

# RADICALS



WRITTEN BY NANCY OSTERTAG & VANESSA RUANE

# RADICALS

## Characters



## Sarah Brown

Sarah Brown is a twenty-four-year-old, healer from a family who've been free for generations. In addition to her work as a midwife, she manages Dr. Randolph's clinic and herbal pharmacy with her mother. Sarah wants to make an impact in her community. She is single-minded, even to the point of recklessness.

## Elizabeth Shaw

Lizzie Shaw is a nineteen-year-old artist who comes to Washington to live with her grandfather, Dr. Randolph, after losing her parents in a hurricane. Rebelling against her grandfather and the expectations of society, Lizzie does not want to marry and settle down. She wants independence, and adventure.



# Sarah & Lizzie

“Each friend represents a world in us, a world possibly not born until they arrive.”

Anias  
Nin



## FROM DOCTOR AND PATIENT TO FRIENDS

Thrown together by circumstance, Sarah treats Lizzie's wounds and stands up for her when her grandfather thinks she has hysteria. They discover a shared interest in chemistry and build trust as they work together.

## TESTED BY WAR & GRIEF

Sarah and Lizzie are each tested by war and grief. Separated, they communicate through letters, their friendship deepened by shared sacrifice. When the war ends, Reconstruction brings new challenges. Back in Washington full time, they begin working together again.

## COMPATRIOTS

Sarah and Lizzie fight to stop Anthony Comstock from destroying all they've built.

# Supporting Characters



27 years old

## Reverend John Hayden

John is the devout minister of a progressive black church. Together with Sarah he leads a group of dedicated activists.

28 years old

## Isabella Wheeler

John's recently widowed sister Isabella runs the church mission, working as an educator and advocate for the parishioners, while being an active leader in the group's underground activities.



30 years old

## Jack Stephenson

Lizzie's business partner, Jack is a "committed bachelor" and a strategic businessman who runs the city's largest photo studio along with multiple side hustles.

28 years old

## Peter Sullivan

"Sully" is a beloved actor and local celebrity. He is a hedonistic attention seeker, but also a true and loyal friend. Sully and Jack fall for each other the first time they meet, and remain together for the rest of their lives.





24 years old

## Charity Dodson

Sarah's oldest friend, Charity is a fourth generation midwife.

She is confident and social, with a wicked sense of humor.

21 years old

## Teresa Bagioli Sickles

Lizzie's best friend Teresa, is the gifted young wife of an influential freshman Congressman. New to Washington but not to politics, she is classically educated, elegant, and a reckless narcissist.



48 years old

## Mary Ann Hall

Lizzie's friend and mentor, Mary Ann runs a successful underground lobbying business out of the city's finest parlor house.

21 years old

## Virginia Spencer

An actress with the National Theater company, Virginia came to Washington from Belfast when she was only 15 years old. She is idealistic, passionate, and cruel when angry.





50 years old

## Margaret Brown

Sarah's mother is an herbalist and co-owner of the infirmary she runs with Dr. Randolph. Meg is kind, and loving to Sarah, but slow to warm up to anyone else.

63 years old

## Dr. Robert Randolph

Lizzie's grandfather is a Republican abolitionist, and respected Thomsonian doctor.





45 years old

## Alice Hayden

John's mother Alice is the strategic mind behind Zion Baptist and the Underground Railroad station there.

24 years old

## Temperance Purdy Butler

"Tempe" was raised by her widower father in the telegraph office and knows everything there is to know about the telegraph business.



