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COVER



Kadir Nelson's painting for *National Geographic's* cover depicts captive Africans being taken by boat to the slave ship *Clotilda* in 1860, at a slave port in what's now Benin.

Nelson's art is in galleries and collections worldwide, and in award-winning picture books. The 45-year-old illustrator and author has used his artistry in a wide range of media, from the Steven Spielberg film *Amistad* to an album cover for recording artist Drake.

PHOTO (LEFT): JUNGMIWHA BULLOCK NELSON

PROOF

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When Flowers Were No Longer Enough

After years of giving his wife birthday bouquets, an artist wanted longer lasting gifts. His solution: flower photos combined with paint, plywood, and more.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ABELARDO MORELL



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THE BIG IDEA

A Broader View of Black Inventors

The legacy of African-American scientists should be as much about how they lived as what they created.

BY EZELLE STANFORD III

ALSO

- Why Locusts Swarm
- Seeds of Survival?
- Tough Tardigrades
- The Stormchasers' Tale



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GETTING THERE

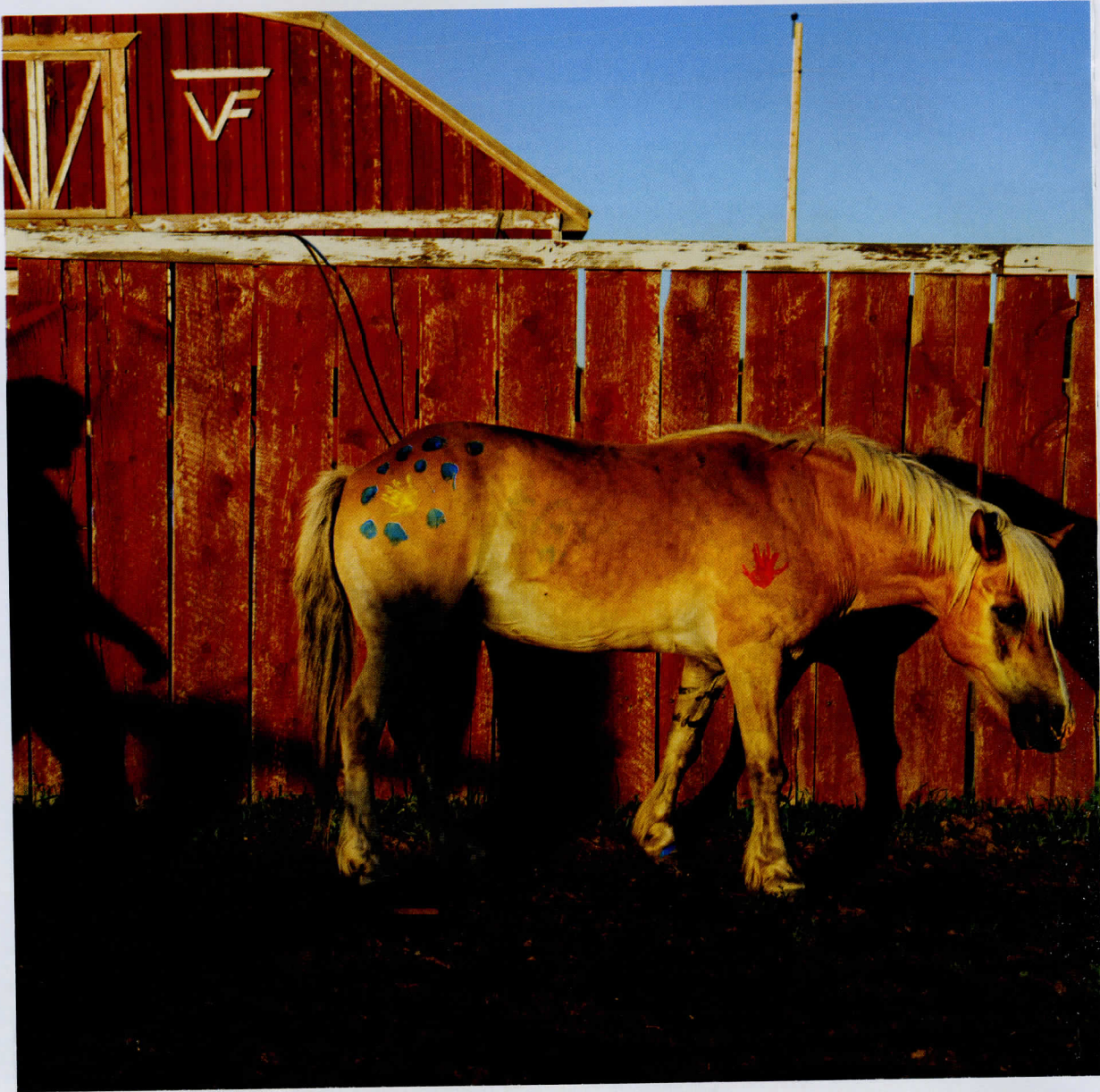
A Vanishing Feat

Will Gadd went to Kilimanjaro to climb ice—but it's melting before his eyes.

BY DANIEL STONE
PHOTOGRAPH BY CHRISTIAN PONDELLO

ALSO

- Tarot's Italian Roots
- Carnival, by Country
- Forest Bathing: Into the Woods, Mindfully



FEATURES

The Last Slave Ship

The *Clotilda* illegally delivered 108 Africans to Alabama in 1860. It was the last known slave ship to reach U.S. shores—and descendants still tell the captives' stories.

BY JOEL K. BOURNE, JR., SYLVIANE DIOUF, AND CHELSEA BRASTED
PHOTOGRAPHS BY ELIAS WILLIAMS
PAINTINGS BY SEDRICK HUCKABY

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Prairie Divide

Returning grasslands to their past state faces resistance today.

BY HANNAH NORDHAUS
PHOTOGRAPHS BY AMY TOENSING

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Redefining Beauty

In an inclusive culture, everyone can be celebrated as beautiful.

BY ROBIN GIVHAN
PHOTOGRAPHS BY HANNAH REYES MORALES

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Flamingo Bob

How a gravely injured bird became a pampered pink celebrity.

BY CHRISTINE DELL'AMORE
PHOTOGRAPHS BY JASPER DOEST

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A Journey With Spice

Finding cardamom is well worth the quest.

BY MIKE IVES
PHOTOGRAPHS BY IAN TEH

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