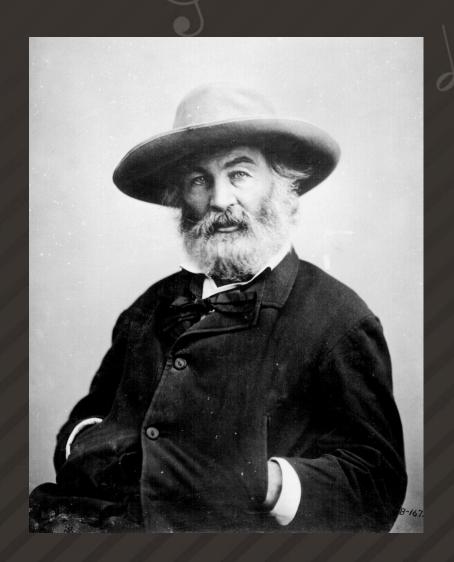


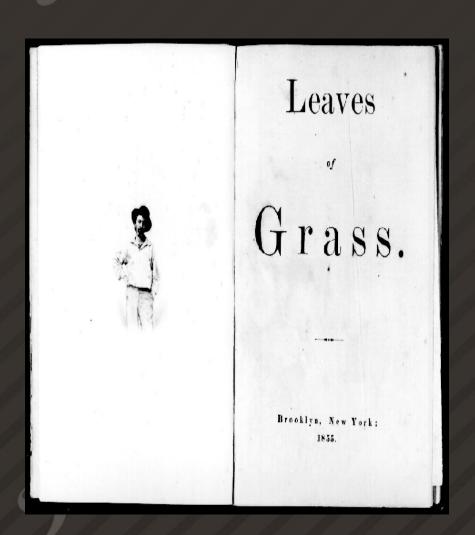
- Page Born on Long Island on May 31, 1819, Walt Whitman was the second son of Louisa Van Velsor and Walter Whitman, a house builder.
- When he was twelve, he began to learn
 a trade at a printer and soon grew very
 fond of writers and authors including
 Shakespeare, Homer, Dante, and the
 Bible. He worked at a printer in New
 York City until a disastrous fire destroyed
 the printing industry.

When he was seventeen he started teaching in a schoolhouse, but soon after he began his career as a full time journalist. He edited many New York and Brooklyn newspapers, and when he moved to New Orleans to become the editor of the Crescent

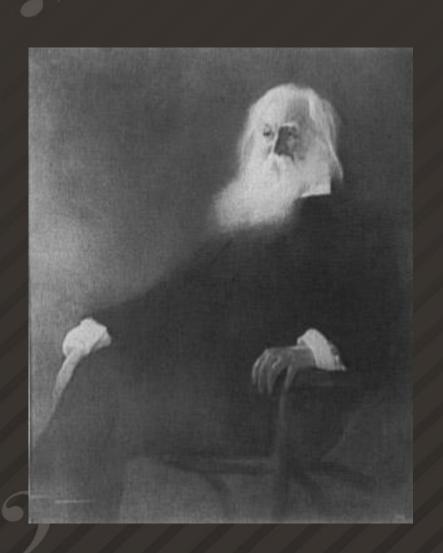


- At the outbreak of the Civil War, Whitman vowed to live a cleansed life.
- He wrote freelance journalism and visited the wounded at New York-area hospitals.





While in New York, he took a job as a clerk for the Department of Interior, but his employment soon ended when the Secretary of Interior, James Harlem, discovered that his employee was the author of *Leaves of Grass*, a poem that he found quite offensive. Although Leaves of Grass was, and still is, a well-known and respected poem, Whitman was fired.



- Whitman struggled to support himself toward the end of his life.
- From time to time writers in the United States and in England sent him "purses" of money in order for him to get by.

- In the simple two-story ligneous house, Whitman spent his years that became very hard on his health revising a new edition of his final volume of poems and prose, Good-Bye, My Fancy (1891).
- After his death on March 26, 1892, Whitman was buried in a tomb he, alone, designed and built on a lot in Harleigh
 Cemetery, in Camden.

