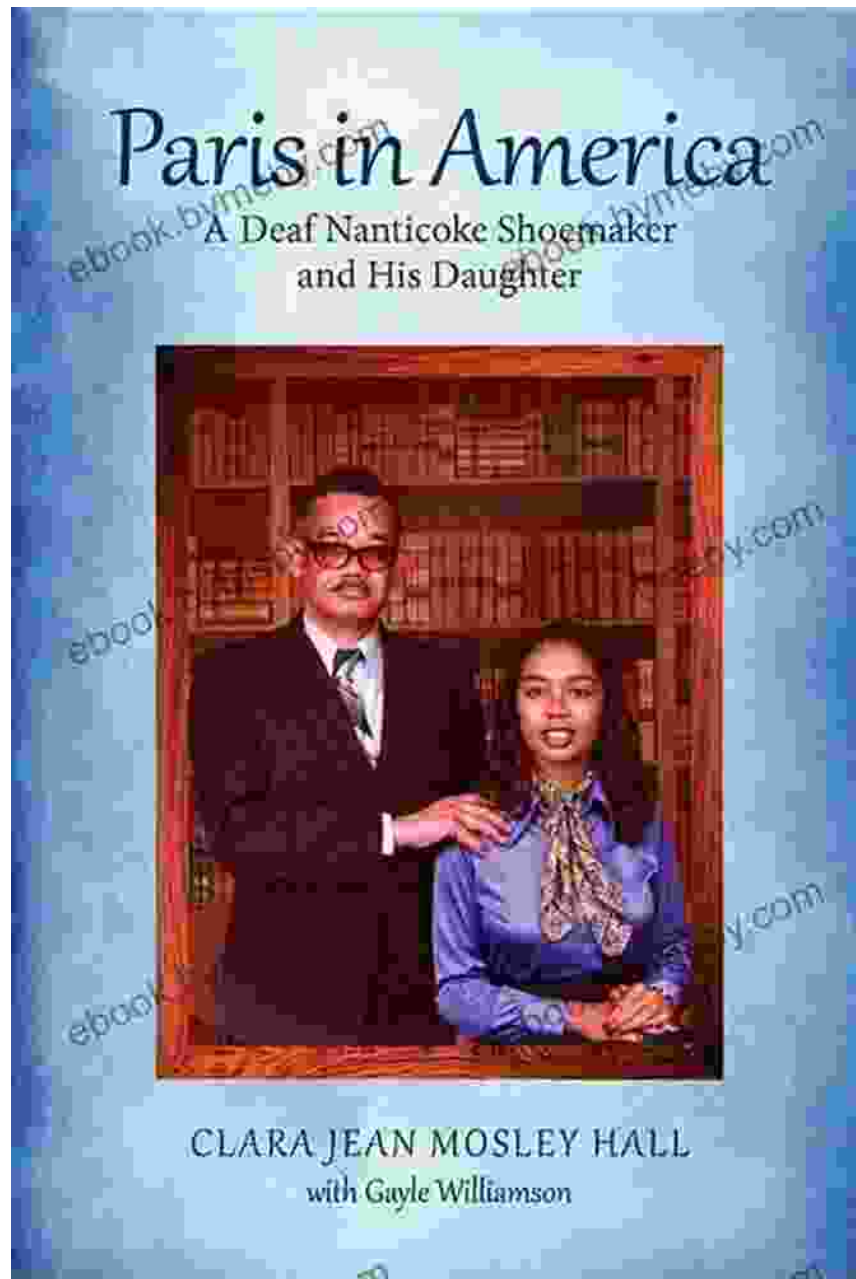


# The Enigmatic Life of William Burton: Deaf Nanticoke Shoemaker And His Extraordinary Daughter



**Paris in America: A Deaf Nanticoke Shoemaker and His Daughter** by Robin Roberts

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5



Language	: English
File size	: 3772 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 235 pages



## **A Deaf Shoemaker's Journey in Colonial America**

In the tapestry of American history, the stories of individuals from marginalized communities often remain hidden, their contributions fading away with the passage of time. One such figure is William Burton, a deaf Nanticoke shoemaker who lived during the tumultuous era of colonial America.

Born around 1730 into the Nanticoke Indian tribe, Burton faced the challenges of deafness from a young age. Despite this adversity, he learned the trade of shoemaking and established a successful business in the small town of Cumberland County, New Jersey. With his skilled hands, Burton crafted fine leather shoes that were highly prized by the local community.