24 years old

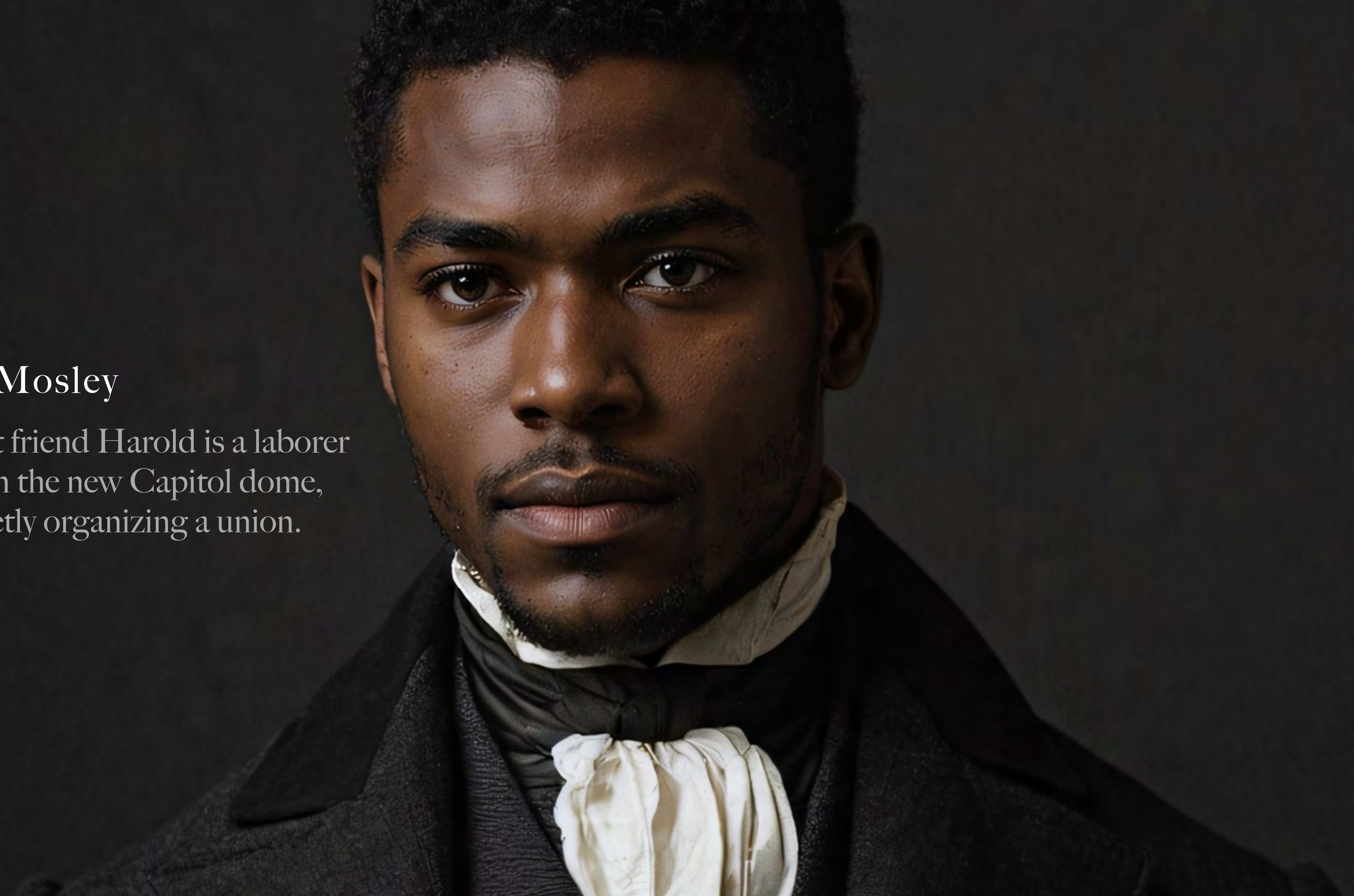
## Reed Butler

Tempe's husband, Reed is a telegraph operator who sees a future for himself as a leader in Washington business and politics.

27 years old

## Harold Mosley

John's best friend Harold is a laborer working on the new Capitol dome, while secretly organizing a union.





67 years old

## Nelly Wisdom Taylor

Sarah's mentor and friend, Nelly is an enslaved midwife, "living out" with her free husband and granddaughter, Charity.

27 years old

## Ellen Mary Taney

Ellen moved to Washington to care for her father after the death of her mother and sister. She is devoted, but frail herself, and prone to fits of depression.



79 years old

## Chief Justice Roger Taney

Sickly and grieving after recently being widowed, Justice Taney shares a modest apartment with his two unmarried daughters.

20 years old

## Anthony Comstock

Anthony is a self styled “moral crusader,” obsessed with sex, who wants to eradicate all forms of what he calls obscenity, and make a name for himself in the process.

