



Worse than Slavery: Parchman Farm and the Ordeal of Jim Crow Justice

By David M. Oshinsky

Download now

Read Online ➔

Worse than Slavery: Parchman Farm and the Ordeal of Jim Crow Justice

By David M. Oshinsky

In this sensitively told tale of suffering, brutality, and inhumanity, *Worse Than Slavery* is an epic history of race and punishment in the deepest South from emancipation to the civil rights era—and beyond.

Immortalized in blues songs and movies like *Cool Hand Luke* and *The Defiant Ones*, Mississippi's infamous Parchman State Penitentiary was, in the pre-civil rights south, synonymous with cruelty. Now, noted historian David Oshinsky gives us the true story of the notorious prison, drawing on police records, prison documents, folklore, blues songs, and oral history, from the days of cotton-field chain gangs to the 1960s, when Parchman was used to break the wills of civil rights workers who journeyed south on Freedom Rides.

📄 [Download Worse than Slavery: Parchman Farm and the Ordeal o ...pdf](#)

📖 [Read Online Worse than Slavery: Parchman Farm and the Ordeal ...pdf](#)

Worse than Slavery: Parchman Farm and the Ordeal of Jim Crow Justice

By David M. Oshinsky

Worse than Slavery: Parchman Farm and the Ordeal of Jim Crow Justice By David M. Oshinsky

In this sensitively told tale of suffering, brutality, and inhumanity, *Worse Than Slavery* is an epic history of race and punishment in the deepest South from emancipation to the civil rights era—and beyond.

Immortalized in blues songs and movies like *Cool Hand Luke* and *The Defiant Ones*, Mississippi's infamous Parchman State Penitentiary was, in the pre-civil rights south, synonymous with cruelty. Now, noted historian David Oshinsky gives us the true story of the notorious prison, drawing on police records, prison documents, folklore, blues songs, and oral history, from the days of cotton-field chain gangs to the 1960s, when Parchman was used to break the wills of civil rights workers who journeyed south on Freedom Rides.

Worse than Slavery: Parchman Farm and the Ordeal of Jim Crow Justice By David M. Oshinsky
Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #223977 in Books
- Published on: 1997-04-22
- Released on: 1997-04-22
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.44" h x 1.00" w x 5.50" l, .68 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 320 pages

 [Download Worse than Slavery: Parchman Farm and the Ordeal o ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Worse than Slavery: Parchman Farm and the Ordeal ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online *Worse than Slavery: Parchman Farm and the Ordeal of Jim Crow Justice* By David M. Oshinsky

Editorial Review

From Scientific American

Oshinsky's beautifully constructed narrative brings to vivid life one of the most shameful chapters in American history.

From [Booklist](#)

Historian Oshinsky uses Mississippi as a paradigm for the shameful history of black injustice in the South between the post-Civil War demise of slavery and the post-World War II rise of the civil rights movement. Since its admission to the Union, Mississippi had been a violent place, as the author relates; and brutality to blacks was simply a part of Mississippian culture. After the abolition of slavery, in most white Mississippians' minds, something else had to be arrived at for "keeping the ex-slaves in line." Thus laws were passed designed to maintain white supremacy, particularly when it came to controlling black labor. After a discussion of the deplorable practice of convict leasing, a system whereby people could "hire" prisoners for physical labor outside the walls of prison, the author turns his attention to Parchman Farm, the state penitentiary, "a sprawling 20,000-acre plantation in the rich cotton land of the Yazoo Delta." What transpired behind the fences of Parchman Farm since its founding in the early part of this century is a horror story told here through a rigorous study that should be accorded an important place on the U.S. history shelf.

