

FRIENDS FOR FREEDOM

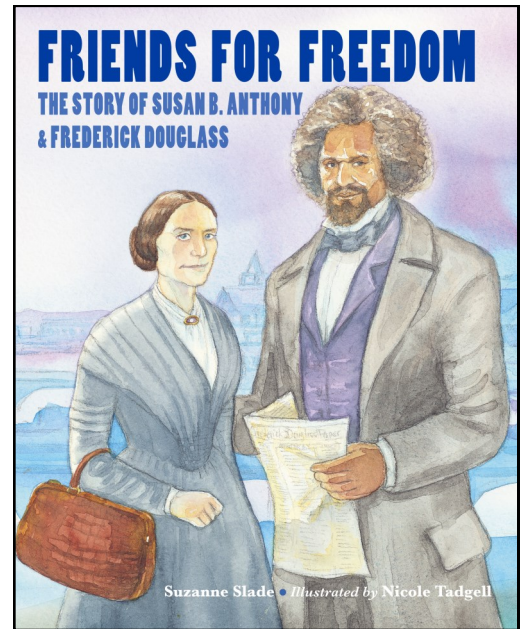
THE STORY OF SUSAN B. ANTHONY & FREDERICK DOUGLASS

Suzanne Slade • Illustrated by Nicole Tadgell

Activity and Discussion Guide

Developed by Charlesbridge

This is a story of two unlikely friends coming together for equality. When Susan B. Anthony and Frederick Douglass were growing up, it was not proper for men and women to be friends. Moreover, having a friend with a different skin color was unheard of. But Susan and Frederick held common beliefs in equal rights that brought them together and ultimately changed America.



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Also available in e-book editions

Ages 6–9 • 8 x 10 • 40 pages

Full-color illustrations

Pre-Reading Discussion Questions

Take some time to look at the cover of the book . . .

- ◆ Who are the people on the cover?
- ◆ How would you describe them?
- ◆ What do you think the book will be about?
- ◆ What types of events might take place in the book?

Consider the title of the book . . .

- ◆ What types of freedom do you think the book will discuss?
- ◆ Have you heard the name Susan B. Anthony before?
- ◆ Have you heard the name Frederick Douglass before?
- ◆ What does the word “freedom” mean to you?



Post-Reading Discussion Questions

- ◆ What were some differences between Susan's childhood and Frederick's childhood?
- ◆ Have you ever had to stand up for something you believe in? What methods did you use to support your opinion?
- ◆ What are the most important qualities a friend should possess?
- ◆ Have you ever had a disagreement with a close friend that you had to work through? How did you get through it?
- ◆ In 1870, the Fifteenth Amendment gave African American men the right to vote, but not women. Are there any ways in which men and women aren't treated equally today?
- ◆ Imagine you lived in Susan and Frederick's lifetime. What freedoms do you enjoy today that you wouldn't have been able to experience back then?
- ◆ Frederick Douglass had three autobiographies published in his lifetime: *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave; My Bondage and My Freedom*; and *Life and Times of Frederick Douglass*. Susan B. Anthony wrote her biography with Ida Husted Harper, *The Life and Work of Susan B. Anthony*. What would the title of your autobiography be?
- ◆ The Nineteenth Amendment was ratified in 1920, fourteen years after Susan's death. What right did this Amendment grant?

