



**The Trial
of
Anthony
Burns**

ENGLISH

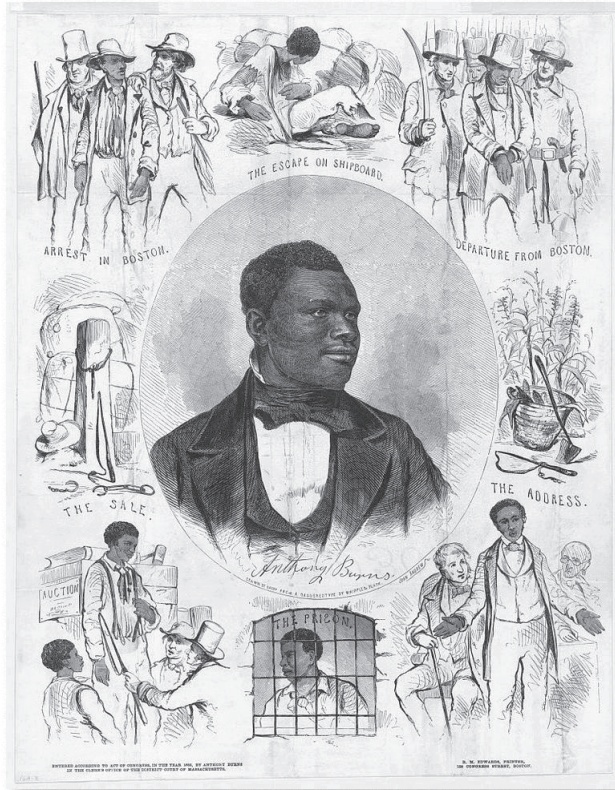
CHINESE

WAKE UP TO HISTORY!
Participate • Debate • Decide

TheatreEspresso 

The Trial of Anthony Burns

Before the Civil War, many people in Massachusetts supported the abolitionist movement, which opposed slavery. But because of the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850, state judges in free states like Massachusetts were required to return runaway slaves to their owners in the South.



In 1854, a slave named Anthony Burns escaped to Boston where he lived as a free man until he was captured and placed on trial. Before the trial, local residents gathered at Faneuil Hall for a freedom rally that erupted into a violent riot outside the Courthouse, where Burns was held.

During the trial, Richard Henry Dana and a team of Boston lawyers fiercely defended Burns' right to freedom. As a judge, Edward G. Loring felt obligated to follow the Fugitive Slave Law and ruled that Burns must be returned to his Southern master. His decision enraged citizens across Massachusetts, and inspired many people across the North to become abolitionists. Outrage over the Burns case made it a key event leading to the Civil War.

Anthony Burns 的審判

在南北戰爭之前，有很多人在麻州支持廢除奴隸制度的運動，但因為1850年的逃亡奴隸法，在自由州之內的州法官，如麻州的法官必須將逃亡奴隸送還到他們南方的主人。



Robert Morris

1854年，一個名為 Anthony Burns 的奴隸逃到波士頓來作為一個自由的人，直到他被捕獲和審判。開庭前，當地居民在Faneuil Hall 舉行自由集會，但是會議在法院外面爆發成暴力騷亂，Burns 還被拘留在法院內。

在庭審中，Richard Henry Dana和一群波士頓的律師激烈地為Burns辯護來爭取他的自由權利。，Edward

G. Loring作為一名法官，覺得有義務遵循逃亡奴隸法和裁定Burns必須回到他南方的主人。他的決定激怒了全麻州公民和激勵了許多在北方的人成為廢除奴隸主義者。Burns的憤慨情況成為導致南北戰爭的一個關鍵的事件。

發生了什麼事？

What Happened?

The Trial of Anthony Burns starts in 1858, four years after the Burns trial, when the Massachusetts Legislature tried to remove Loring from his position for his unpopular decision in the Burns Case. In the play you will act as a member of the Massachusetts Legislature. You will view a dramatization of the case, interview characters, debate the issues with your classmates, and vote on whether or not Loring will keep his position as judge.

Questions to consider

- Should a judge be punished for enforcing a law that many people believe is immoral?
- Who should decide what is moral and what is immoral?
- What are the implications of removing a judge who makes an unpopular decision?
- Is it more important to follow the law or your own conscience?
- Should a state have to follow a federal law that goes against its own local laws?
- Should the life of one man be placed in jeopardy to help others? If so, under what circumstances?

