

Captive

Aimee Carter

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But in the midst of discovering that her role in the Hart family may not be as coincidental as she thought, she's accused of treason and is forced to face her greatest fear: Elsewhere. A prison where no one can escape.

As one shocking revelation leads to the next, Kitty learns the hard way that she can trust no one, not even the people she thought were on her side. With her back against the wall, Kitty wants to believe she'll do whatever it takes to support the rebellion she believes in—but is she prepared to pay the ultimate price?

Captive Details

Date : Published November 25th 2014 by Harlequin Teen

ISBN: 9780373211289 Author: Aimee Carter

Format: Hardcover 299 pages

Genre: Science Fiction, Dystopia, Young Adult, Romance



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From Reader Review Captive for online ebook

Shannon (It Starts At Midnight) says

Well, this series continues to surprise me! I didn't expect to love *Pawn*, and I did. I expected a bit of a sequel slump, and there certainly isn't one. *Captive* was absolutely as action-packed and horrifying as its predecessor. The story does take a few chapters to really take off, but I was fine with that because I appreciated the little snippets of recap (they were placed well, it didn't *feel* like a recap, but it definitely did the trick!) to help me refamiliarize myself with Kitty's world.

The Good:

Change of location. I was really glad to see the book leave Hotel Hart and take us to the hell that is "Elsewhere". And this place is *bad*. Yes, I know it was expected to be awful, but nope, Aimee Carter took it to a whole new level of evil. I did not see a lot of the twists surrounding Elsewhere coming, which was really great in itself. And reading about the history, the people, their lives... it was so worth it.

The plot. Yes, the plot was very fast paced, very anticipatory. Lots of twists, and lots of trying to figure out who were the "good guys", trying to figure out who was even *who* (if you've read *Pawn*, you know that masking is very shady business, and *Captive* takes it to a new level). I had no idea. Maybe I still don't. Guess I have to wait to find out!

The new characters. Not even the characters themselves, because Kitty is quite frustrating sometimes, but just all the new people that are introduced. It makes for a really strong book, because you'll find yourself in sincere empathy one minute, and abhorrence the next. There are a lot of characters to feel for, and a *lot* of characters to hate, and it makes for a book chock full of suspense.

Kitty and Knox. I enjoy them, I do. Even though Kitty is mind numbingly frustrating at times, she really is caring and loyal and has a lot of good qualities. It is easy to root for her. As for Knox, I have just always enjoyed his character. I love his frustration with Kitty, especially in the beginning of the book when she is refusing to listen to him. They argue like an eighty year old couple, and I find it fun. Of course, Knox is all over the place in this book, and I was never sure if he was trustworthy after a certain point. I *think* I know where he stands now, but come on, there's another book, anything can happen!

The "Meh" (Because none of it was bad):

Benjy. Oh Benjy, why you here? Seriously, Benjy is one of the most useless characters I have come across. I feel exactly nothing toward him. I almost wished I hated him, because at least there'd be *some* emotional stirrage. I get that Kitty has known him forever but there is no chemistry, just familiarity.

Kitty earns her III. Seriously, I know why homegirl didn't get higher on her test now, because she does some *really* dumb stuff under pressure. Likely just as she did on her test, because *wow*. I mean, I know some people freeze up in the heat of the moment, can't make decisions, make the wrong ones, etc., but she has to get it together if she is going to save *anyone*, herself included.

Bottom Line: Very good as a book, *great* as a sequel. I absolutely can't wait for *Queen* based on the events of this book.

This review was originally posted on It Starts at Midnight

Anna Luce says

26/11/13

waiting impatiently patiently for the release

Irmak says

Kitap tam olarak 'ya yine ne oluyor, bu nerden ç?kt? ?imdi, hadi can?m' kategorisinde bir kitapt? benim için. ?lk kitaptan daha dolu, daha entrikal?, daha atraksiyonlu geçti?i de bir gerçek. Kitap boyunca o kadar çok ?ey oluyor ki birisinin etkisi geçmeden öbürü geliyor ve sizi ?ok olmu? halde b?rak?yor. Ortaya ç?kan s?rlar, herkesin kimseye söylemeden tek ba??na kahramanl??a kalk??mas? ço?u zaman ölümün k?y?s?nda gezmelerine sebep oldu. Her an hah i?te ?imdi öldüler, i?te ?imdi her ?ey bitti dedim.

