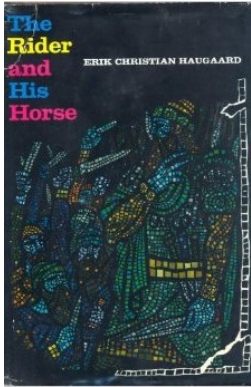


1988 Phoenix Award Winner

The Rider and His Horse

by Erik Christian Haugaard

(Houghton Mifflin, 1968)



Shrewd and observant David Ben Joseph, 14, the son of a rich Jewish wine merchant of Tyre, becomes involved in the aftermath of the Roman sack of Jerusalem and in events surrounding the Roman siege and capture of the Hebrew-held fortress, the Masada, in 73 A.D. Vivid scene follows vivid scene as David grows in understanding of self and the world around him and clarifies his values. Understatement and economy of words intensify the drama of this account of a dark period in world history and underscore the book's themes of the futility of war and heroics and of the triumph of the human spirit.