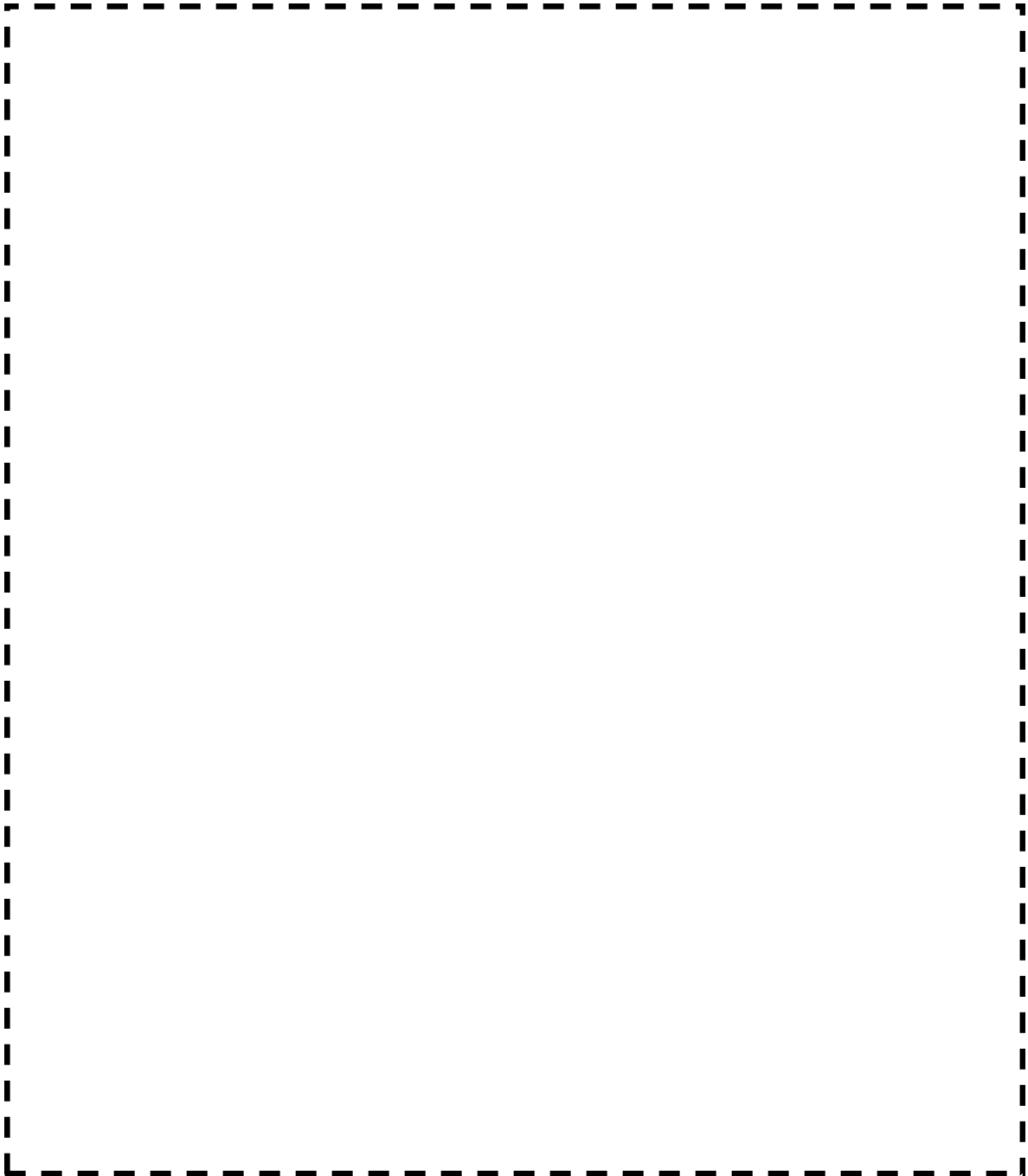
Activity: Draw Your Own Book Cover

Sketch a cover image for a book about one of your own friendships.

Which friend will you put on the cover?

What would your story be about?

What would the title be?





Let's Have Tea by Pepsy M. Kettavong. Photo courtesy of Carol Bednar.

Activity: Let's Have Tea

When Susan B. Anthony and Frederick Douglass first met in Rochester, New York, in 1849, Frederick invited Susan into his home on Alexander Street and they shared a pot of his finest tea.

Fill a teapot with words associated with freedom and equality—why these are important and what they mean to you and to others. Once you've filled a teapot, prepare a short speech to give to the class, explaining the meanings of freedom and equality.