Knox bu seride en çok ilgimi çeken karakter. Resmen sa? gösterip sol vurdu. 'Sen benimle dalga m? geçiyorsun' diye ba??rd?ktan sonra 'oha' dedirtti bana. Ve kitap boyunca bu hislerin aras?nda gittim geldim çünkü Knox sevgilim asla tahmin edilemiyordu :')

Knox ile Kitty art?k birlikte olabilir mi? Lütfen ama. Bu seride bundan daha fazla istedi?im bir ?ey yok benim. Evet Benjy çok tatl?, mutlulu?u hak ediyor ama kimse kusura bakmas?n Kitty'nin adam? Knox. Ve birlikte olmal?lar. Yoksa yazardan nefret edece?im. Üstelik Benjy de mutlu olacak inan?yorum. Bakars?n?z Val ile yakalar bu mutlulu?u. A??r shipliyorum ikisini, sonra demedi demeyin:')

Ve Kitty. Kitap boyunca a?z?na a?z?na vurmak istedim. Salak salak hatalar yapmaya doymuyor bu k?z. Bir otur Knox'u dinle dimi. Ama yok asi ruhu söz dinlemiyor, her zaman ba??n? bir derde sokmay? beceriyor. Tebrikler bebe?im.

Ne yapaca??na karar verene kadar beni de çatlatt? Kitty. Bir kalcam diyor bir gitcem diyor. Ama her seferinde ya kalmaktan ya gitmekten vazgeçiyor ve salak saçma i?lere kalk???yor. Bu k?z?n ruhunda var bu napal?m onu da böyle sevdik.

Kitab?n konusuna girmeyece?im çünkü seri devam? neden gireyim ki :') Amaaa Piyon'dan kat kat daha iyi oldu?unu söyleyebilirim. Resmen üçüncü kitab? okumak için kendimi paralayaca??m çünkü efsane bir yerde bitti. Allahtan Ocak'ta geliyor üçüncü kitap yoksa buna dayanamayabilirdim.

Ve içinizde hala Piyon'u da okumam?? olan varsa ko?sun als?n okusun. Son zamanlarda okudu?um en iyi distopik seri diyebilirim. Ve i?in en güzel yan? da okurken sizi asla yormuyor. Ak?p gidiyor.

Okuyamad???m bu dönemde bana ilaç gibi geldi. Seviyorum seni Aimee Carter. Ama dedi?im gibi Kitty ve Knox olmazsa aram?zdaki sevgiyi unut.

Nasty Lady MJ says

To see review with gifs click here.

If it wasn't for Kitty and her stupid taste in ships, this book would get a fairly high rating.

The world building is more than a little interesting. Though the caste set up is a little cliche for YA dystopias, I like the twists and little quirks that Carter gives it.

Okay, it's true that some of the twists and turns of the plot go into soap opera territory, but for the most part it really works. Well in fact. I liked the fact that it was over the top. I think this was in part because Carter embraced the soap opera-ness of the plot.

If it wasn't embraced...well, that aspect of the book wouldn't work.

Now, I have to go into what bothered me about this book.

Kitty.

Kitty. Kitty. Kitty.

It seems she lost her brain and then some in this installment. To be honest, I was never terribly fond of this character, but rather than growing on me like I hoped she would, she did the opposite.

That's sad on so many levels.

I think what bothered me the most about Kitty was that every stupid decision had absolutely no logic to back it up. If anything, it just served as a plot point. This character really had no sense of self preservation whatsoever.

I understand having a character make rash decisions to move the plot forward, but I do believe there should be some element of logic to it. Here, I did not see the logic. Kitty just was dumb and acted dumb, despite being warned.

In a lot of ways, this is similar to Carter's earlier series, The Goddess Test. In that series, I felt that the character was a lot different in the later books of the series than in the beginning. Some of the choices that the character made were so flabbergastingly stupid that it ruined the series for me.

The one good thing about Captive is that it had such a strong plot, that Kitty's actions didn't quite ruin the book for me. But it was close.

I just had to keep reminding myself that she was just a plot device.

And after awhile, it just got a little eye roll worthy.

Kitty's stupidity aside, the only one problem I had with this book was its ship.

It bores me.

I'm sorry.

Benjy-that name, I always think of that cute little terrier not a hunky ginger- is so dull, I can not really get a sense of what his character is other than a Kitty lusting object.

He's a lot like Henry (the hero in Carter's other series).

Isn't it odd that I keep comparing these two series? But I do think their faults are so similar

It's really sad that I want Kitty with the douche end of the supposed triangle-well, calling it a triangle might be a bit of a stretch. The thing is, at least The Douche (Knox for those of you not up on the MJ lingo) is an actual character who has faults. I think the best way to describe him is that he's a bit like Batman. In the fact, that he sometimes acts like an emotionless douche in the quest for justice.

That's sort of how Knox is.