## **The Extraordinary Daughter: A Light in the Darkness**

William Burton's life took an unexpected turn with the birth of his daughter, Elizabeth. Unlike her father, Elizabeth was born with full hearing and possessed an exceptional intellect. Recognizing her daughter's abilities, Burton dedicated himself to providing her with the best possible education, ensuring that Elizabeth had access to books and learning materials.

As Elizabeth grew, her talents blossomed. She became an avid reader, delving into the works of Shakespeare, Milton, and the Bible. Her sharp mind and thirst for knowledge led her to master writing, arithmetic, and astronomy, subjects that were typically reserved for boys in that era.

## **Defying Societal Norms**

In the rigid social hierarchy of colonial America, Elizabeth Burton's success as a deaf woman was nothing short of extraordinary. She defied societal expectations and demonstrated that disability need not define a person's potential. Elizabeth's accomplishments broke down barriers and paved the way for future generations of disabled individuals.

Her father, William, became her constant companion and advocate. Despite his deafness, he communicated with Elizabeth through sign language and writing, providing her with unwavering support and encouragement. Together, father and daughter formed an unbreakable bond, challenging the limitations imposed on them by society.

## **A Legacy of Perseverance and Triumph**

William and Elizabeth Burton's story is a testament to the indomitable spirit of perseverance and triumph. They overcame adversity and defied societal norms, leaving a lasting legacy that continues to inspire people today.



Elizabeth Burton died in 1826 at the age of 48, leaving behind a remarkable collection of writings, including poetry, essays, and a journal. Her writings provide a glimpse into the mind of an exceptional woman who faced the challenges of her time with courage, resilience, and an unwavering belief in her own abilities.

William Burton lived to be over 100 years old, passing away in 1832. He is remembered as a skilled craftsman, a loving father, and a tireless advocate for his daughter. Their story is a reminder that even in the face of adversity, the human spirit has the capacity to prevail.

## **Unveiling the Hidden Treasures of Their Lives**

The life and legacy of William and Elizabeth Burton have been largely forgotten by history. However, recent research and a newly published book, "Deaf Nanticoke Shoemaker And His Daughter," are bringing their story to light.

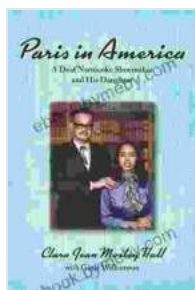
Through meticulous research and captivating storytelling, the book paints a vivid picture of William Burton's life as a deaf shoemaker and his extraordinary bond with his daughter, Elizabeth. It explores the challenges they faced, the triumphs they celebrated, and the lasting impact they had on their community.

By uncovering the hidden treasures of their lives, "Deaf Nanticoke Shoemaker And His Daughter" not only sheds light on a forgotten chapter of American history but also provides a source of inspiration for anyone who has ever faced adversity. Their story is a timeless reminder of the power of perseverance, the importance of education, and the transformative bonds that can exist between family and friends.

The life and legacy of William and Elizabeth Burton is a testament to the indomitable human spirit. Together, they overcame adversity and shattered societal norms, leaving a lasting legacy that continues to inspire people today. Their story is a reminder that true disability lies not in our circumstances but in our willingness to give up.

By delving into the hidden treasures of their lives, we gain a deeper understanding of the challenges and triumphs faced by individuals with disabilities in colonial America. Their story serves as a catalyst for greater acceptance, understanding, and inclusion of the deaf and hard of hearing community.

For anyone seeking inspiration, historical insight, or a deeper appreciation for the complexities of human existence, "Deaf Nanticoke Shoemaker And His Daughter" is a must-read. It is a captivating tale that illuminates the lives of two extraordinary individuals and their unwavering pursuit of a better life.



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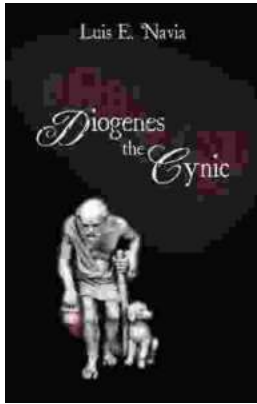
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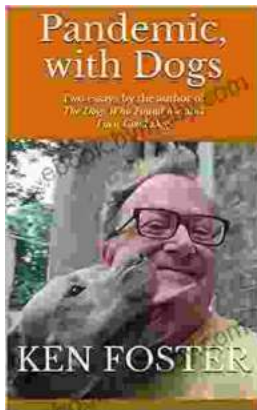
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