

## Birmingham Times

### BOOK NEWS

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Set for a February 8th release date is an unforgettable story detailing the lives of one enslaved and his owner. Wash is the title of this profound debut novel that takes readers on a journey into a past that left an inevitable mark in America's history. Authored by Margaret Wrinkle, Wash offers an intense tale built upon a pivotal topic.

At the center of Wrinkle narrative is Richardson and his slave Washington. Richardson is a war veteran who has more debt than wealth due to the bottom falling out of the market. Upon hearing of a plan his partner Quinn had, Richardson set about slave breeding as a way to make money.

Washington aka Wash is the first member of his family born into slavery. He is a recluse who is made into a "breeding sire" based upon his impeccable height and strength. Although Wash dutifully does as his owner request, his soul conveys a longing. A desperate plea to hold onto the African traditions he learned from his spiritualist mother. He finds consolation in Pallas, a healer who knows more about him than himself and Richardson together. Eventually Wash and Richardson comes to a crossroad that forever changes their lives. Wash is a powerfully haunting tale about the captor and captive. It offers a look at both through their own narrative form expressing their true feeling.

Margaret Wrinkle is a writer, educator, filmmaker and visual artist. Her documentary Broken Ground, that sheds light into modern race relations, was featured on NPR's Morning Edition and was a winner in the National Council on Foundations Film Festival. She is a native of Birmingham, AL who was born during the height of the Civil Rights Era. Her basis for writing Wash was through a rumor that one of her ancestors was a slave breeder. This allegation resulted in her penning her first novel. She resides in New Mexico.

On February 1st, Margaret Wrinkle will be on tour in Birmingham at Space One Eleven. This event will also coincide with the unveiling of Wash: The Photographs.