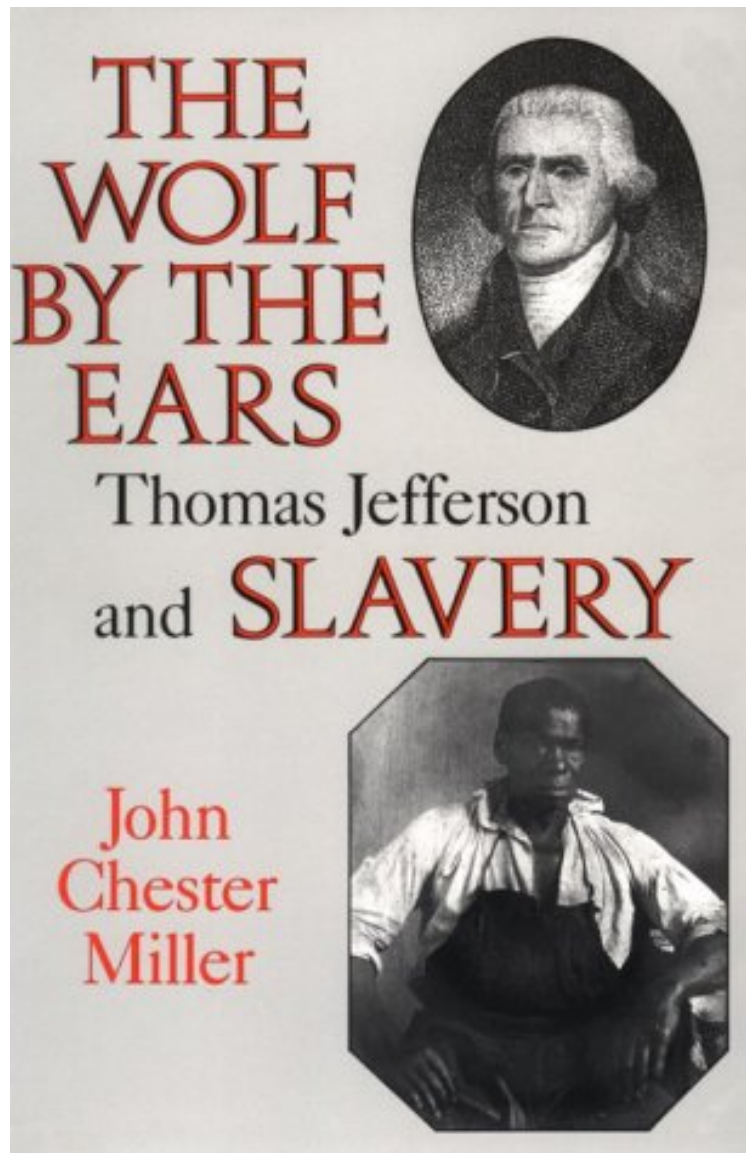


[Download ebook] The Wolf by the Ears: Thomas Jefferson and Slavery

## The Wolf by the Ears: Thomas Jefferson and Slavery

*John Chester Miller*

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**John Chester Miller : The Wolf by the Ears: Thomas Jefferson and Slavery** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Wolf by the Ears: Thomas Jefferson and Slavery:

11 of 13 people found the following review helpful. Highly Recommended By WAL Four of the many reasons to read this excellent book are: a) It is written with conciseness, minimal use of terms that would be familiar only to specialists, and wit. Serious history doesn't get much more entertaining. b) Jefferson's relationship with slavery was complicated and evolved as he aged and the United States developed, and cannot be simplified. This book, untainted

by political correctness and postmodern obfuscation, probably presents as clear a view of it as is now possible. c) Jefferson considered and wrote about most of the moral and political arguments for and against slavery. The book therefore provides a good overview of the arguments used in the political debates on slavery in the antebellum period. d) The book shows that Jefferson recognized that "states rights" and slavery were inseparable. The distancing one from the other is a more recent development. 1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Wild Magnolia Very interesting read! 5 of 10 people found the following review helpful. Exegesis over Eisegesis By James A. Sullivan There are history books which tell us what we want to hear (eisegesis). So often, these works contain a thin veneer of history while they aim to confirm in us our own contemporary prejudices. Miller's work on Jefferson is decidedly different. This book is a classic example of "exegesis" or uncovering the truth about Jefferson as calmly as possible. While it was written well before the DNA researches of Dr. Foster, 1999, it puts Sally Hemmings in perspective, while, more importantly, bringing forward Jefferson's own brand of "romantic friendship." Before Foster found a Y chromosome from the paternal side of Jefferson's family in Eston Hemmings's descendants, I was inclined to view the Jefferson-Cosway "affair" as circumstantial proof that dusky Sally could never have been a lover of Jefferson. But Miller shows convincingly that the alleged Jefferson-Cosway affair was clearly a type of romantic friendship with a non-genital cast. Conclusion: Jefferson's inner-sexuality was uplifted and refined, as far from Sally as it was from Eliot Spitzer.

This analysis of Jefferson's antislavery views and the actions to which they gave rise, the subject matter of *The Wolf by the Ears*, is necessarily episodic; while chronology has been generally observed, it was not possible to weld this disparate material into the form of a biographical narrative.