

Phillis Wheatley

Phillis Wheatley was born on May 8, 1753 in West Africa and died December 5, 1784 in Boston Massachusetts.

She was sold to a wealthy tailor John Wheatley. Wheatley became a servant for his wife. The Wheatleys' eighteen-year-old daughter first tutored Phillis. Their son Nathaniel also helped. The Wheatleys gave Phillis an unprecedented education for an enslaved person. By the age of twelve she was reading Greek and Latin classics.