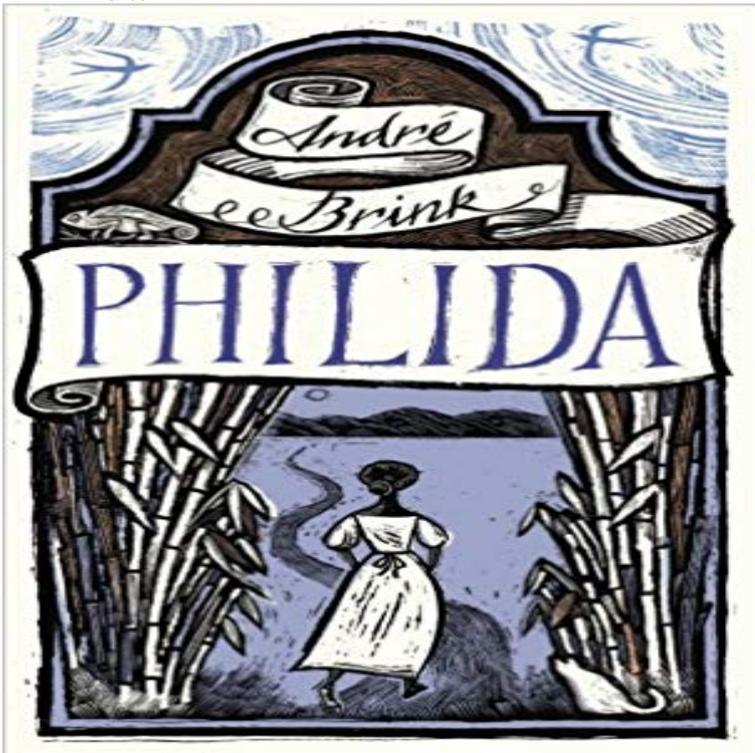


Philida



An unforgettable story of a woman determined to find her freedom -- set in South Africa in 1830s, as slavery was about to be abolished. The masterpiece from the twice Booker-shortlisted author. This is what it means to be a slave: that everything is decided for you from out there. You just got to listen and do as they tell you. You don't say no. You don't ask questions. You just do what they tell you. But far in the back of your head you think: One day there must come a time when you got to say for yourself: This and that I shall do, this and that I shall not. Philida is the mother of four children by Francois Brink, the son of her master. The year is 1832 and the Cape is rife with rumours about the liberation of the slaves. Philida decides to risk her whole life by lodging a complaint against Francois, who has reneged on his promise to set her free. His father has ordered him to marry a white woman from a prominent Cape Town family, and Philida will be sold on to owners in the harsh country up north. Unwilling to accept this fate, Philida continues to test the limits of her freedom, and with the Muslim slave Labyn she sets off on a journey across the great wilderness on the banks of the Gariiep River, to the far north of Cape Town. Philida is an unforgettable story of one woman's determination to survive and be free.

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