Arguments for

Arguments against

Anthony Burns的審判於1858年開始，審判四年後，因Loring為 Burns不得人心的決定，麻州立法議會試圖解除Loring的職位。在劇中你將擔任麻州立法議會的成員。你將看戲劇性的案件，訪問故事人物，與同學辯論問題，並於會上投票 Loring是否會保住法官位置的判斷。

要考慮的問題

- 一個法官應該或不應該為強制執行許多人認為是不道德的法律受到懲罰？
- 誰人應該決定什麼是道德或不道德？
- 去除一個作出不受歡迎決定的法官會具有什麼含義？
- 跟隨規律或跟隨你自己的良心是更重要？
- 一個州應該或不應該遵循違背州區性法規的聯邦法律？
- 應該或不應該把一個人的生命處於危險之中去幫助別人？如果是應該，會在什麼情況下？

贊成的論據

反對的論據

March 1854: Anthony Burns, an escaped slave from Virginia, arrives in Boston.

Wednesday, 24 May: Burns is arrested as a suspect in a jewelry store robbery. At the Courthouse, Burns is confronted by his owner, Charles Suttle. Burns acknowledges Suttle by calling him “master.”

25 May: Attorney Richard Henry Dana offers to defend Burns. Burns refuses, as he fears his punishment will be worse if the case goes to trial and he loses. But Wendell Phillips convinces Burns to move forward with the trial, despite doubts that Burns will win the case.

26 May: Over 2000 abolitionists meet at Faneuil Hall. The crowd marches to the Courthouse and breaks down a door. In the chaos, a guard named James Batchelder is killed. Nine or ten attackers are arrested.

27 May: The mayor orders U.S. troops to guard the Courthouse, making it difficult for Burns’ lawyers to enter. Meanwhile, Reverend Grimes arranges to purchase Burns from Suttle to avoid a trial and secure Burns’ freedom. He collects money from local supporters.

29 May: Suttle’s lawyer informs him that it is illegal to buy or sell a slave in Massachusetts. Suttle backs out of the agreement with Grimes. The court proceedings begin.

29-31 May: Burns’ lawyers try to prove that Burns is not the same man who escaped from Virginia. They present nine witnesses who testify that they saw Burns in Boston before the date that Suttle claims he escaped.

1 June: Judge Loring announces his decision. Based on Burns’ conversation with Colonel Suttle on the night of his arrest (when Burns called him “master”), his identity is established. Loring orders Burns to return to slavery in Virginia.

2 June: Burns is brought to a ship bound for Virginia. The city is placed under martial law for most of the day, as 50,000 people line the streets to witness Burns’ departure.

1854年3月: 一個從弗吉尼亞州逃脫的奴隸Anthony Burns，到達波士頓。

週三，5月24日: Burns 被拘捕懷疑搶劫一家珠寶店，在法院，Burns的主人，Charles Suttle，對抗他，可是Burns承認和稱呼他為“主人”。

5月25日: Richard Henry Dana律師提供辯護給Burns，但是Burns拒絕，因為他怕如果案件進入審判和他輸掉了審判，他的懲罰會更糟糕，但Wendell Phillips說服 Burns，儘管缺乏信心打贏這場官司也會開始審判。

5月26日: 在2000名廢除奴隸主義者在 Faneuil Hall見面，人群遊行到法院，並打破了一扇門。在混亂中，一位名叫James Batchelder守衛被殺害。九個或十個攻擊者被逮捕。

5月27日: 市長指令美軍看守法院，令 Burns 的律師難以進入，同時，牧師 Grimes安排從Suttle購買 Burns，以避免審判和確保Burns的安全自由。他從當地的支持者收集金錢。

5月29日: Suttle的律師告訴他在麻州購買或出售奴隸是非法的。Suttle撤消跟 Grimes一起的協議，法院訴訟程序開始。

5月29日至31日: Burns的律師試圖證明Burns不是從弗吉尼亞逃脫的同一樣的人，他們提供了9個證人作證他們在Suttle聲稱Burns 逃脫的前一日在波士頓看見Burns。

