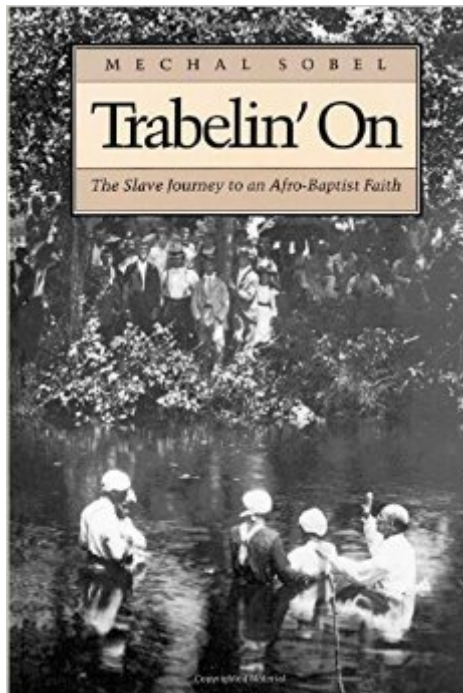


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Trabelin' On: The Slave Journey To An Afro-Baptist Faith



Synopsis

Mechal Sobel's fascinating study of the religious history of slaves and free blacks in antebellum America is presented here in a compact volume without the appendixes. Sobel's central thesis is that Africans brought their world views into North America where, eventually, under the tremendous pressures and hardships of chattel slavery, they created a coherent faith that preserved and revitalized crucial African understandings and usages regarding spirit and soul-travels, while melding them with Christian understandings of Jesus and individual salvation.

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Customer Reviews

There is no separation of the sacred and the secular among Africans generally. It is all a part of life. The Africans were first brought to the US and quite a while afterwards, they practiced their own various religions. Generally, they believed that there was a Great God and lesser gods directing the every day drudgery of human existence. Of course God Al Mighty did not have time to be bothered by human petty annoyances. This where the lesser gods and dieties took over. It is beyond credibility that the whites believed or pretended that these people forgot who they were once landing on these shores in the bottom of the slave ships, packed like sardines in each other's bodily excretions. They were very slow to take on the oppressor's religion. They laughed at the few house slaves who did and held them and the religion with disdain. At the same time, many of the slave owners did not believe in giving the word to the slaves for a number of reasons. When they did they only gave them instructions of the verses that spoke to obeying your masters and looking for your heavily home and

happiness in heaven. Don't be expecting freedom and happiness in this world because, it ain't gonna happen. So get use to suffering and getting beat up, raped, children sold off, etc. This is your hell. Go on a pray now and hope for your heavily reward when you kick de bucket. Anyway, after a while the Great Awakening happened and a large population of Africans became Baptists. Before than, they worshipped among themselves in the woods so they could be free to praise God in their way. Shoutin', dancing, singing, and praying soothed their damaged souls. They knew that the master's christianity was a fake religion. They knew they had the real thing.

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