

# [In made a speech more eloquent in the](https://assignbuster.com/in-made-a-speech-more-eloquent-in-the/)

In his preface, Garrison used an admirable tonethat emphasized his fondness for Douglass. Garrison’s use of diction shows thathe thinks Douglas is a gem of a person when he says, “ There stood one, inphysical proportion and stature commanding and exact—in intellect richlyendowed—in natural eloquence a prodigy—in soul manifestly “ created but a littlelower than the angels”—yet a slave” (4).  Garrison used a lot of hyphens to list all thepositive characteristics that Douglas’s personality has. Garrison couldn’t stoppraising the way Douglas gives his speeches. He even went as far as callingDouglas a better speaker than Patrick Henry. Garrison said, “ As soon as he hadtaken his seat, filled with hope and admiration, I rose, and declared thatPATRICK HENRY, of revolutionary fame, never made a speech more eloquent in thecause of liberty, than the one we had just listened to from the lips of thathunted fugitive” (4). The language Garrison uses gradually forms into passionfor Douglas.

He started with describing Douglas’s importance, then his intelligence, and then his almost divine virtues. Garrison has used quite a dew literary devicesin this preface; one of them is rhetorical questions. He used rhetoricalquestions to make a point and those questions don’t require an answer. Heasked, “ O, how accursed is that system, which entombs the godlike mind of man, defaces the divine image, reduces those who by creation were crowned with gloryand honor to a level with four-footed beasts, and exalts the dealer in humanflesh above all that is called God! Why should its existence be prolonged onehour? Is it not evil, only evil, and that continually? What does its presenceimply but the absence of all fear of God, all regard for man, on the part of thepeople of the United States” (9)? These questions don’t require an answer; Garrison just asked these questions to make the readers self-reflect. Peoplewho indulge into slavery must have forgotten all fear of God. The go to church, they say that they are God fearing human beings, but actions speak louder thanwords and their actions show that they have no fear.

Garrison also used some imagery in his preface. He gave such detailed descriptions of instances that I could see the eventshappening in my head as though I was present there. Garrison mentioned, “ Ithink the most thrilling one of them all is the description DOUGLASS gives ofhis feelings, as he stood soliloquizing respecting his fate, and the chances ofhis one day being a freeman, on the banks of the Chesapeake Bay–viewing thereceding vessels as they flew with their white wings before the breeze, andapostrophizing them as animated by the living spirit of freedom” (8). Whilereading these lines, I could see Douglas standing at the bay, staring at the wavesand thinking about his fate. I could feel the sadness and grief that he musthave been feeling.

Garrison believed in Douglas and in his dream toend slavery. Garrison has used figurative language such as to describe Douglasand people could call his language over the top or extra but I think thatGarrison wrote this preface from his heart, and he believed in every singleword he used to describe Douglas. Garrison respected Douglas a lot, he had avery high regard of him. Garrison used direct characterization, diction, syntax, rhetorical questions, imagery, and figurative language in the prefaceto make the reader believe in the honesty and truthfulness of FrederickDouglas. This preface prepares the reader for the narrative excellently; I gotmore interested in reading the narrative when I finished the preface.

Thepreface gives a trailer of what to expect in the Narrative of the Life ofFrederick Douglass, and American Slave.