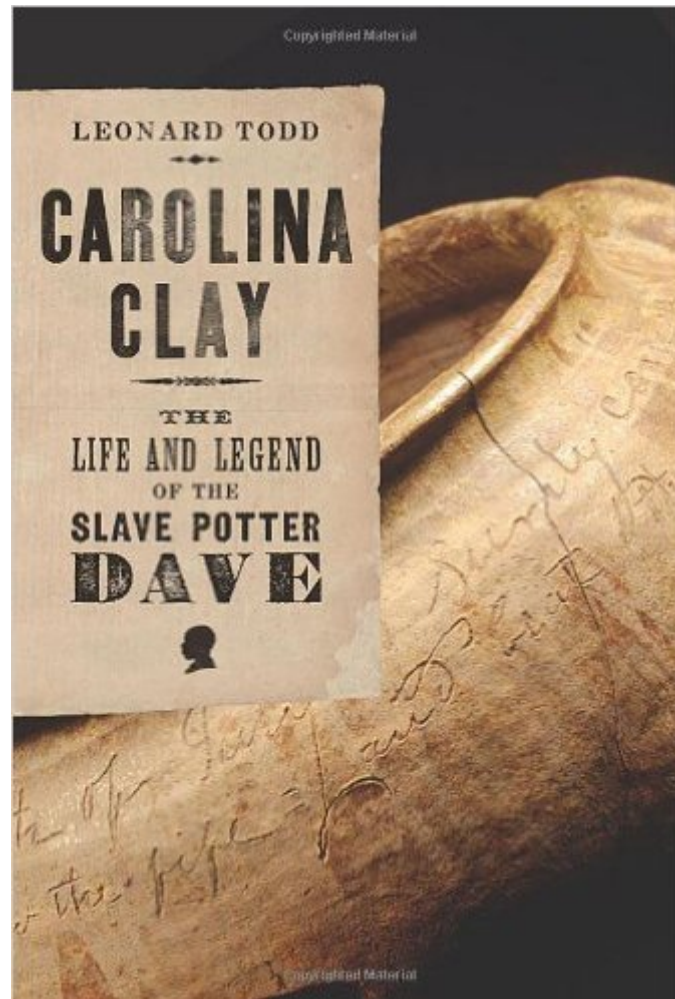


The book was found

# Carolina Clay: The Life And Legend Of The Slave Potter Dave



## Synopsis

The compelling story of a slave, owned by the author's ancestors, who became one of the singular artists of the nineteenth century. He is known today, as he was then, only as Dave. His pots and storage jars were everyday items, but because of their beauty and massive size, and because Dave signed and inscribed many with poems, they now fetch six figures at auction. We know of no other slave artist who dared to put his name on his work, a dangerous advertisement of literacy. Fascinated by the man and by this troubling family history, Leonard Todd moved from Manhattan to Edgefield, South Carolina, where his ancestors had established a thriving pottery industry in the early 1800s. Todd studied each of Dave's poems for biographical clues, which he pieced together with local records and family letters to create this moving and dramatic chronicle of Dave's life—a story of creative triumph in the midst of slavery. Many of Dave's astounding jars are found now in America's finest museums. 8 pages of color; 31 black & white

## Book Information

Hardcover: 336 pages

Publisher: W. W. Norton & Company; First Edition edition (October 17, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0393058565

ISBN-13: 978-0393058567

Product Dimensions: 6.4 x 1.1 x 9.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (23 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #419,965 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #116 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Other Media > Ceramics](#) #257 in [Books > History > Americas > United States > Civil War > Abolition](#) #877 in [Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Arts & Literature > Artists, Architects & Photographers](#)

## Customer Reviews

CAROLINA CLAY: The Life and Legend of the Slave Potter Dave is about a noble slave potter esteemed as, 'Dave the Slave.' Leonard Todd has researched the life of this African-American and confirms Dave the Slave was a true artisan, contributing to America without fail. In this determined effort, Mr. Todd aspires to give Dave the Slave national reverence. Dave the Slave was a master clay artisan who secretly learned to read and write, then courageously inscribed the pottery he made. These "inscriptions" revealed a brighter side of slave life, showing that the splendid Dave the

Slave loved to make his signature pottery, making his work, and now this book, a collector's gem! What readers will immediately glean from CAROLINA CLAY: The Life and Legend of the Slave Potter Dave is Dave the Slave emerged as the master of the booming clay industry. His perfect clay jugs were ideal for storing foods, etc. His poetic couplets inscribed on his work uniquely reflects the normal events of slavery unfolding. The book takes you inside the liberal slave-owning Landrum family kiln. You will learn how the slave system's economic affects included selling slaves, involuntary slave migrations, the civil war, fancy girls, and mulatto kids. You will wonder with strong interest if another Phyllis Wheatley story is unfolding and you will discover Dave the Slave's couplet messages on his pottery are timeless press releases of love, faith, history, gossip, and humor. CAROLINA CLAY: The Life and Legend of the Slave Potter Dave provides slave history in a lighter way without minimizing the fears, pains, and sorrows of a slave.

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