

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910825798803321
Autore	Wong Edlie L.
Titolo	Neither Fugitive nor Free : Atlantic Slavery, Freedom Suits, and the Legal Culture of Travel / / Edlie L. Wong
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York, NY : , : New York University Press, , [2009] ©2009
ISBN	9780814795460 0814795463
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (348 p.)
Collana	America and the Long 19th Century ; ; 8
Disciplina	810.93552
Soggetti	Law in literature Slavery in literature Law and literature - United States - History - 19th century Slavery - Law and legislation - United States - History - 19th century Antislavery movements - United States - History - 19th century Enslaved persons - Legal status, laws, etc - United States - History - 19th century American literature - African American authors - History and criticism American literature - 19th century - History and criticism Slave narratives - History and criticism Black people - Travel - History - 19th century Enslaved persons - Travel - History - 19th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction -- 1 Emancipation after "the Laws of Englishmen" -- 2 Choosing Kin in Antislavery Literature and Law -- 3 The Gender of Freedom before Dred Scott -- 4 The Crime of Color in the Negro Seamen Acts -- Conclusion -- Notes -- Index -- About the Author
Sommario/riassunto	Neither Fugitive nor Free draws on the freedom suit as recorded in the press and court documents to offer a critically and historically engaged understanding of the freedom celebrated in the literary and cultural histories of transatlantic abolitionism. Freedom suits involved those

enslaved valets, nurses, and maids who accompanied slaveholders onto free soil. Once brought into a free jurisdiction, these attendants became informally free, even if they were taken back to a slave jurisdiction—at least according to abolitionists and the enslaved themselves. In order to secure their freedom formally, slave attendants or others on their behalf had to bring suit in a court of law. Edlie Wong critically recuperates these cases in an effort to reexamine and redefine the legal construction of freedom, will, and consent. This study places such historically central anti-slavery figures as Frederick Douglass, Olaudah Equiano, and William Lloyd Garrison alongside such lesser-known slave plaintiffs as Lucy Ann Delaney, Grace, Catharine Linda, Med, and Harriet Robinson Scott. Situated at the confluence of literary criticism, feminism, and legal history, *Neither Fugitive nor Free* presents the freedom suit as a "new" genre to African American and American literary studies.