Brad Hooper

From Kirkus Reviews

An absorbing tale of a Southern prison whose name is synonymous with brutality. Historian Oshinsky (*A Conspiracy So Immense*, 1983) draws on materials ranging from court records and blues lyrics of black women prisoners to the novels of William Faulkner for this thoroughgoing history of Parchman Farm, Miss., a 20,000-acre plantation notorious even among the most hardened criminals for its inhumane conditions. Oshinsky traces Parchman Farm's evolution during Mississippi's frontier days, when lawlessness and violence made the later Wild West seem tame by comparison, and after the Civil War, when civic society broke down and a fifth of the state budget went to the purchase of artificial limbs for broken--and desperate--veterans who too often wound up behind bars. A disproportionate number of Parchman's residents, however, were black, and Oshinsky is particularly good at tracing the decline of African-American fortunes in the late 19th century, when, as a contemporary observer noted, "however these [white Mississippians] may have regarded the negro slave, they hated the negro freeman." White Mississippians reasserted their power through the courts, fostering a system of work farming whereby Parchman inmates (often mere children who had committed such crimes as stealing change from the counter of a dry-goods store) were rented out as near-slave labor for neighboring cotton plantations--a system that ended only in the mid-20th century. Oshinsky examines the culture of what he calls this "American Siberia," drawing heavily on oral histories collected by federal workers in the New Deal era, to show how thoroughly that culture influenced the larger society of the Deep South. In a charged epilogue, Oshinsky notes that Parchman, now a "scientifically run" prison, is resisting pressures to institute chain-gang labor, setting something of a standard of humane treatment for the region. A well-paced, revealing history of hard times. -- Copyright ©1996, *Kirkus Associates, LP*. All rights reserved.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Nancy Farley:

Book is actually written, printed, or descriptive for everything. You can know everything you want by a e-book. Book has a different type. As you may know that book is important point to bring us around the world. Beside that you can your reading talent was fluently. A book *Worse than Slavery: Parchman Farm and the Ordeal of Jim Crow Justice* will make you to end up being smarter. You can feel far more confidence if you can know about anything. But some of you think which open or reading some sort of book make you bored. It is not make you fun. Why they are often thought like that? Have you in search of best book or suitable book with you?

Ariane Gray:

Do you have something that you like such as book? The book lovers usually prefer to select book like comic, quick story and the biggest the first is novel. Now, why not attempting *Worse than Slavery: Parchman Farm and the Ordeal of Jim Crow Justice* that give your satisfaction preference will be satisfied by means of reading this book. Reading habit all over the world can be said as the way for people to know world a great deal better then how they react in the direction of the world. It can't be claimed constantly that reading behavior only for the geeky person but for all of you who wants to end up being success person. So , for all you who want to start examining as your good habit, it is possible to pick *Worse than Slavery: Parchman Farm and the Ordeal of Jim Crow Justice* become your own personal starter.

Robert Frith:

This *Worse than Slavery: Parchman Farm and the Ordeal of Jim Crow Justice* is brand new way for you who has curiosity to look for some information because it relief your hunger of information. Getting deeper you upon it getting knowledge more you know or else you who still having little digest in reading this *Worse than Slavery: Parchman Farm and the Ordeal of Jim Crow Justice* can be the light food to suit your needs because the information inside this book is easy to get by means of anyone. These books acquire itself in the form that is certainly reachable by anyone, yep I mean in the e-book application form. People who think that in e-book form make them feel drowsy even dizzy this book is the answer. So there is no in reading a e-book especially this one. You can find what you are looking for. It should be here for you actually. So , don't miss it! Just read this e-book sort for your better life and knowledge.

Regina Hash:

Don't be worry should you be afraid that this book will certainly filled the space in your house, you may have it in e-book technique, more simple and reachable. This *Worse than Slavery: Parchman Farm and the Ordeal of Jim Crow Justice* can give you a lot of friends because by you looking at this one book you have issue that they don't and make a person more like an interesting person. This specific book can be one of one step for you to get success. This reserve offer you information that perhaps your friend doesn't understand, by knowing more than various other make you to be great individuals. So , why hesitate? We need to have *Worse than Slavery: Parchman Farm and the Ordeal of Jim Crow Justice*.

**Download and Read Online Worse than Slavery: Parchman Farm
and the Ordeal of Jim Crow Justice By David M. Oshinsky
#IYF9D4NL8HK**

Read Worse than Slavery: Parchman Farm and the Ordeal of Jim Crow Justice By David M. Oshinsky for online ebook

Worse than Slavery: Parchman Farm and the Ordeal of Jim Crow Justice By David M. Oshinsky Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Worse than Slavery: Parchman Farm and the Ordeal of Jim Crow Justice By David M. Oshinsky books to read online.

Online Worse than Slavery: Parchman Farm and the Ordeal of Jim Crow Justice By David M. Oshinsky ebook PDF download

Worse than Slavery: Parchman Farm and the Ordeal of Jim Crow Justice By David M. Oshinsky Doc

Worse than Slavery: Parchman Farm and the Ordeal of Jim Crow Justice By David M. Oshinsky Mobipocket

Worse than Slavery: Parchman Farm and the Ordeal of Jim Crow Justice By David M. Oshinsky EPub

IYF9D4NL8HK: Worse than Slavery: Parchman Farm and the Ordeal of Jim Crow Justice By David M. Oshinsky