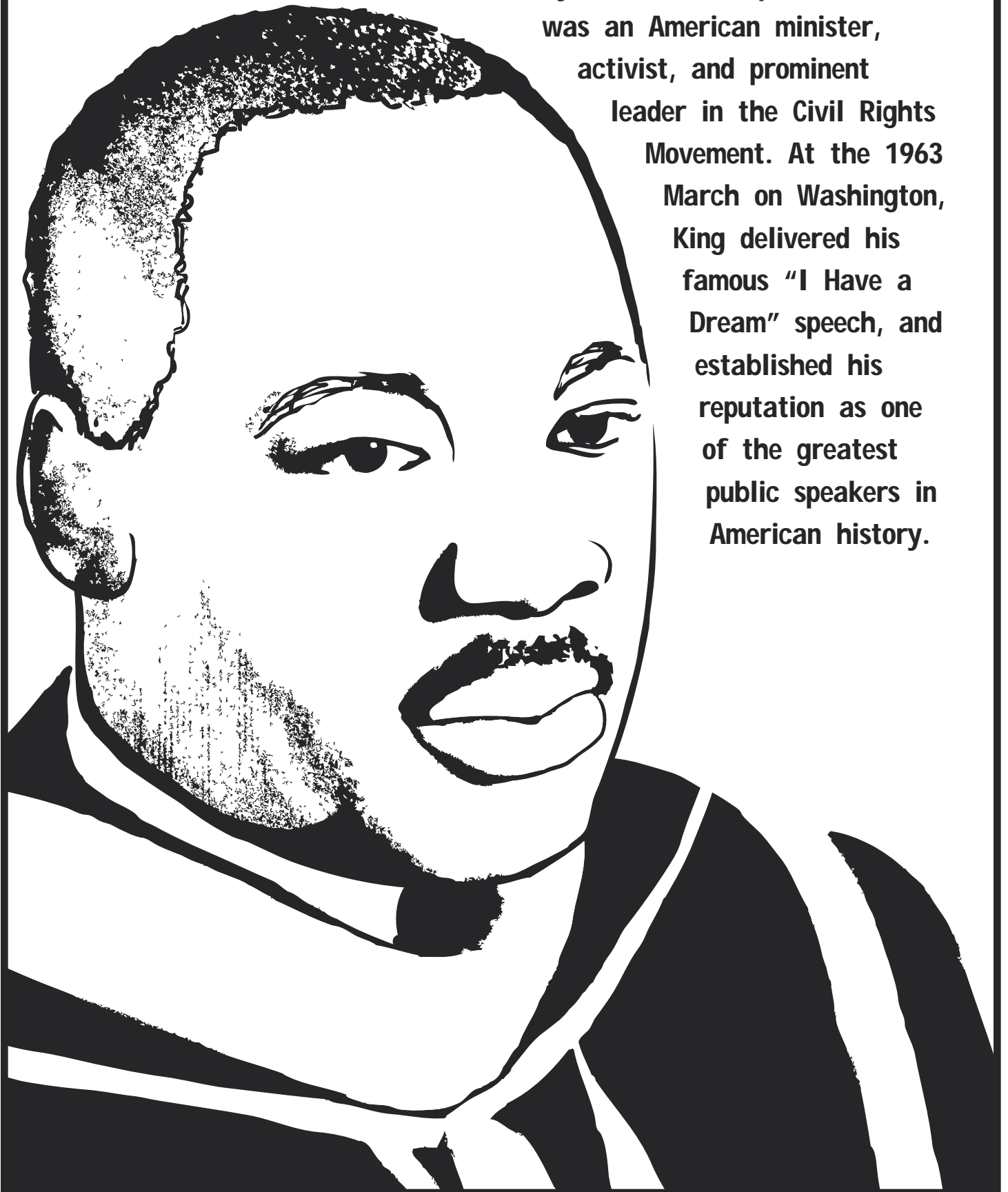


Martin Luther King, Jr.

(January 15, 1929 – April 4, 1968)

was an American minister,
activist, and prominent

leader in the Civil Rights
Movement. At the 1963
March on Washington,
King delivered his
famous "I Have a
Dream" speech, and
established his
reputation as one
of the greatest
public speakers in
American history.



Rosa Parks

(February 4, 1913 – October 24, 2005)

