

Reading Reflection Statement

Name

Institution

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The story of Michelle Obama as portrayed in the book *American Tapestry: The Story of Black, White, and Multiracial Ancestors of Michelle Obama* is a story of a journey to White House from slavery in five generations. From the onset, this is a story of a race: the African-American race. The book traces the fascinating and complex history of Mrs. Obama's white, black, and multiracial history. For example, for the first time, even unknown to Michelle, her great-great-great grandfather happens to be a white man. Her great-great-great grandmother Melvinia also bore several other children to this white man in a farm in the American South in the mid 1880s (Swarns, 2012). In a nutshell, the book is about Michelle's family tree that consists of a multiracial bloodline.

The tale told by this book can only be well understood through the prism of the race theory. In a broad sense, it is a collective story of the chronicle of a changing nation; a nation in which the intermingling of the races lingers in the bloodlines of the millions of citizens. In discussing the issue of race, slavery takes a dominant position because it is the crucible through which white, black, and Native American family lines were forged. The book observes that in a lot of times, such stories relating to races, especially the black race, get buried because often, the pain in them makes it hard for people want to remember.

Reference

Swarns, R. L. (2012). *American tapestry: The story of the black, white, and multiracial ancestors of Michelle Obama*. London, UK: HarperCollins Publishers.