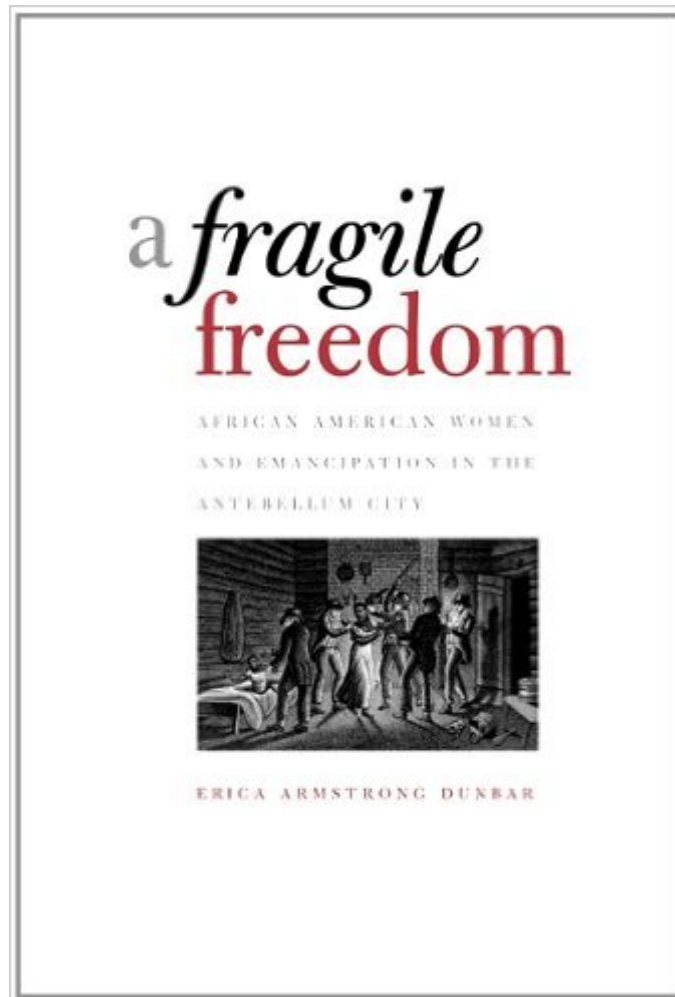


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# A Fragile Freedom (Society And The Sexes In The Modern Worl)



## Synopsis

This book is the first to chronicle the lives of African American women in the urban north during the early years of the republic. *A Fragile Freedom* investigates how African American women in Philadelphia journeyed from enslavement to the precarious status of "free persons" in the decades leading up to the Civil War and examines comparable developments in the cities of New York and Boston. Erica Armstrong Dunbar argues that early nineteenth-century Philadelphia, where most African Americans were free, enacted a kind of rehearsal for the national emancipation that followed in the post-Civil War years. She explores the lives of the "regular" women of antebellum Philadelphia, the free black institutions that took root there, and the previously unrecognized importance of African American women to the history of American cities.

## Book Information

Series: Society and the Sexes in the Modern World

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Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (2 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

The book was excellent.

6/22/09 the contents of author Dunbar's book is described in much detail via a ques. and ans. interview on the Comcast Cable "community programs" of Pennsylvania's Book Tours. According to Dunbar, her book focuses on the slavery environment in the North (especially in Pennsylvania, New York, Maryland and Delaware) and the period of time:its inception in America,in the 1700's almost a century prior to the Civil War), and inclusive of "the whys"(aka reasons)besides the obvious "ethical

reasons", for the end of slavery for slaves of African descent, especially with Pennsylvania laws which began their attrition out of slavery in most cases (around age 28) much due to the Quaker influence. Another book on that topic & "geography (the north/ but in Haley's book also in the south) Alex Haley's book, a fiction, "A Different Kind of Christmas" does much on the environment (especially the Quakers) in Philadelphia using a free black (a male of African descent) who became a successful entrepreneur... Dunbar's non-fiction obviously reflects much research in this non-fiction work and how it affected the lives and psyche of many.

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