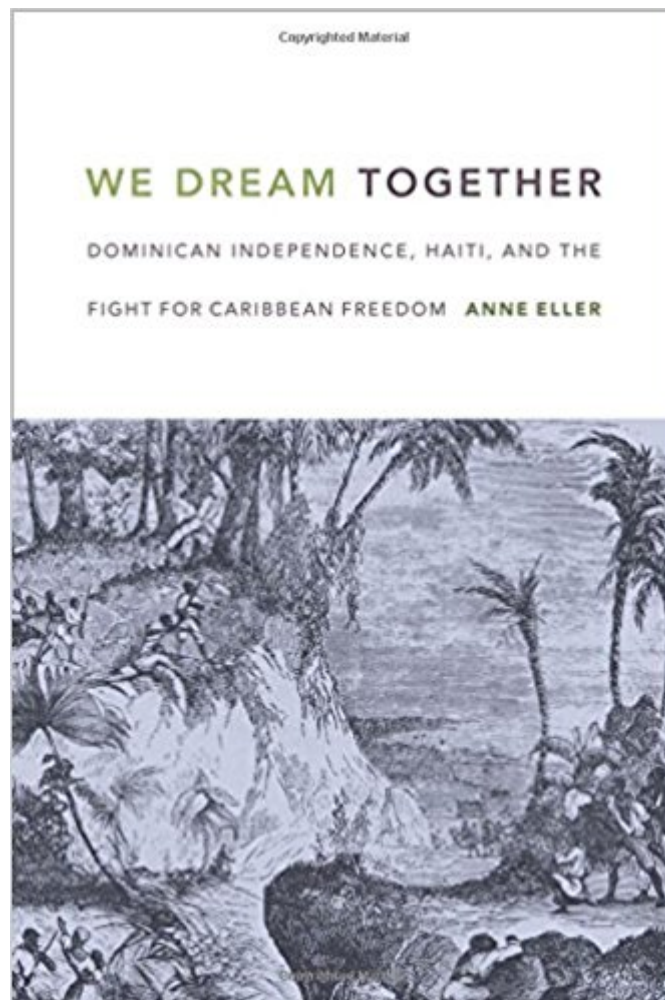




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We Dream Together: Dominican Independence, Haiti, And The Fight For Caribbean Freedom



Synopsis

In *We Dream Together* Anne Eller breaks with dominant narratives of conflict between the Dominican Republic and Haiti by tracing the complicated history of Dominican emancipation and independence between 1822 and 1865. Eller moves beyond the small body of writing by Dominican elites that often narrates Dominican nationhood to craft inclusive, popular histories of identity, community, and freedom, summoning sources that range from trial records and consul reports to poetry and song. Rethinking Dominican relationships with their communities, the national project, and the greater Caribbean, Eller shows how popular anticolonial resistance was anchored in a rich and complex political culture. Haitians and Dominicans fostered a common commitment to Caribbean freedom, the abolition of slavery, and popular democracy, often well beyond the reach of the state. By showing how the island's political roots are deeply entwined, and by contextualizing this history within the wider Atlantic world, Eller demonstrates the centrality of Dominican anticolonial struggles for understanding independence and emancipation throughout the Caribbean and the Americas. ã Å ã Å

Book Information

Paperback: 400 pages

Publisher: Duke University Press Books; Reprint edition (December 9, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0822362376

ISBN-13: 978-0822362371

Product Dimensions: 1 x 6 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.3 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

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Customer Reviews

"Rooted in deep archival research, exhibiting a wonderful analytic and stylistic sensibility, and narrating a story that is largely overlooked, *We Dream Together* makes a signal contribution to Caribbean studies and the broader history of struggles for independence and emancipation in the Americas. This is the book that tells the story of the Dominican Republic's independence."

(Laurent Dubois, author of *Haiti: The Aftershocks of History*) "Anne Eller's pathbreaking study provides the first social history of the Restoration War, an uprising that ended the Spanish annexation of the Dominican Republic in 1865. In the first transnational study of the period, Eller highlights how Haitians and Dominicans found common cause in the struggle against racism and imperial aggression, and how the Dominican struggle against slavery and for sovereignty was a truly Caribbean affair." (Lauren Derby, coeditor of *The Dominican Republic Reader*) "In doing away with simplistic, jingoistic evaluations of relationships between and among Caribbean actors, Eller allows readers to better appreciate the relationship of the eventual Dominican overthrow of the Spanish annexation to Puerto Rican and Cuban struggles for independence from Spain. Highly recommended." (W. J. Nelson Choice 2017-07-01)

Anne Eller is Assistant Professor of History at Yale University.

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