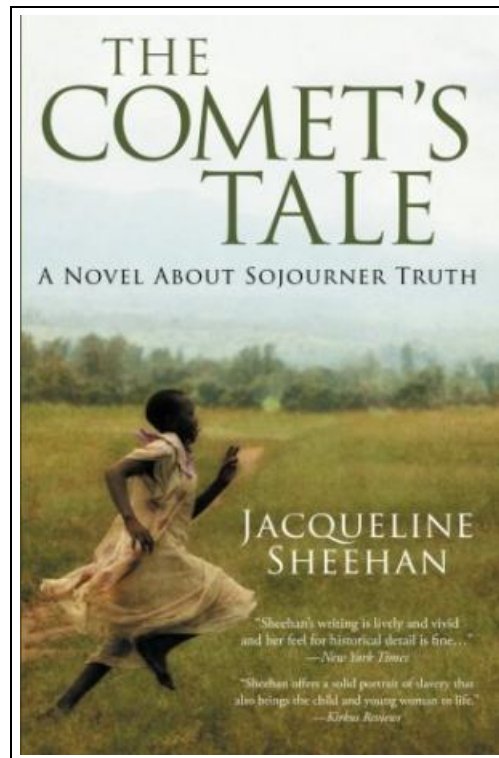


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THE COMETS TALE: A NOVEL ABOUT SOJOURNER TRUTH

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Greenforge Books. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 346 pages. Dimensions: 8.5in. x 5.4in. x 0.9in. From Publishers Weekly First-timer Sheehan offers an uneven but emotionally and lyrically powerful novelization of the life of Sojourner Truth. Born Isabella at the beginning of the 19th century, the future crusader for equality and justice spends nine years on a New York State farm with her wise mother and kind father before being sold-as a lot, along with sheep, at auction. Whipped for speaking her native Dutch, she begins to talk to God: God is big to us, and we should speak to him under the biggest sky, her mother always said. So begin years of masters both kind and cruel, but none able to see her as a human-a blindness Isabella describes as one of the damages slavery inflicts on both slave and master. Though Isabella experiences indescribable horrors, she also finds love and desire; she even meets with rare self-sacrifice and aid from abolitionist whites, some helping her sue to get her son back from an illegal master. After she acquires her freedom and becomes a preacher, she falls in with a house of seekers led by a false prophet, Matthias, whom at first she stands by (I did not survive slavery and see two husbands die of broken spirits to be put off so easily), and from whose thrall she barely escapes. Isabellas strong, warm, distinctive voice is a genuine accomplishment, able to render tortures and prayers alike. Though the pacing is inconsistent, this is a disturbing and robust work, offering a new way of looking at one of historys greatest champions of freedom. Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Booklist Psychologist Sheehan offers a fictionalized account of the life of Sojourner Truth, relating the incredible saga of a woman who...

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