And like Batman, every decision he makes (even if it's douchey and stupid, is for the common good). And okay, it sort of makes him an intriguing character. But even though I want Kox more than Bitty, well, I'll admit it really wouldn't work.

It would be like Harley Quinn getting together with Batman.

Though, come to think of it Harley is a lot smarter than Kitty.

The point is, I just don't see it happening. Even though he's a far superior character than Hot Ginger.

Much like with Carter's first series, the second installment of The Blackcoat rebellion, is a bit of a disappointment. While the world building in this series might've been an improvement from her last series, the poor characterizations that made The Goddess Test series fail for me continue to exist here.

Jilly says

I am so torn on how to rate this book. If the author was setting out to write the most annoying, stupid, childish character that I hate more than anything, this book gets a 5. But, I don't think that was her intention.

I knew I was a dog person for a reason. I freaking hate Kitty. She is a total dumbass. Every decision she makes is like a two year old who does the opposite just to be spiteful while having no real knowledge to base her decisions on. She refuses to trust Knox in spite of everything he has done for her. She is constantly getting people hurt and killed. This girl is truly one of the stupidest characters in fiction.

The only saving factor for this book is the story, which is exciting, and all of the side characters. Hannah is a great addition, and I still love Knox. Poor old Benjy. What can I say? For scoring a 6, he doesn't seem that bright himself for sticking with an obvious moron.

Marcia says

[Trouwens: de seks-scène in dit boek was echt hilarisch; en een goed uitstapje tussendoor alle actie ;) (hide spoiler)]

Taschima says

Demi says

This series would seriously be fantastic if not for two things:

- 1.) Benjy and Kitty's relationship. It's so unbelievably bland. I mean, I'm told about how great a love they have and blah, blah but that's all. I'm just told about it but I've never been given reason as to why their love story is even worth telling. So the grew up together, that's not really interesting. Also, it's so awkward. And they're both so hung up on sex at random moments, like chill, we kinda have other things we should be worrying about other than the two of you getting to do it. (view spoiler)
- 2.)Kitty's goddamn repetitiveness. Not once in this entire novel did she do as she promised she would. And every single time she screwed Knox over. Sure, she's allowed to make mistakes and act selfishly every now and then but literally did it the *entire novel*. It's so unbelievably frustrating. And to be quite honest, she can be a big hyprocrite too. She blames Knox for everything that has gone wrong in her life and for not trusting her when she never even proves to be truthworty. How can she not understand that he is trying to actually change the world and how he can't just let her spill all of his secrets? She has really unfair judgement to him especially considering he's the only character in this god-forsaken series who's actually Getting Shit Done.

But other than that this series has actually really interesting and developed plotlines.

It just really lacks in character development and relationships. I was able to mostly ignore this is Pawn, but it became such a glaring problem in Captive that it really ruined the book for me. Knox is the only character is has serious development and a clear and true purpose with this series. Despite his privilege, he really truly wants to change the world for the better, even if he has to make some morally ambiguous decisions in order to achieve it every now and then. Kitty, our supposed protagonist, actually really is no more than a pawn in all of this (even if she feels the need to state otherwise every freaking chapter). The only change she has made within this series thus far, the only relevant things she has actually done, have all been by Knox's direction. She read all of the speeches because Knox encouraged her to. She killed Augusta because Knox had to give her the incentive. (view spoiler) Honestly, literally any girl could take Kitty's place and nothing would change. Except maybe if it had been a different girl, this girl wouldn't be so intent on fucking everything up all the time.

And what's stupid is Kitty's lack of regard for anyone else but her and Benjy. I'm supposed to believe that she cares about the rest of humanity when she is always so quick to run away from everything just so she can be with her boyfriend? If she really cared she would actually listen to Knox for once and not intentionally keep secrets and go behind his back just so she can have blackmail.

The only thing that makes Kitty even ounce relevant to this entire story is the fact that she was masked to look like Lila (view spoiler)

What I'm basically saying is this series would have been better off just being written in Knox's point of view. Basically.

Meredith says

Captive was a crazy, intense book with one "Oh, crap!" moment after the next. While I enjoyed Pawn, I had several issues with it, so I was uncertain about moving forward with the series. But I'm so, so glad I did! Captive kept me on the edge of my seat and refused to stop messing with my head until the very last page.

I'm still really not a fan of Kitty. In Pawn, she was boring and passive, which was bad. But in Captive, she either said she wanted to help, then backed out and refused at the last minute OR she tried to take matters into her own hands - and that got her into a LOT of trouble. Seriously, I get that it's hard for her to trust people, but every time she opened her mouth or tried to "help," she ended up getting someone killed or she ruined a perfectly-crafted plan. I just wanted to grab her, shake her and smack her. Not necessarily in that order. I definitely think she matured a lot by the end of Captive, but she still has a long way to go.