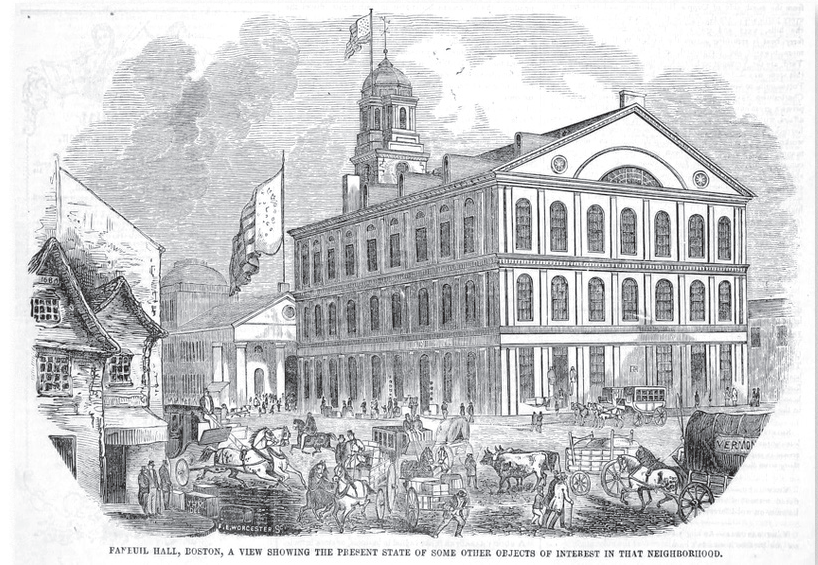
6月1日: 法官 Loring宣布他的決定。基於 Burns在他被捕當晚跟上校 Suttle 一起談話（當Burns稱他為“主人”），成立了他的奴隸身份。Loring指令 Burns回到有奴隸制的弗吉尼亞州。

6月2日: Burns被帶到一艘駛往弗吉尼亞的船，這天是這個城市被放置在戒嚴最多的一天，50,000名民眾在街道兩旁來見證Burns的離境。

1. The initial charge against Burns – robbing a shop – was never brought up after his arrest. Could there have been another reason he was arrested? If so, what?
2. Did Burns' lawyers really think that he was a different person? If not, why did they try to prove that he was someone else?
3. If the Fugitive Slave Law required Loring to return Burns, how could he have decided to let him stay?
4. What evidence did Loring use to prove Burns' identity?
5. Besides defending him during the trial, what tactics did the abolitionists use to try to free Burns?

6. Why were so many people interested in the outcome of this trial?

CAUTION!!
COLORED PEOPLE
OF BOSTON, ONE & ALL,
 You are hereby respectfully CAUTIONED and
 advised, to avoid conversing with the
Watchmen and Police Officers
of Boston,
 For since the recent ORDER OF THE MAYOR &
 ALDERMEN, they are empowered to act as
KIDNAPPERS
AND
Slave Catchers,
 And they have already been actually employed in
KIDNAPPING, CATCHING, AND KEEPING
SLAVES. Therefore, if you value your **LIBERTY,**
 and the *Welfare of the Fugitives* among you, *Shun*
 them in every possible manner, as so many **HOUNDS**
 on the track of the most unfortunate of your race.
Keep a Sharp Look Out for
KIDNAPPERS, and have
TOP EYE open.
APRIL 24, 1851.



1. 由Burns的初始搶劫一家商店，至他被捕後一直沒有重提。他被逮捕可能已經有另外一個原因？ 如果有，是什麼？
2. Burns的律師有沒有真的認為他是一個不同的人？ 如果沒有，為什麼他們試圖證明他是別人？
3. 如果逃亡奴隸法要求 Loring歸還 Burns，他又怎麼可能會決定讓他留下來嗎？
4. Loring用什麼證據來證明Burns的身份？
5. 除了 在審判過程中為Burns辯護，廢除奴隸主義者使用什麼戰術來試圖釋放Burns？
6. 為什麼這麼多人關心這審判的結果？

Abolition Movement: a social movement made up of people trying to end slavery in the United States.

Abolitionist: someone fighting to end slavery.



Thomas Wentworth Higginson

Compromise of 1850: an agreement reached by the U.S. Senate that established many controversial policies related to slavery.

