

Harriet Powers' Story Quilts

Learn about Harriet Powers and her surviving quilts with this postcard art take home kit.

Use markers, crayons, or colored pencils to decorate the front of the postcards. Practice your writing and addressing skills on the back of your postcards. Don't forget to add a stamp and send to a special person in your life (or frame and keep them for yourself)!

Use the sticker sheet of some of Harriet's artwork and add your own art to create a story block of your own!

Learn more about **Harriet Powers** and her quilts by attending a presentation with Beverly Kirk.

Ralph Ellison Library
Sat, March 26 at 2pm



Metropolitan
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Harriet Powers

Harriet Powers (October 29, 1837 – January 1, 1910) was an American folk artist and quilt maker. She was born into slavery in rural Georgia. She used traditional appliqué techniques to record local legends, Bible stories, and astronomical events on her quilts.



Only two of her quilts are known to have survived: Bible Quilt 1886 and Pictorial Quilt 1898.

Harriet's quilts are considered among the finest examples of nineteenth-century Southern quilting. Her work is on display at the National Museum of American History in Washington, D.C., and the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, Massachusetts.



Bible Quilt 1886

Learn more about
the Bible Quilt at the
Smithsonian
National Museum of
American History:



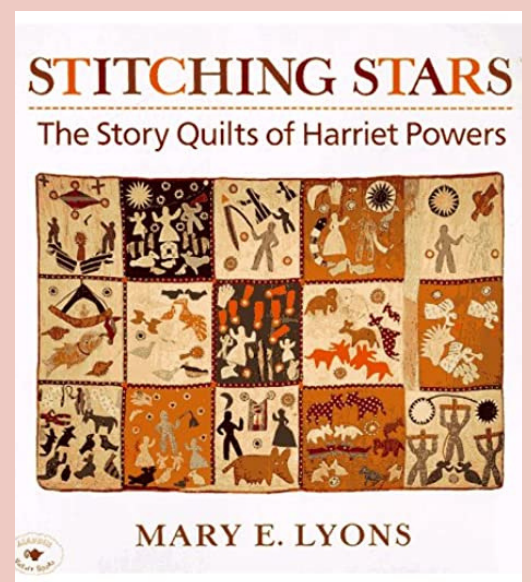
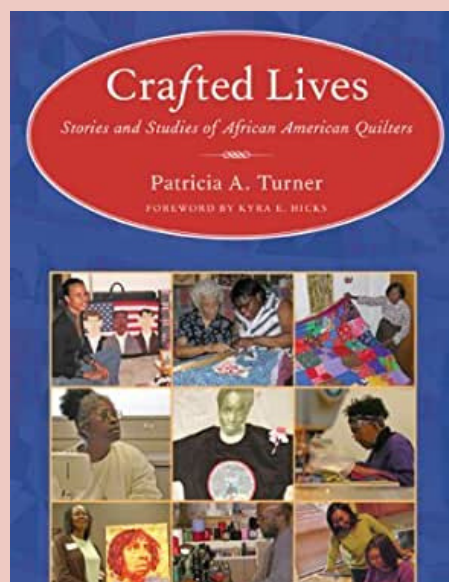
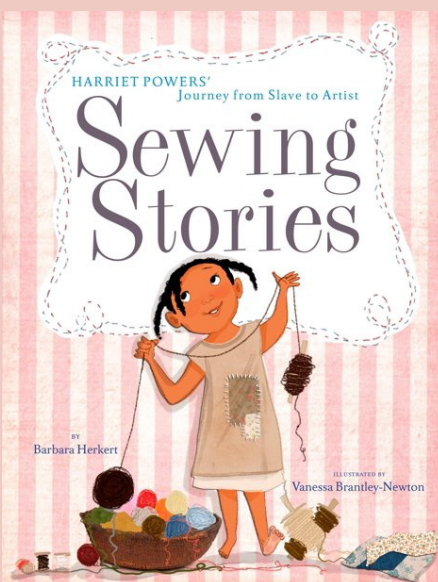
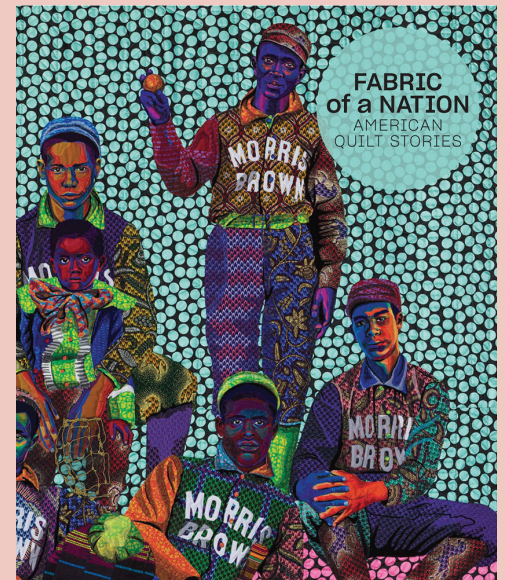
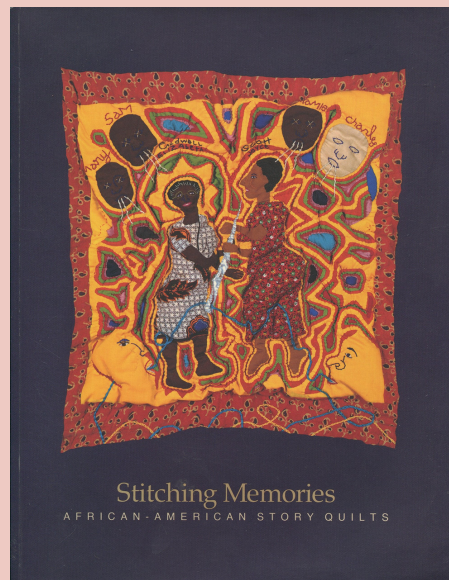
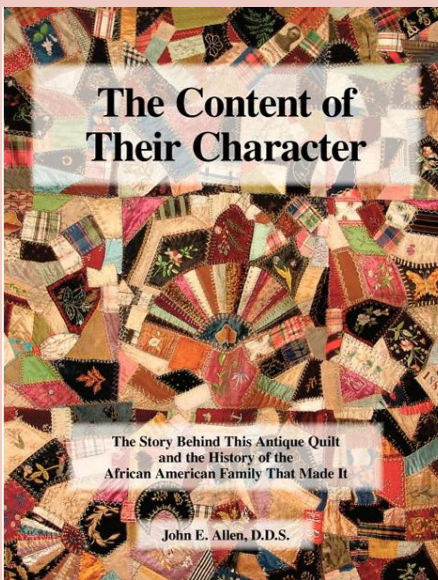
Learn more about
the Pictorial quilt
at the Museum of
Fine Arts Boston:



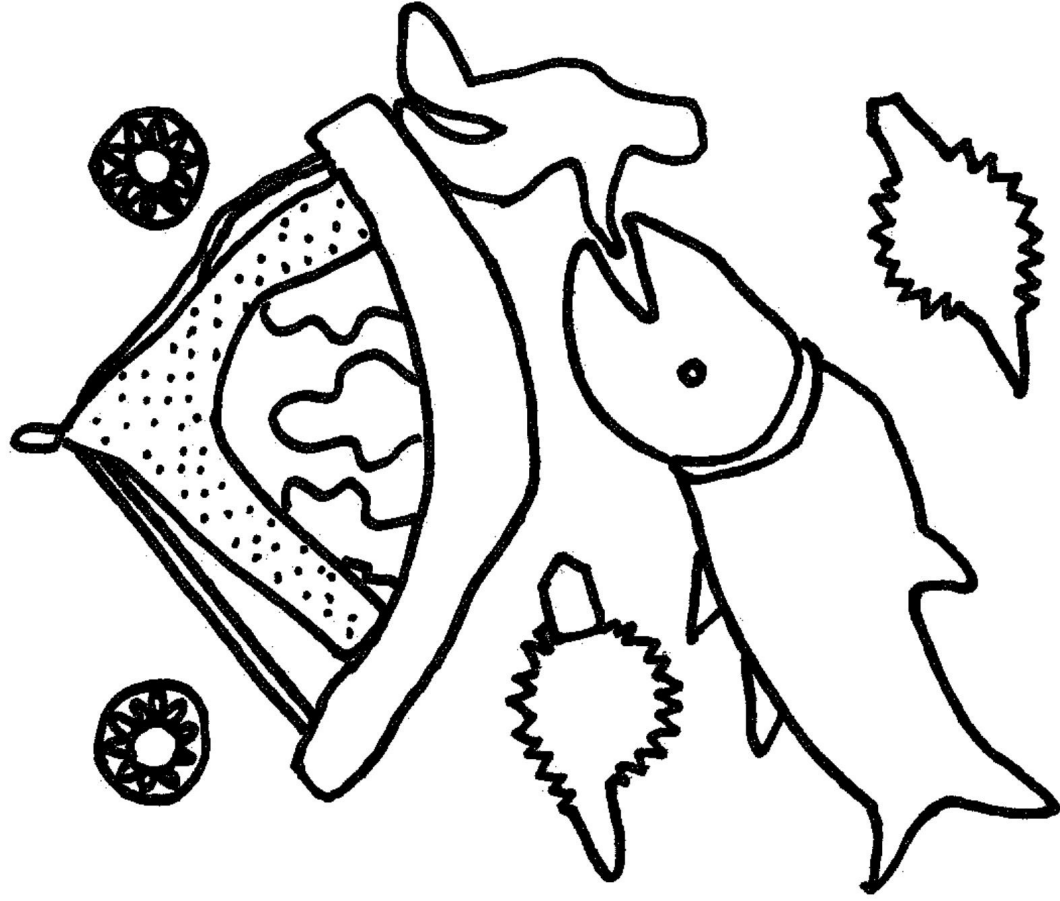
Pictorial Quilt 1898

Harriet Powers' Story Quilts

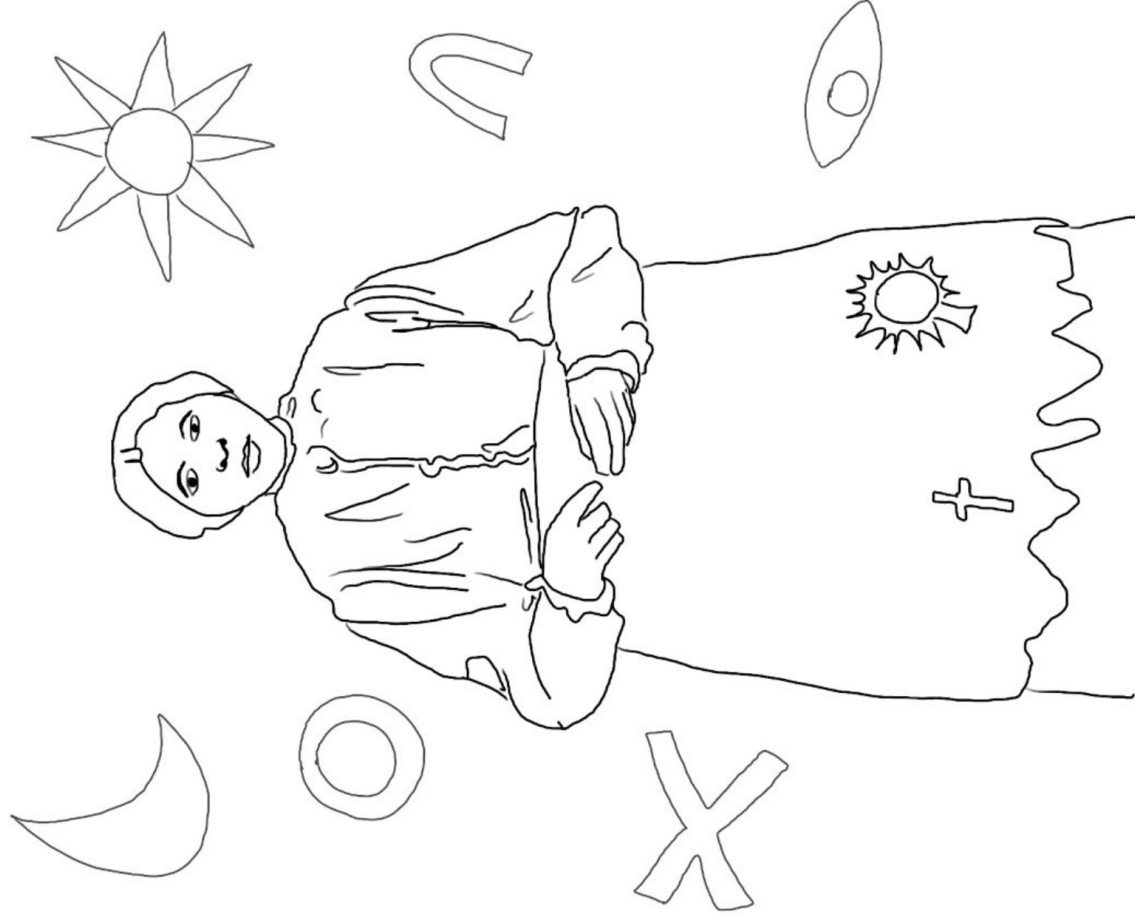
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JONAH AND THE WHALE



