



## **Nuri Does Not Exist**

By Sadru Jetha

Talon Books, Canada. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Nuri Does Not Exist, Sadru Jetha, Zanzibar, an island set like a jewel in the Indian Ocean off the coast of east Africa is rich in cultural heritage: inhabited since the last Ice Age; birthplace of Kiswahili, the purest form of the Swahili language group; its original hunter-gatherer culture overlaid with Indian, Arab, Persian, Portuguese and finally British colonial and mercantile influences; and achieving its semi-autonomous independence in the bloody revolution of 1964; it remains the quintessential example of the fabled "Spice Islands." Within a swirl of profoundly different but concurrent beliefs and prejudices that seems only nominally Islam, Nuri is born and comes of age in the bosom of his multicultural family and its community. As far back as he can remember, he knows that Nuri is not his real name. His grandmother told him as a child that his real name was hidden, to -protect him from the evil spirits that lurk everywhere in search of identities to do their awful bidding. As Nuri grows older, the diction of the stories changes: from the naive voice of childhood through the selfconscious worries of adolescence; the wonder of his discovery of...



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