Activity: Mock Debate

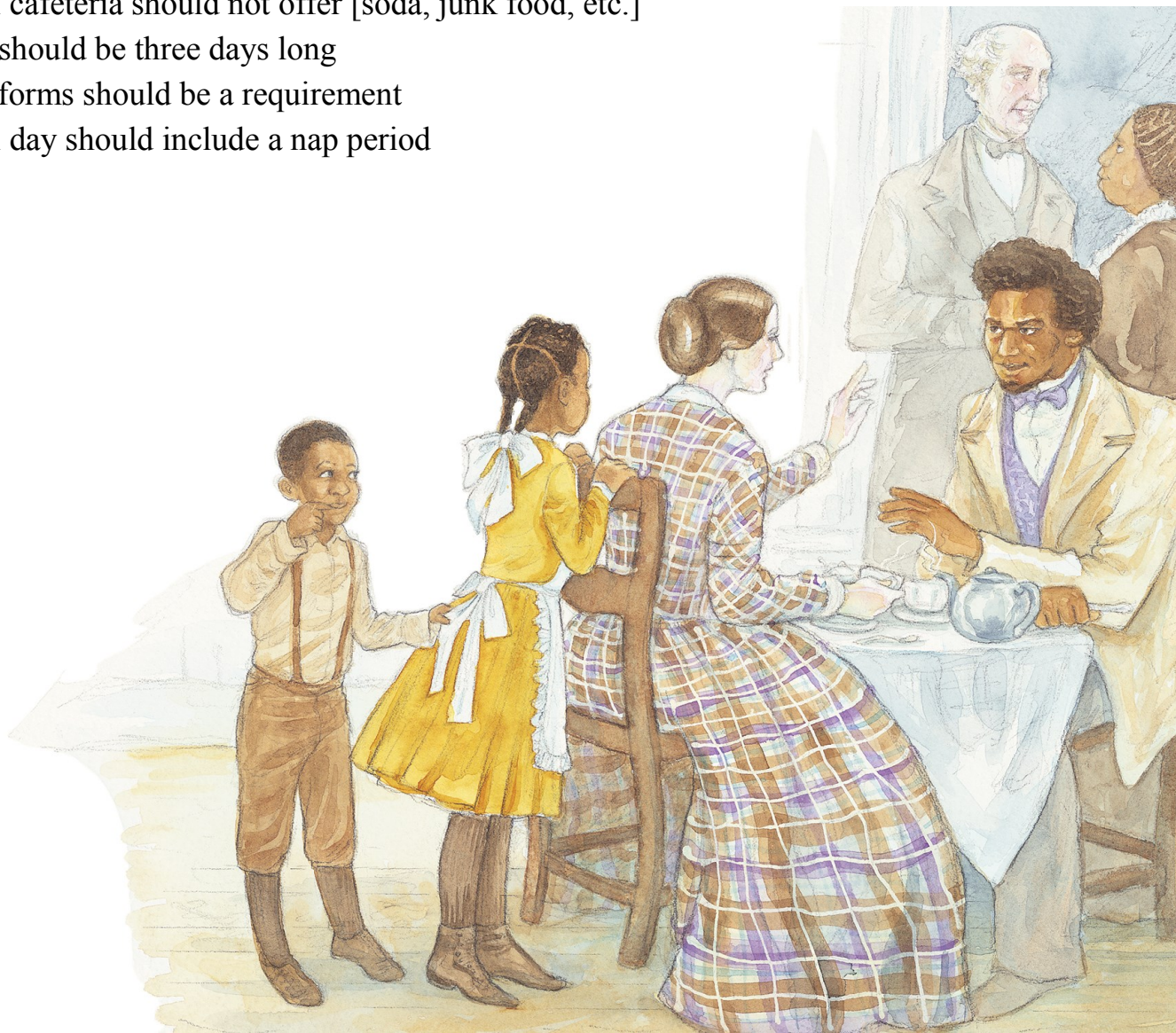
Depending upon your class size, you may either split the class into a pro side and a con side or for larger classes, multiple pro sides and multiple con sides.

Gather suggestions from the entire class on popular topics. These can be current events, situations specific to your school, or more general concepts such as friendship. The topics will be of a nature where one could oppose or support the topic.

Have each team craft an opening statement, argument points, and a closing statement. Let students know that they'll have two minutes for opening remarks and closing remarks. They'll have a minute to state their first argument, and responses will be limited to 30 seconds. Flip a coin to decide if the pro side will go first, or the con side.

