

WHAT IF JESUS OF NAZARETH WERE AN ORDINARY BOY ON A SPIRITUAL QUEST?

In New Novel Inspired by Ancient Scriptures, Galilean Boy Journeys Across Persia and India in Pursuit of Wisdom, Enlightenment, Love and His Alleged Destiny as a Prophet

What if Jesus of Nazareth were an ordinary boy living with his family by the backwaters in Galilee before his spiritual enlightenment?

The new novel *The Transmigrant* (July 13, 2017) by Kristi Saare Duarte re-imagines his epic life, and in particular his eighteen missing years, from this lense.

In the year 8 AD, twelve year-old Yeshua, the son of a carpenter, receives a visit from two mysterious strangers predicting that he will one day become a prophet with a message for the world. Indeed, for as long as he can remember, Yeshua has yearned to become a rabbi, proffering God's wisdom. But it is his destiny and his duty to become a carpenter like his father.

Unable to resist the urge to follow his heart, Yeshua joins a camel caravan and sets off on a thousand mile journey across the Silk Road in search of a guru to learn from. Along the way he loses his virginity to a beautiful young widow banished to a secluded convent and studies the teachings of Buddha and Krishna. Yet wherever he goes, he is tormented by a lack of recognition for the brilliance and enlightenment he feels. Upon returning home to Palestine after twenty years of wanderings and clashes with his peers, he finds himself viewed by the Romans, now in power, as a dangerous rebel.

In this vibrant, alternative take on the life of Jesus inspired by both ancient scriptures and new findings, *The Transmigrant* imagines Jesus' life during the years not mentioned in the Bible. It's a remarkable tale of spiritual awakening and a reflection on the lengths a man will go to be admired, accepted and, ultimately, loved.

Praise for *The Transmigrant*

The Transmigrant is brilliant in its simplicity of style, an inspired narrative and vibrant living tapestry that humanizes Jesus in a sensitive and delicate way, the likes of which we have not seen in religious literature since Hermann Hesse's tale of the Buddha, *Siddhartha*, or Kahlil Gibran's *The Prophet*. Well-researched and backed up with an insightful closing note from the author, this exquisite book, like the long lost scrolls of Russian explorer Nicolas Notovitch, places "Yeshua" in India during the eighteen "Missing Years," offering a detailed alternative history for the open-minded reader.

--Paul Davids, writer, producer and director of *Jesus in India: The Movie* (NBCUniversal)

Kristi Saare Duarte's vivid narrative deploys the methods of fiction to get at a truth about Jesus that history too often ignores. He was raised within the land and traditions of Israel, and became the central figure in the worship of the Church, but Jesus' horizons were broader than Judaism or

Christianity. Jesus felt, explored, and articulated connections between humanity and the divine, and among human beings, in a way that has never been matched. By de-centering the geography of Jesus' development, *The Transmigrant* uncovers the emotional substratum of religious genius.

--Professor Bruce Chilton, author of *Rabbi Jesus: An Intimate Biography*; *Rabbi Paul: An Intellectual Biography*; *Mary Magdalene: A Biography*; and *Abraham's Curse: The Roots of Violence in Judaism, Christianity and Islam*

About the Author

An Estonian national raised in Sweden and a seasoned world traveler, Kristi Saare Duarte (www.kristisaareduarte.com) has lived in Sweden, England, Estonia, Spain, and Peru and has spent time in over 70 countries across 6 continents. She is fluent English, Spanish, Swedish and Estonian. By day, Kristi is a consultant relations professional in the financial services industry and has worked in the fields of healthcare management, advertising, and finance. She is also a trained Reiki healer and spiritual channel. She lives in New York City with her husband.

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