Fugitive Slave Law: Part of the “Compromise of 1850,” this law required escaped slaves to be returned to their southern owners.

Kansas-Nebraska Act: Passed shortly before Burns’ arrest in 1854, this law permitted slavery in the territories of Kansas and Nebraska. Abolitionists passionately opposed the expansion of slavery into U.S. territories, so they were outraged at the passage of this law.

Martial Law: a temporary rule by military authorities over civilians, such as in an area of military operations during time of war, or when civil authority has broken down.

Massachusetts Personal Liberty Act: In 1855, Massachusetts passed these laws in response to the Fugitive Slave Law and the public outcry over the Burns case. The laws guaranteed legal protection for runaway slaves, and made it difficult and costly for slave owners to prove their case in court. The act also called for the removal of any state official who aided in the return of runaway slaves.



廢除奴隸運動: 由人組成的社會運動試圖結束美國奴隸的制度

廢除奴隸主義者: 戰鬥結束奴隸制的人

1850年妥協: 由美國參議院達成和建立許多與奴隸制爭議性的政策的協議

逃亡奴隸法: 部分“1850年妥協”，該法要求逃脫的奴隸返回到其南部的主人。

堪薩斯-內布拉斯加法案: 1854年Burns的逮捕前不久已通過，該法律允許奴隸制在堪薩斯州和內布拉斯加州的領土。廢除奴隸主義者激情地反對奴隸制進入美國領土的擴張，所以他們被這個法律的通過激怒了。

戒嚴令: 由軍事當局對平民臨時建立的規則，如在戰爭時期的一個地區，或者當軍事行動的民政當局已經壞了。

麻州個人自由法案: 1855年，麻州對逃亡奴隸法及公眾強烈抗議Burns的情況下作回應，因而通過這些法律來保證逃亡奴隸的法律保護，並使其奴隸主人在法庭上有困難和交付昂貴的訴訟費來證明自己的情況，該法案還要求解除那些輔助逃脫奴隸送還到他們的主人的州官員。

ANTHONY BURNS was a fugitive slave who escaped from Virginia to Boston, Massachusetts in 1854 at the age of 19.

RICHARD HENRY DANA was an abolitionist lawyer who defended Burns. Though he opposed the Fugitive Slave Law, he supported Judge Loring and opposed the State Senate's decision to remove him from his position.

REVEREND LEONARD GRIMES was a leader of the black abolitionist movement in Boston and pastor of the Twelfth Baptist Church of Boston, known as the fugitive slave church.

THOMAS WENTWORTH HIGGINSON was a minister and abolitionist who strongly opposed the Fugitive Slave Law and believed in defending the freedom of escaped slaves at any cost. He was one of the major organizers of the attempt to rescue Burns from the Boston Courthouse.

JUDGE EDWARD G. LORING was both a Judge of Probate and the Commissioner presiding over fugitive slave cases in Massachusetts.

COLONEL CHARLES F. SUTTLE was the owner of the slave Anthony Burns.

OFFICER JAMES BATCHELDER was a Marshal's guard who was killed during the storming of the Boston Courthouse.

WENDELL PHILLIPS was a prominent abolitionist lawyer and orator. Because he was a key speaker at the Faneuil Hall meeting that ended in a riot, he was put on trial for his role in the failed attempt to rescue Burns.

LOUISA MAY ALCOTT, part of a prominent family in Concord, Massachusetts, was active in the abolitionist movement. Alcott's father, Bronson Alcott, was a member of the crowd who stormed the courthouse to free Anthony Burns. Author of *Little Women*, Alcott became a famous writer.



