

Anna

*An animated historical drama produced by
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11 minutes

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In November 1815, a woman known only as "Anna" is sold to Georgia slave traders, taken to Washington, D.C., and locked in a third-floor garret at Miller's Tavern. Desperate and trapped in the "slave pen," she tells the story of her wrenching journey. Gradually she divulges the true horror of slavery—its sickening cruelty, violence, and deception. She is about to be sent to Georgia and separated forever from her husband and children.

By the dawn's early light, Anna is drawn to the window in the garret. She makes a fateful decision to leap into the night air.

Abolitionists hear about her story, and they depict her act as an attempted suicide. A Congressional inquiry investigates Anna's case, kidnapping, and the interstate slave trade in Washington, D.C. Francis Scott Key, a prominent attorney who had helped gather evidence about the kidnappings, meets Anna as she recovers in the garret. Her two children are gone, taken by the slave traders to Georgia.

For two hundred years, her identity remained a mystery.

In 2015, researchers uncovered original documents about her at the National Archives and began putting the pieces of her story together. Her name was Ann Williams. She and her husband were reunited and had four more children. Eventually she sued George Miller for her freedom. And won. *Anna* is based on these remarkable sources.