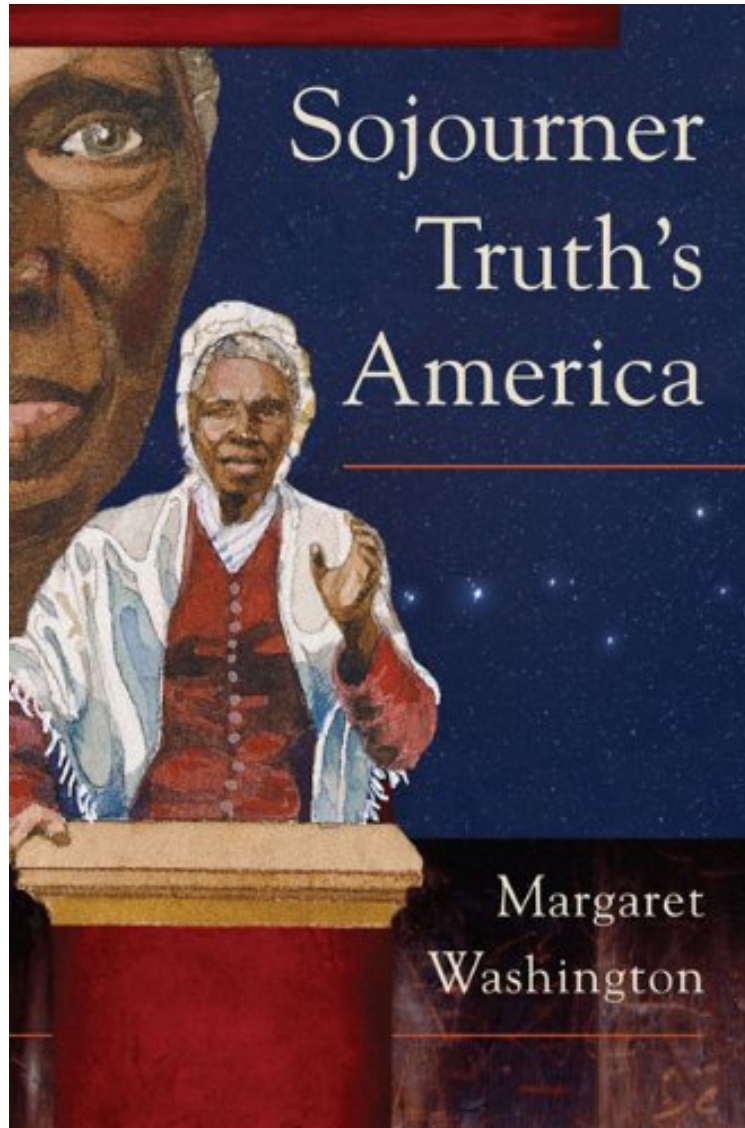


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Sojourner Truth's America

Margaret Washington

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Margaret Washington : Sojourner Truth's America before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Sojourner Truth's America:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. My favorite biography of TruthBy C. MedineI really like the biography of Sojourner Truth. Washington and her students did a great deal of research, turning up new documents, to open up the life of this iconic figure. The book is written with sympathy and clarity. It reads easily, and I think that the picture of Truth is balanced.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. An amazing lady and her world.By Jean PedersonI love this book, because it told me so much more about Sojourner Truth than I've ever read anywhere

else. Ms. Washington has done a scholarly, thoroughly researched job here, without letting her material acquire the dryness of pedantry. I have read a lot of history books where the reading has become laborious, even though the subject originally interested me; this book was hard to put down! The great thing about this book is that Sojourner is not portrayed in a vacuum. The author has placed her within the context of her times, interacting with other people of all types. There is a panoramic view of the nineteenth century here that is seldom achieved by a modern author. The times, movements and people are brought to life, in all their messy complexity; and I felt as though I were there with her. 6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Wonderful Book By Allan Ohlsen If I had to pick just one secondary-source for the life and times of Sojourner Truth, this book would be it. It's insightful, engrossing, thought provoking, well-cited and scholarly, yet fun to read; a wonderful resource. Ms. Washington also writes much from a spiritual perspective/context, something lacking in other sources. I highly recommend this book for any library.

This fascinating biography tells the story of nineteenth-century America through the life of one of its most charismatic and influential characters: Sojourner Truth. In an in-depth account of this amazing activist, Margaret Washington unravels Sojourner Truth's world within the broader panorama of African American slavery and the nation's most significant reform era.

From Booklist At a time in nineteenth-century America when the Progressive movement birthed exceptional speakers expounding on the meaning of national and spiritual ideals, Sojourner Truth was among the most popular on the lyceum circuit. A poor, uneducated, dark-skinned woman and a former slave, Truth was on the lowest rung of the social hierarchy, yet she was at the locus of the Progressive movement. Historian Washington examines Truth from that perspective. By dint of her magnetic personality and powerful speech, Truth managed to make herself the "quintessential representative of antebellum progressive America," an abolitionist, suffragist, spiritualist, and advocate of temperance and health reform. The book is divided into three parts: life in the Hudson Valley under the influence of Dutch and African cultures before Truth was born; her life as a slave, powerful spiritualism, and the convictions that led her to free herself; and her role in the broader Progressive movement. Washington details frictions within the movement and how Truth navigated the internal politics as well as the broader national politics that resisted equality for women and blacks. --Vanessa Bush "This biography is admirable in its thoroughness and in Washington's commitment to her subject and is well worth consulting." --Publishers Weekly