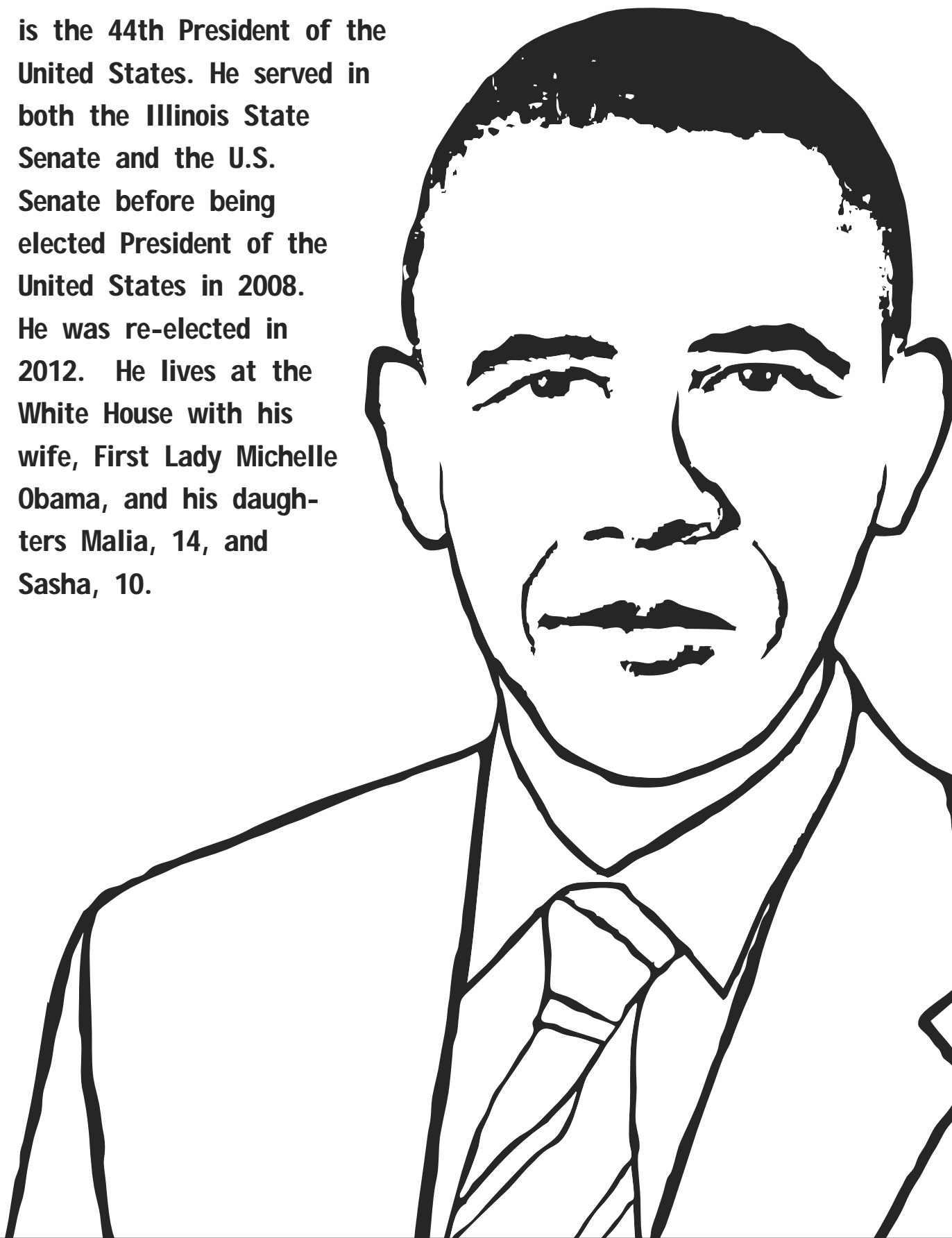
is often called “the mother of the modern civil rights movement.”

On December 1, 1955, in Montgomery, Alabama, she was arrested when she refused to give up her seat on a bus to a white, male passenger. This act of bravery inspired the Montgomery Bus Boycott, led by Martin Luther King, Jr., and began a movement that ended legal segregation in America.



Barack Obama

is the 44th President of the United States. He served in both the Illinois State Senate and the U.S. Senate before being elected President of the United States in 2008. He was re-elected in 2012. He lives at the White House with his wife, First Lady Michelle Obama, and his daughters Malia, 14, and Sasha, 10.



Proclamation

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What Freedom Means to Me

Draw a picture or write about what freedom means to you.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, occupying the lower two-thirds of the page. It is intended for the user to draw a picture or write about what freedom means to them.

Resources

For more information about what you have seen at the National Archives, check out the following web sites:

The National Archives: *www.archives.gov*

DocsTeach: *www.docsteach.org*

Interactive online resource of learning activities featuring documents at the National Archives.

RECOMMENDED READINGS

Cory, Shana. *Barack Obama: Out of Many, One*. Random House Publishers, New York, New York. 2009

Davidson, Margaret. *Frederick Douglass Fights for Freedom*. Scholastic Publishing, New York, New York. 1989

Landau, Elaine. *The Emancipation Proclamation: Would You Do What Lincoln Did?* Enslow Publishers, Berkeley Heights, New Jersey. 2010

McDonough, Yona Zeldis. *Who Was Rosa Parks?* Grosset and Dunlap Publishers, New York, New York. 2010

McMullan, Kate. *The Story of Harriet Tubman: Conductor of the Underground Railroad*. Dell Publishing, New York, New York. 1990

Ruffin, Frances. *Martin Luther King, Jr. and the March on Washington*. Penguin Publishers, New York, New York. 2000

Sherman, Pat. *Ben and the Emancipation Proclamation*. Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, Grand Rapids, Michigan. 2009

CREDITS

- Page 2: First Reading of the Emancipation Proclamation by President Lincoln to his Cabinet, United States Senate
Page 3: Waiting for the hour [Emancipation] December 31, 1862, Prints and Photography Division, Library of Congress
Page 4: Reading the Emancipation Proclamation, Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress
Page 5: Portrait of Frederick Douglass, Collections of the New-York Historical Society
Page 6: Portrait of Harriet Tubman, Moorland-Spingarn Research Center, Howard University
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