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All Different Kinds Of Free



Synopsis

A free woman of color in the 1830s, Margaret Morgan lived a life full of promise. One frigid night in Pennsylvania, that changed forever. They tore her family apart. They put her in chains. But they never expected her to fight back. In 1837, Margaret Morgan was kidnapped from her home in Pennsylvania and sold into slavery. The state of Pennsylvania charged her kidnapper with the crime, but the conviction was later overturned by the U.S. Supreme Court. It was the first time a major branch of the federal government had made a pro-slavery stand, and the ruling in *Prigg v. Pennsylvania* sewed the bitter seeds of the states' rights battle that eventually would lead to the Civil War. Yet, the heart of this story is not a historic Supreme Court ruling. It is the remarkable, unforgettable Margaret Morgan. Her life would never be the same. Her family had been torn apart. Uncaring forces abused her body and her heart. But she refused to give up, refused to stop fighting, and refused to allow her soul to be enslaved. About the author: Jessica McCann's work as an award-winning journalist has been published in *Business Week*, *The Writer*, and many other publications. *All Different Kinds of Free* is her first novel. Learn more about McCann online at www.jessicamccann.com.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I went and picked up my copy of "All Different Kinds of Free" last week. Didn't get to open it until over the weekend, I think Friday. And didn't get to put it down until this evening, after I'd read cover to cover, lived the story, cried during the auction, and ended with a commingled sense of disgust

and helplessness about what our world had done - and indeed continues to on smaller scales in the seedier corners of society. The image Jessica created about Margaret's younger boy being chained up with a collar and having to trot alongside the horse to keep up - his first ever experience of mistreatment at the hands of another individual, and that's how it went, with no one to guide him and gently break him in. I watched a movie years ago called "Amistad." True story. Starred Matthew McConaughey. The visual impact of a line of about 12 slaves on a ship chained together at the ankles, chained even to a horse/mule, and when they needed to cut weight, they slapped that mule on the butt and it went overboard - taking all those people up by their ankles and over the side with it. It was the most disturbing thing I'd seen to that point and it stuck with me for weeks. There are many passages in Jessica's book that will stick with me that way. Particularly the scene where she so vividly describes the auctioning of Margaret's children, and then her, and her daughter standing up for her, and the feelings she had watching her sons get carried off... amazing. I was taken into Margaret's head and I felt what she might have felt like, and I couldn't handle it. I cried when I read that. Honest. To. God, I blubbered. Jessica's book is a keeper.

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