David Walker, 1785-1830

- born in NC to slave father and free mother (follows in condition of mother)
- never actually a slave, learns from his father’s example and from extensive travel in the slave states about the South’s “peculiar institution”
- moves to Boston in 1827, there he married a fugitive slave
- he supported his family well as a secondhand clothes dealer (what interesting fact does intro say about this?)
- but he spent most of his time studying history of slavery in classical and modern times
- in Boston’s black community, became a leader, gaining local fame for his antislavery speeches
- three editions of *Appeal* in 1829 & 30, each one increasingly urgent and frank
- Southern hysteria in response to *Appeal* made him marked man, died mysteriously on June 28, 1830, allegedly victim of poison
- did not live to see Nat Turner’s insurrection in Virginia in August 1831, only 14 months later, but slaveholders were convinced Turner had put into action what Walker had put into words

according to intro, what were some specific reactions of S to Walker’s book? (p. x, xi, bottom) how about the N?  
beginning of *militant* antislavery movement – what does that mean? what came before? 
Wiltse refers to “schizophrenia” of the S (vii) what does he mean? who is Walker’s audience? (this will not be necessarily true for later antislavery stuff)

- tone? (one word each?)
- directly modeled after what?
- 2. what is effect of calling slaveowners tyrants?
- 3-4. analogy with Egypt and the Jews
- 9. interracial marriages
- 10. analogy with deer
- 13. Why are S slaveholders worse than Spartans?

16. makes generalizations about whites, 17. dispenses with that, we’re the same
21-22. takes on blacks’ responsibility
23-34. quotes story of slave rebelling against black slave trader – what is his point in bringing this up
25. explicit threats, ratios
26. it’s self-defense
28-9. takes on blacks again here
III (35) – takes on religion
theory vs. practice
missionaries started it
37. vast irony of a lot of American religion at the time
allied himself with biblical tradition of the prophet crying in the wilderness, denouncing the hypocrisy of the prevailing religious practice and calling for divine punishment