

Captivity

György Spiró

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The epic bestseller and winner of the prestigious Aegon Literary Award in Hungary, *Captivity* is an enthralling and illuminating historical saga set in the time of Jesus about a Roman Jew on a quest to the Holy Land.

A literary sensation in Hungary, György Spiró's *Captivity* is both a highly sophisticated historical novel and a gripping page-turner. Set in the tumultuous first century A.D., between the year of Christ's death and the outbreak of the Jewish War, *Captivity* recounts the adventures of the feeble-bodied, bookish Uri, a young Roman Jew.

Frustrated with his hapless son, Uri's father sends the young man to the Holy Land to regain the family's prestige. In Jerusalem, Uri is imprisoned by Herod and meets two thieves and (perhaps) Jesus before their crucifixion. Later, in cosmopolitan Alexandria, he undergoes a scholarly and sexual awakening—but must also escape a pogrom. Returning to Rome at last, he finds an entirely unexpected inheritance.

Equal parts Homeric epic, brilliantly researched Jewish history, and picaresque adventure, *Captivity* is a dramatic tale of family, fate, and fortitude. In its weak-yet-valiant hero, fans will be reminded of Robert Graves' classics of Ancient Rome, *I, Claudius* and *Claudius the God*.



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