



## Barabbas: A Dream of the World's Tragedy

*Marie Corelli*

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## Barabbas: A Dream of the World's Tragedy Details

Date : Published August 29th 2006 by Book Jungle (first published 1892)

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Author : Marie Corelli

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## **From Reader Review Barabbas: A Dream of the World's Tragedy for online ebook**

### **Pat Elliott says**

I really enjoyed this book. I came to Marie Corelli via a free copy of The Sorrows of Satan, and have read more of hers since. Her descriptions are fabulous, I find it easy to imagine myself in the place she describes. In this book she brings to life the person of Barabbas, who was set free in place of Christ. She manages to describe Barabbas sympathetically, which is a viewpoint not often taken. She also introduces some women of the time, Judith, Mary, Ruth, and the Magdalen - and makes their stories interesting and believable. I thought the end of Barabbas was wonderful.

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### **Ralph Carlson says**

I enjoyed this book a lot more than I thought I would. I had no intention of reading it when I pulled it off my shelf to put up on ebay (I am trying to clear my shelves of books collected over many years and have never read). I read the first chapter and continued reading.

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### **Sammy says**

This is one of the best books I have read in my life. It is very insightful, revealing and informative. Marie is one of the best narrators who is able to get readers to involve themselves fully and "addicted" to her book. Though most of the things recorded aren't directly in Bible, the story told about Barabbas, Judas, Jesus are so believable to doubt. It is a great book.

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### **Dave says**

Marie Corelli tries something a bit different with her seventh novel, "Barabbas, A Dream of the World's Tragedy". Published in 1893, it is the story of the crucifixion, told (for the most part) from the perspective of Barabbas, the criminal whose life was spared while Jesus was sent to die. With her previous novels falling into two general categories, it was nice to see a different type story from her.

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On the positive side, as mentioned before, it is a different type of story than what she had written before. In addition, she wisely stays away from writing from the perspective of any of the key characters, and this is especially important when dealing with Jesus as a character. She builds an interesting story, tying in Barabbas with the key characters in a believable scenario.

There are two key weaknesses to the story as well, in my opinion. I think it was a mistake to move the narrative from Barabbas at any time in the telling of the story. Given the title she chose, it would have made more sense to stick with Barabbas, or at least have all the scenes about Barabbas, which isn't the case in this book. The other weakness is that yet again she resorts to using a mystical character, this time called Melchior, who has almost complete knowledge of all events, both which have passed and that are yet to

come.

This book is preferable to some of those which came before, largely because it is a bit different, at least in many ways, than those which came before it. It is a nice historical fiction, but at the same time it could have been done better, and so I can't go above three stars for the overall work.

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### **Sara says**

This is a hard book for me to read but I am determined to finish what I started... the language is immature and the writing style is so poor as to be almost humorous at times (when not at all intended). I don't know what I am missing- my husband and mother-in-law love this book, but I am not much caring for it. Worst of all the theology behind the writing is terrible... more to come later, perhaps...

I just finished it and have not changed my mind from the above. But, here is one quote which I liked:  
"Stained with the crime of murder, branded as a thief, and full of a thousand follies and germinating sins, what had he [Barabbas] done that he should merit all the pity and pardon that flashed upon him like a glory from the tender glance of the [just-]risen Christ! What had he done?-why, nothing in truth,-he could, he would do nothing worthy. Only a thought of love had been in his dark soul for the sorrows of the Man Crucified,-and he had shed tears for the sufferings of the holiest Innocence that ever was maligned by human malice; he had longed to understand, to know, to serve this splendid Ideal of the Ages,-and-this was all. Yet this sufficed to bring the glorious Master to his side..."

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### **Mel says**

This book was definitely going to be the test of my new found Marie Corelli Love. I wasn't really sure I wanted to read a book about the death and resurrection of Christ, but as it was listed as the first part of the trilogy that "Sorrows of Satan" was in I thought I should read it first. It started really well, Barabbas in his cell in prison facing death. Then the trial of Jesus continued and it dragged a bit, and was just a bit too close to the gospel to be that interesting. But then 100 pages in the women characters arrived and the book became great. It was like a melodramatic gothic retelling of the death and resurrection. It was almost Shakespearean in it's tragedy, and young beautiful women going totally mad. I loved the way she developed the minor "evil" characters of Barabas and Judas and made them sympathetic. The women she added Judith, Judas' sister and Pontius Pilate's wife were fantastic! Even Mary Magdalen had some really great dialogues. There was a definite commentary on the sexism in the Bible and in Jewish culture. The scenes at the cruxifixion when the storm came were very atmospheric. I was worried that the resurrection would be over the top, but it wasn't too bad, in fact Jesus came across as barely in the book, just a beautiful figure on the edge. For a book about Christ I enjoyed this more than I probably should. It was like a beautiful old painting but with so much more characterisation and gorgeous language. Now I am really looking forward to her book about Satan.

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