Possible Debate Topics:

- ◆ Children under the age of 10 should go to bed by 8pm
- ◆ The school cafeteria should not offer [soda, junk food, etc.]
- ◆ Weekends should be three days long
- ◆ School uniforms should be a requirement
- ◆ The school day should include a nap period

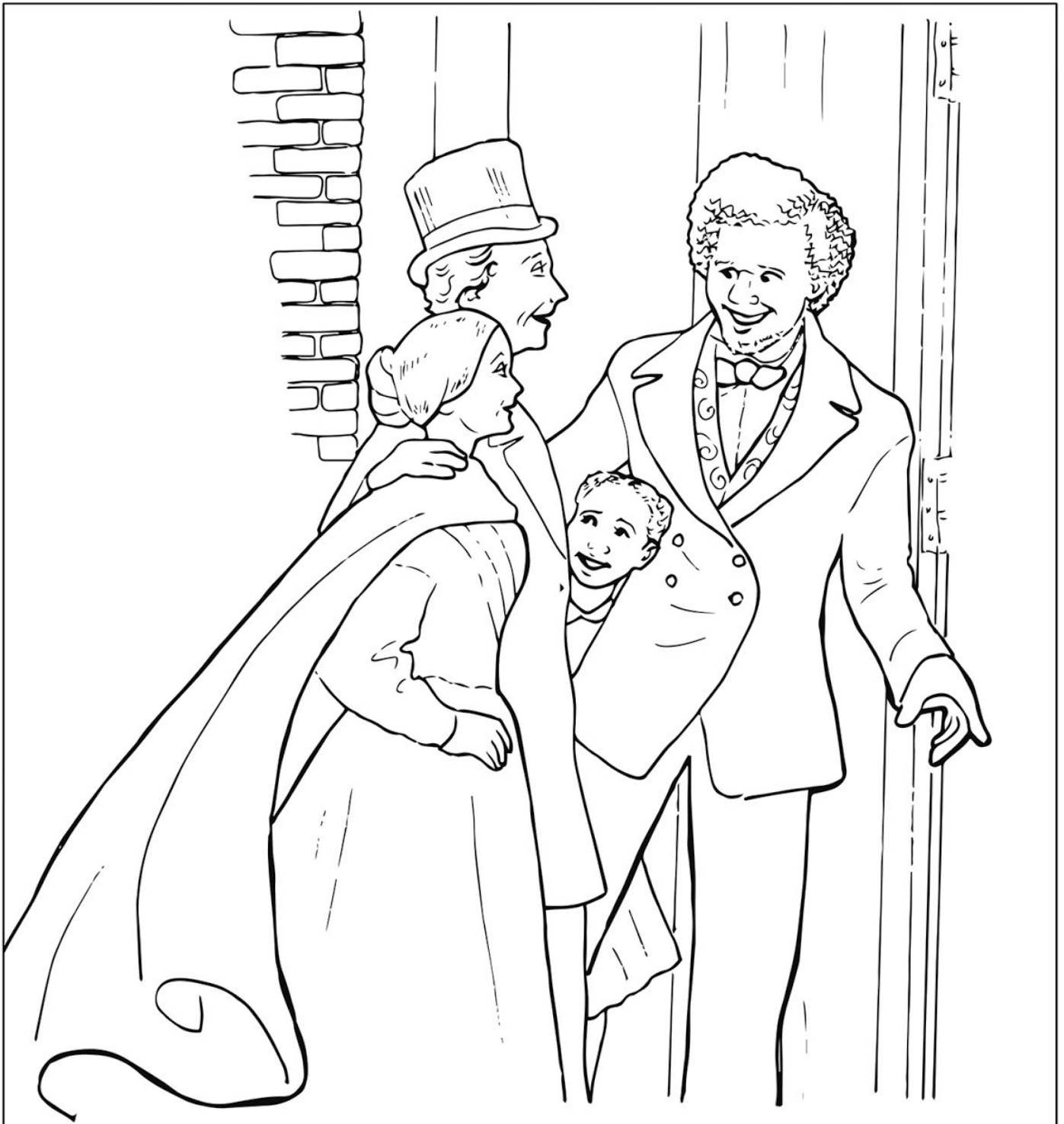




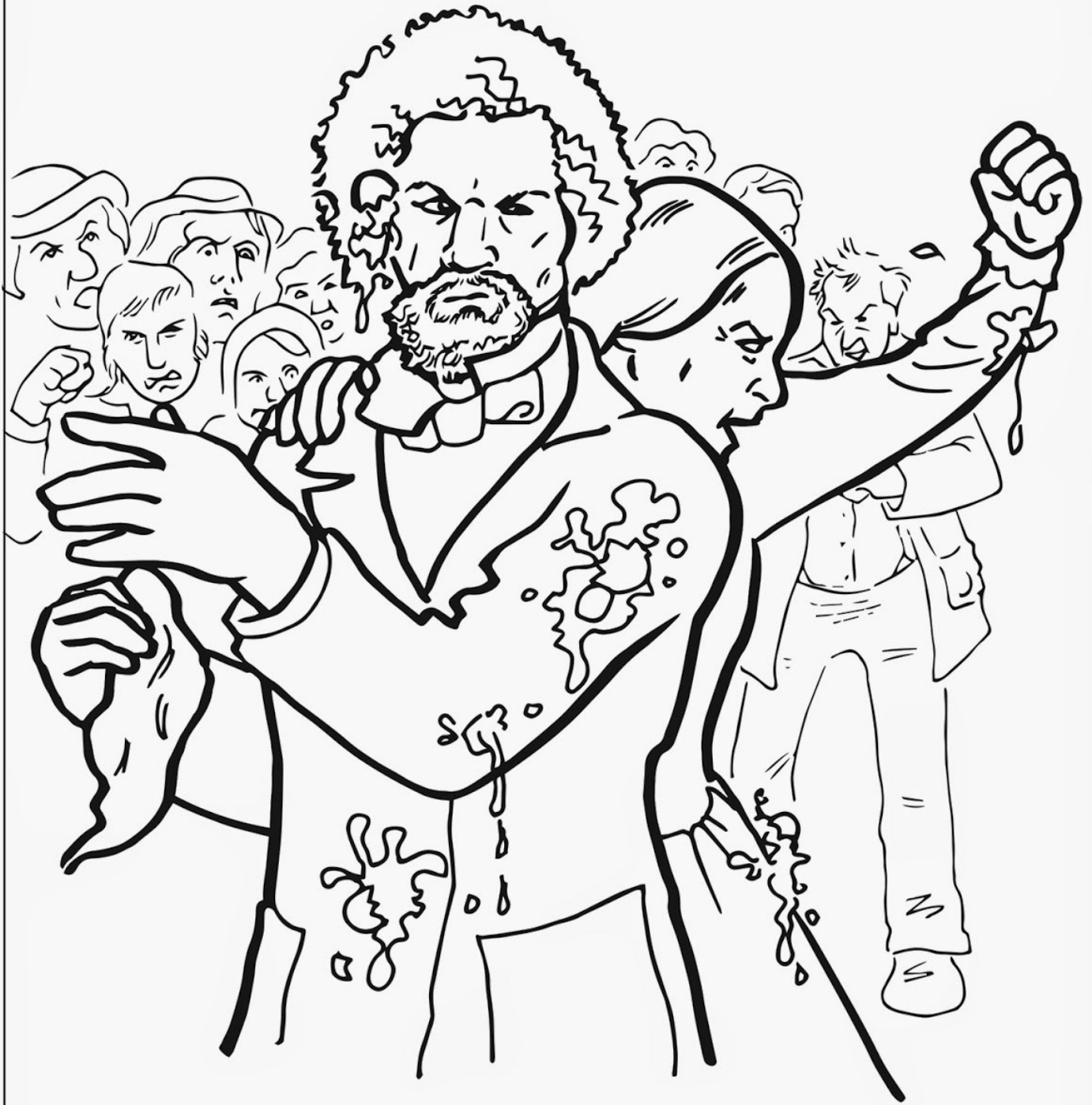
Susan B. Anthony



Frederick Douglass



**Frederick Douglass and Daniel Anthony, Susan B. Anthony's father, were already friends.
When Susan moved back to Rochester, NY, she and Frederick became friends, too.**



Angry crowds pelted them with rotten eggs.
But nothing could stop the two friends.

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& Frederick Douglass

