



The Castle of Crossed Destinies

By Italo Calvino



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A series of short, fantastic narratives inspired by fifteenth-century tarot cards and their archetypical images. Full-color and black-and-white reproductions of tarot cards. Translated by William Weaver.A Helen and Kurt Wolff Book



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The Castle of Crossed Destinies By Italo Calvino Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Review

Semiotic fantasy novel by Italo Calvino, published in Italian in 1973 as II castello dei destini incrociati. It consists of a series of short tales gathered into two sections, *The Castle of Crossed Destinies* and *The Tavern of Crossed Destinies*. The novel concerns two groups of travelers through a forest, both of which have lost the power to speak as the result of traumatic events. One group is spending the night in a tavern, the other in a castle. In each place, the travelers tell the stories of their lives, using tarot cards instead of words. A narrator at each place interprets the cards for the reader, but since the tarot cards are subject to multiple interpretations, the stories the narrators offer are not necessarily the stories intended by the mute storytellers. -- *The Merriam-Webster Encylopedia of Literature*

Language Notes

Text: English, Italian (translation)

About the Author

ITALO CALVINO (1923–1985) attained worldwide renown as one of the twentieth century's greatest storytellers. Born in Cuba, he was raised in San Remo, Italy, and later lived in Turin, Paris, Rome, and elsewhere. Among his many works are *Invisible Cities*, *If on a winter's night a traveler*, *The Baron in the Trees*, and other novels, as well as numerous collections of fiction, folktales, criticism, and essays. His works have been translated into dozens of languages.

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this The Castle of Crossed Destinies.

Johanna Land:

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