I'm still not a fan of Benjy as a love interst, either. I usually go for the "best friend" or the "underdog" in love triangles, but I just can't see them together. I really can't. When I picture them, I really do just see him as her friend and nothing more. I still ship Kitty and Knox. Knox was... frustrating in this book, though. Oh, man, was I annoyed with him.. I don't quite remember Knox and Kitty hating each other that much in Pawn, but they sure were at each other's throats in Captive. Their batter was, at times, hilarious. At other times, it was frustrating beyond belief. But the way things ended...

We met a lot of new characters in Captive. Some that stood out were Scotia, Noelle, Mercer and Hannah, to name a few. It's REALLY hard to discuss these characters without spoilers, though. I will say this: those I thought were trust-worthy, weren't - and those that I didn't trust, surprised me. If that makes sense without being too spoilery. I think that was my biggest issue with Captive.. It was very back-and-forth with the "Trust this person.. No, don't... Actually, you can.. Wait, never mind, don't." It made me dizzy. Some of the fake-outs annoyed me, too - There were just too many of them! When you read the book (cause you should), you'll know what I mean.

Despite my annoyance with all the deception and lies, I will say that those deceptions and lies kept me on my toes and constantly wondering/guessing/cursing. I had the worst time figuring out who to trust and who would be revealed as a traitor. Everything Kitty did, everyone she spoke to, I was leery that she was putting her trust in the wrong person - and she did, several times...

Elsewhere was brutal. More brutal than we were led to believe in Pawn. When I say this book was intense, I mean it. And the sections in Elsewhere were the most intense. It was just an epic bloodbath - which, honestly, was sad but realistic. In most YA books that deal with revolutions and over-throwing governments, everyone miraculously gets out alive. Sometimes, there are small casualties with secondary characters, but not with anyone we've grown to like or love. But Aimee Carter didn't hold back at all in Captive and people - even ones you wouldn't expect - were killed and sacrificed. My heart still aches for some of those loses.

The most important thing with Captive? It never felt like Second Book Syndrome. Only once, for one small section of the book. Otherwise, it was crazy good - better than Pawn - and full of intense action and craziness. And the revelations.. Holy crap, the second half of the book was so riddled with revelations and shocking twists, I could barely turn a page without being shocked and surprised. There were several revelations, especially, that I'm very excited to see unfold in the next book.

Despite some issues I had with Captive, I'm really glad I read it. While Pawn was enjoyable, Captive was epic. I'm so glad I didn't give up on this series and I'm really excited to see what happens in the third and

final book, Queen - though 2015 is a long way off! I have no idea how I'll make it to 2015!

So yeah, if you couldn't tell, I definitely recommend Captive! If you haven't read Pawn, I say go for it! Binge Pawn and Captive! And if you read Pawn and were unsure if you wanted to continue on with the series, I highly recommend you give Captive a chance. It might surprise you!

You can also find more from me on my blog: Pandora's Books

Trish at Between My Lines says

This review was originally posted on Between My Lines

Pawn was my favourite dystopian book of 2013 and I couldn't wait to dive into Captive. I don't think it was quite as shocking as I was anticipating the twists but I still really enjoyed it. My quick summary of this book is I loved the pace and the action but I wasn't overly attached to the characters (apart from Kitty).

First Line of Captive by Aimee Carter

"Somewhere nearby, Benjy was waiting for me."

Things I loved about Captive:

The political intrigue! I never knew who to trust so I decided to trust no one which was maybe a move Kitty should have considered. Even now two books in I still KNOW there will be shocks ahead in this series. I love that I'm kept guessing and that the characters are experts at ducking and diving through lots of plot twists.

Kitty AKA Fake Lila: I can't deny Kitty is a little naive and should be a little more wary when it comes to letting her guard down. But I still admire her so much. She is a fighter and willing to stand up for what she believes in no matter what the consequences. She is also doggedly loyal and I love that she doesn't allow herself to be used no matter how much those around her want to do just that. Plus she is pretty flawed between being indecisive and a little innocent but that only makes her even more rounded. I'm a fan!

The pace! It's relentless. There are changes of setting, new characters, a battle, conspiracy theories and lots more to keep you on your toes. I read it over a 24 hour period as I just raced through it.

Elsewhere: What a setting. It is horrifically brutal and a pretty rotten place to be a captive as life is considered worthless there.

