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Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Introduction: Biography and the Black Atlantic -- Chapter one. A Historical Appreciation of the Biographical Turn -- Chapter two. Understanding the Slave Experience in West Africa -- Chapter three. Robinson Charley: The Ideological Underpinnings of Atlantic History -- Chapter four. Black Pearls: Writing Black Atlantic Women's Biography -- Chapter five. Recovered Lives as a Window into the Enslaved Family -- Chapter six. From Slave to Wealthy African Freedman: The Story of Manoel Joaquim Ricardo -- Chapter seven. David Dorr's Journey Toward Selfhood in Europe -- Chapter eight. Methodology in the Making and Reception of Equiano -- Chapter nine. Remembering His Country Marks: A Nigerian American Family and Its "African" Ancestor -- Chapter ten. The Atlantic Transformations of Francisco Menéndez -- Chapter eleven. Echoes of the Atlantic: Benguela (Angola) and Brazilian Independence -- Chapter twelve. Rosalie of the Poulard Nation: Freedom, Law, and Dignity in the Era of the Haitian Revolution -- Afterword -- Notes -- Contributors -- Index -- Acknowledgments

In *Biography and the Black Atlantic*, leading historians in the field of Atlantic studies examine the biographies and autobiographies of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century African-descended people and reflect on the opportunities and limitations these life stories present to studies of slavery and the African diaspora. The essays remind us that historical developments like slavery and empire-building were mostly experienced and shaped by men and women outside of the elite political, economic, and military groups to which historians often turn as sources. Despite the scarcity of written records and other methodological challenges, the contributors to *Biography and the Black Atlantic* have pieced together vivid glimpses into lives of remarkable, through previously unknown, enslaved and formerly enslaved people who moved, struggled, and endured in different parts of Africa, the Americas, and Europe. From the woman of Fulani origin who made her way from Revolutionary Haiti to Louisiana to the free black American who sailed for Liberia and the former slave from Brazil who became a major slave trader in Angola, these stories render the Atlantic world as a densely and sometimes unpredictably interconnected sphere. *Biography and the Black Atlantic* demonstrates the power of individual stories to illuminate history: though the life histories recounted here often involved extraordinary achievement and survival against the odds, they also portray the struggle for self-determination and community in the midst of alienation that lies at the heart of the modern condition. Contributors: James T. Campbell, Vincent Carretta, Roquinaldo Ferreira, Jean-Michel Hébrard, Martin Klein, Lloyd S. Kramer, Sheryl Kroen, Jane Landers, Lisa A. Lindsay, Joseph C. Miller, Cassandra Pybus, João José Reis, Rebecca J. Scott, Jon Sensbach, John Wood Sweet.

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