1. Record Nr. UNINA9910781451603321 Autore Keckley Elizabeth <ca. 1818-1907.> **Titolo** Behind the scenes, or, Thirty years a slave, and four years in the White House [[electronic resource] /] / by Elizabeth Keckly Pubbl/distr/stampa Chapel Hill, NC,: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Library,: distributed by University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Press, 2011 **ISBN** 979-88-908432-9-6 979-88-908433-0-2 1-4696-0290-3 0-8078-6964-3 Edizione [DocSouth Books ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (165 p.) 973.7092 Disciplina Soggetti African American women Enslaved women - United States **Dressmakers - United States** Enslaved persons - United States Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Prepared using the transcribed electronic text used in the "Documenting the American South" (DocSouth) Project. Originally published: New York: G.W. Carleton & Co., 1868. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references. ""About This Edition""; ""Summary""; ""CONTENTS.""; ""PREFACE.""; Nota di contenuto ""BEHIND THE SCENES.""; ""WHERE I WAS BORN.""; ""GIRLHOOD AND ITS SORROWS.""; ""HOW I GAINED MY FREEDOM.""; ""In the Family of Senator Jefferson Davis."": ""MY INTRODUCTION TO MRS. LINCOLN."": ""WILLIE LINCOLN'S DEATH-BED."": ""WASHINGTON IN 1862-3."": ""CANDID OPINIONS.""; ""BEHIND THE SCENES.""; ""THE SECOND INAUGURATION.""; ""THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN.""; ""MRS. LINCOLN LEAVES THE WHITE HOUSE.""; ""THE ORIGIN OF THE RIVALRY BETWEEN MR. DOUGLAS AND MR. LINCOLN.""; ""OLD FRIENDS."" ""THE SECRET HISTORY OF MRS. LINCOLN'S WARDROBE IN NEW YORK."""APPENDIX.""; ""LETTERS FROM MRS. LINCOLN TO MRS. KECKLEY.""

This is the life story of Elizabeth Keckley, a shrewd entrepreneur who, while enslaved, raised enough money to purchase freedom for herself

Sommario/riassunto

and her son. Keckley moved to Washington, D.C., where she worked as a seamstress and dressmaker for the wives of influential politicians. She eventually became a close confidante of Mary Todd Lincoln. Several years after President Lincoln's assassination, when Mrs Lincoln's financial situation had worsened, Keckley helped organize an auction of the former first lady's dresses, eliciting strong criticism from members of the Washington elite.