ANTHONY BURNS 是一個從弗吉尼亞逃來到波士頓的逃亡奴隸。於1854年19歲在麻州。

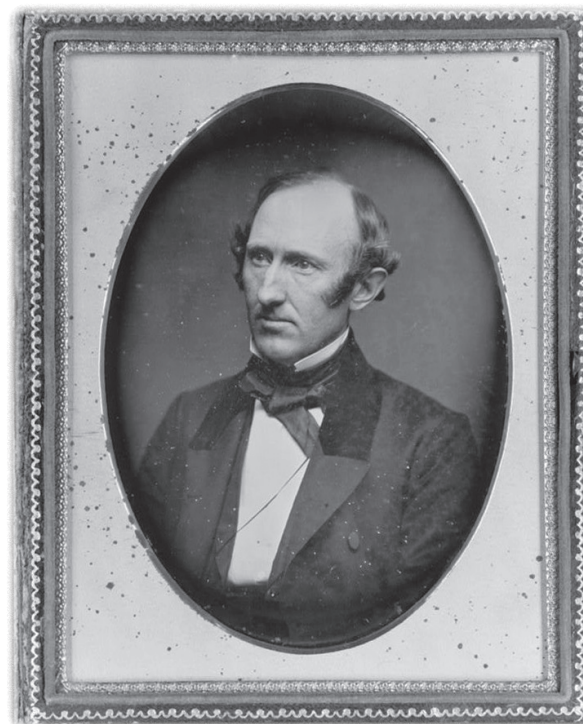
RICHARD HENRY DANA 是為Burns辯護的廢除奴隸律師。雖然他反對逃亡奴隸法，但他支持Loring法官和反對州參議院將他撤職的決定。

REVEREND LEONARD GRIMES 是在波士頓廢除黑人奴隸運動的領袖和波士頓第十二浸信教會的牧師，波士頓第十二浸信教會被稱為逃亡奴隸教堂。

THOMAS WENTWORTH HIGGINSON 是一位牧師和強烈反對逃亡奴隸法的廢除奴隸主義者，並相信不惜任何代價來保衛逃脫奴隸的自由。他是從波士頓法院嘗試搶救 Burns 出來的主要組織者之一。

JUDGE EDWARD G. LORING 是遺囑認證及遺產處長的法官，在麻州主持逃亡奴隸案件。

COLONEL CHARLES F. SUTTLE 是 Anthony Burns 的主人。



Wendell Phillips

OFFICER BATCHELDER 是一個強攻波士頓法院被殺害的元帥警衛。

WENDELL PHILLIPS 是一位著名廢除奴隸主義者的律師和演說家。因為他在Faneuil Hall發表重要演講，但會議在騷亂結束，他被審判拯救Burns失敗的嘗試。

LOUISA MAY ALCOTT 生在一個康科德，麻州顯赫的家族，活躍在廢除奴隸運動。Alcott的父親，Bronson Alcott是衝進法院釋放 Anthony Burns 人群中的成員。Alcott是Little Women的作者，Alcott成為著名的作家。

As Massachusetts Senators, you will have the opportunity to ask questions of the following key players. Write down some questions that you may ask.

Judge Loring:

Wendell Phillips:

Richard Henry Dana:

Reverend Leonard Grimes:

身為麻州參議員，你將有機會向以下關鍵人物問問題。寫下一些你可能會問的問題。

Judge Loring:

Wendell Phillips:

Richard Henry Dana:

Reverend Leonard Grimes:

TheatreEspresso performs at the John Adams Courthouse in Boston (in collaboration with the Supreme Judicial Court), at the Lawrence Heritage State Park Visitors Center, and in schools and museums throughout New England. The company thanks Mass Humanities and the following foundations for their generous support.



Cabot Family Charitable Trust, Catherine McCarthy Memorial Trust Fund, Friends of Lawrence Heritage State Park, Foley Hoag Foundation, Immigrant City Archives, National Endowment for the Arts, C. Pringle Charitable Foundation, Nathaniel and Elizabeth P. Stevens Foundation, and the White Fund

*This program is supported in part by a grant from the Boston Cultural Council, a local agency which is funded by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, administrated by the Mayor's Office of Arts, Tourism, and Special Events.

Since 1992, **TheatreEspresso** has toured its educational dramas to schools, museums, libraries, and courthouses throughout New England. **TheatreEspresso's** work challenges students to make critical judgments, explore social relationships, reflect on the role of law and human rights in our society, and question accepted truths about the history of America. These plays confront students with complex situations, based on actual historical events, that provoke a variety of opinions and solutions. By asking students to consider themselves participants in the drama, the company engages students in examining contradictory events and testimony in order to reach their decisions.

TheatreEspresso does not advocate any one viewpoint, but hopes to compel students to relate historical events to contemporary issues. **TheatreEspresso** is in residence at Wheelock Family Theatre.



**For further information, visit our website at
www.TheatreEspresso.org**