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## UNCLE TOM'S CABIN Harriet Beecher Stowe

Adapted by Vicente Muñoz Puelles • Drawings by Eva Lánchez

Two men were speaking in a well-furnished room in a Kentucky mansion. One was Arthur Shelby, the owner of the house, and the other a slave trader.

"I can give you Tom as payment for my debts," said Shelby. "He is honest and intelligent."

Harry, a 5-year-old black boy, entered the room humming. "I have to think about my business," argued the slave trader. "I will only take on your debts if I can keep the boy, too."

Although Shelby loved his slaves, he ended up accepting the deal.



The following day, they signed the contract: a boy and a middle aged man in exchange for a piece of paper.

Shelby's wife was very upset when she found out and argued with her husband about it.

Elisa, Harry's mum, had overheard the conversation. She didn't want to be separated from her son, so she came up with a plan. She made a bundle of clothes and went to Uncle Tom's cabin to warn him that he had also been sold.

"We are going to escape. Come with us," she asked him. "I can't abandon the master, it's not his fault," explained Uncle Tom.

They said goodbye, crying.



Elisa left a letter for her husband, a person of mixed race named George Harris, who she didn't want to involve in the escape. She told him she was taking Harry to Canada, where they would be free.

The slave trader went to look for Tom. He separated him from his wife and kids, two boys and a girl, and he attached chains around his ankles.

George Shelby, the owner's son arrived at a gallop. He felt great affection for Uncle Tom and it hurt him to see him chained up.

"I promise that one day I will rescue you and I will bring you home," he told him.

