The Death and Life of Superman by Roger Stern

A novel about the events following the death of Superman starts with rumors about the disappearance of Supermans body after his fatal Doomsday fight and mysterious Superman sightings. 225,000 first printing. $225,000 ad/promo.

The first comic I ever read was the beginning of the Death of Superman story line. I was young, and at the time all I really knew about Superman was from the classic Donner movies. I guess I was a little lost at some of the concepts (Lex Luthor has red hair? Supergirl can shape shift??) but I stuck it out, and its still one of my favorite comic story lines. Then came this book, and although it adapts the Death and Return story line brilliantly, it does something even greater. It intersperses adaptations of other key story lines throughout, most importantly John Byrnes Man of Steel. These separate story lines are all interwoven in a way that presents fully developed three dimensional characters, and completely explains all
concepts that anyone might have difficulty with not being familiar with the comics, or Superman in general. It touches on his origin, his relationship with Lois, the characters of Luthor and Supergirl, and pulls it all off with style. This book is perfect for the long time fan, but written to be completely accessible to someone who had never heard of Superman, let alone read a comic! For my money, this is the quintessential Superman novel. Highly recommended!

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