



Tell Me How Long the Train's Been Gone

By James Baldwin

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Tell Me How Long the Train's Been Gone By James Baldwin

At the height of his theatrical career, the actor Leo Proudhammer is nearly felled by a heart attack. As he hovers between life and death, Baldwin shows the choices that have made him enviably famous and terrifyingly vulnerable.

For between Leo's childhood on the streets of Harlem and his arrival into the intoxicating world of the theater lies a wilderness of desire and loss, shame and rage. An adored older brother vanishes into prison. There are love affairs with a white woman and a younger black man, each of whom will make irresistible claims on Leo's loyalty. And everywhere there is the anguish of being black in a society that at times seems poised on the brink of total racial war. Overpowering in its vitality, extravagant in the intensity of its feeling, *Tell Me How Long the Train's Been Gone* is a major work of American literature.

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Editorial Review

Review

"Baldwin is one of the few genuinely indispensable American writers."

--Saturday Review

"He has not himself lost access to the sources of his being--which is what makes him read and awaited by perhaps a wider range of people than any other major American writer."

--The Nation

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From the Inside Flap

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