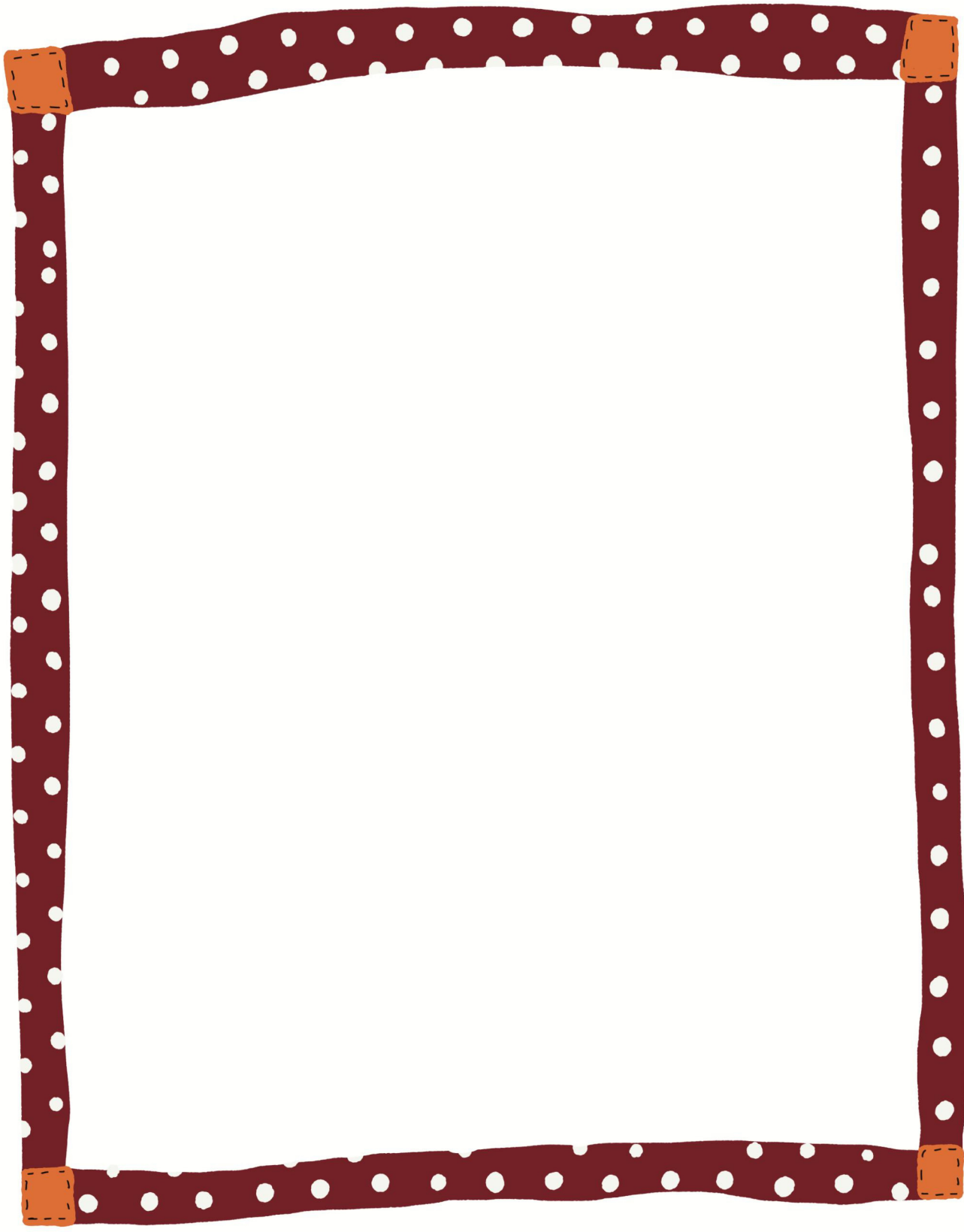
HARRIET POWERS



HARRIET POWERS

AN AMERICAN FOLK ARTIST AND QUILT
MAKER. SHE WAS BORN INTO SLAVERY IN
RURAL GEORGIA. SHE USED TRADITIONAL
APPLIQUÉ TECHNIQUES TO RECORD LOCAL
LEGENDS, BIBLE STORIES, AND
ASTRONOMICAL EVENTS ON HER QUILTS.

HARRIET POWERS - JONAH AND THE WHALE
A BLOCK FROM HER PICTORIAL QUILT.
HARRIET DESCRIBED THE BLOCK AS "JONAH
CAST OVER BOARD OF THE SHIP AND
SWALLOWED BY A WHALE. TURTLES."



MAKE YOUR OWN STORY QUILT BLOCK
USE THE STICKERS OF HARRIET'S ART OR CREATE YOUR OWN
PICTURES TO TELL A STORY IN THE SPACE ABOVE.