

**F. E. W. HARPER: UPLIFTED FROM THE SHADOWS**

STUDENT HANDOUT 1

The following is a list of facts about F. E. W. Harper, a nineteenth-century American writer.

This writer:

- Lived from 1825-1911.
- Was orphaned at the age of three and raised by an uncle and aunt.
- Attended an educational academy run by an uncle.
- Became a popular writer, lecturer, and political activist.
- Is best known today for literary works of fiction.
- Wrote poems that first appeared in newspapers.
- Published a book at the age of 20.
- Taught at Union Seminary in Ohio.
- Worked with William Still, Chairman of the Pennsylvania Abolition Society, to aid fugitive slaves along the Underground Railroad.
- Wrote the commercially successful *Poems on Miscellaneous Subjects* in 1854.
- Became a famous anti-slavery lecturer and traveled widely in the United States and Canada speaking about freedom and equality for all.
- Married a person who already had three children; one biological daughter resulted from that marriage.
- Published the short story, *The Two Offers* about the important life choices that young people must make.
- Wrote *Sketches of Southern Life*, which presents the story of life before and after the Civil War as told by a character named "Aunt Chloe."
- Worked with local churches as a community activist, focusing on projects such as feeding the poor, preventing juvenile delinquency, and teaching Sunday school.
- Is being rediscovered and celebrated today.

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