The sex scene: I thought it was refreshingly honest and was one of the few times where I was happy about Kitty and Benjy being together. It felt sweet and a little embarrassing to read about which seemed appropriate.

Somethings that I didn't love so much about Captive:

The bland romance. I had this issue in book one and I still have it here. I just don't get the feels from Kitty

and Benjy. I feel like I'm being told that they love each other but I can't buy into it, they feel boring and settled and I definitely get more of a friends vibe of them. Now Kitty and Knox, I think there might be sparks there!

The history: We still don't get enough detail on how this world developed. It is eluded to but not really explained as to how people bought into such a horrific have and have-nots society. The world building is full of originality but I'd love to see this addressed and developed in book 3.

Overall this is a very readable dystopian series. I really like Aimee's style of writing and the fast and furious pace of the book. And I'm normally more of a fan of character driven books but all the twists here keep me invested. I can't wait to see what happens in the next book.

Who should read Captive by Aimee Carter?

I'd recommend this series to fans of YA dystopian novels especially if you like them full of originality and twists. Fans of the The Progam by Suzanne Young or The Jewel by Amy Ewing should also like this one.

Thanks to NetGalley and Harlequin UK for giving me a copy of this book in exchange for an honest, unbiased review.

Monica Haak says

Oké. Vorige deel vond ik weinig aan, dit deel is juist weer heel goed! YAY

Renata says

Muuuuy flojo, hasta demasiado. El primer libro de esta trilogía me gustó, habían ciertas cosas que fallaron pero me pareció interesante pero con la segunda parte siento que ha caído, tanto los personajes como demasiado dramático todo (innecesario) además las cosas que pasaban eran predecibles. Voy a leer el último libro de la trilogía pero solo para saber que pasa con la revolución y que consigue hacer la protagonista.

Alyssa says

Review posted on The Eater of Books! blog

Captive by Aimee Carter

Book Two of the Blackcoat Rebellion series

Publisher: Harlequin TEEN

Publication Date: November 25, 2014

Rating: 3 stars

Source: eARC from NetGalley

Summary (from Goodreads):

For the past two months, Kitty Doe's life has been a lie. Forced to impersonate the Prime Minister's niece, her frustration grows as her trust in her fake fiancé cracks, her real boyfriend is forbidden and the Blackcoats keep her in the dark more than ever.

But in the midst of discovering that her role in the Hart family may not be as coincidental as she thought, she's accused of treason and is forced to face her greatest fear: Elsewhere. A prison where no one can escape.

As one shocking revelation leads to the next, Kitty learns the hard way that she can trust no one, not even the people she thought were on her side. With her back against the wall, Kitty wants to believe she'll do whatever it takes to support the rebellion she believes in—but is she prepared to pay the ultimate price?

What I Liked:

This book was... interesting. As far as sequels go, it was okay, and definitely functioned well as a sequel. It extended the plot of the series, and raised the stakes, and ended kind of crazily. I don't think it was as good as the first book, but I enjoyed the ride, can't wait to read the final novel.

Kitty wants to do more for the Rebellion, but Knox has been holding her back. When she is caught in a precarious position by Daxton, she is taken to Elsewhere, which is basically like modern-day jail with insane practices. There is a cage where two people who have broken rules fight to the death. The place is dangerous, and so are the people in charge (like wardens). Kitty has been given special privileges to live with the Mercers (wardens), but she refuses. No where is safe and no one can be trusted - so how will Kitty help the Rebellion?

Things in this book didn't really start to get crazy until Kitty was taken to Elsewhere. Then, I was really hooked. It takes a while to get to this point, which is one of the reasons why I gave this one three stars. But once Kitty gets into Elsewhere, I wanted to know how she would escape (obviously, she has to escape), where Benjy was, how Knox fit into everything, what secrets Kitty's past held... so much to be discovered!

Carter definitely raised the stakes in this novel. We find out that Kitty's Masking into Lila was no random act. Kitty's past is significant, and she was not chosen randomly. We find out who really sides with who, who betrays who, who can be trusted. Even in the ending, I was still skeptical of certain people and their alliances.

I like Kitty a lot in this book. She is put into awful situations, especially in Elsewhere, and yet, she holds it together and finds a way to get what she wants, to stay sane, to fight. I liked what Carter did with the romance - in book one, I was worried about a love triangle, but I don't REALLY see one happening... not really.

Overall, this was a good sequel novel! Some things bothered me, so keep reading!

What I Did Not Like:

It took a while for me to warm up to this one. Kitty was sent to Elsewhere - that's when I sat up and took notice. But it took some time to get there, so I was a bit bored in the beginning. I seriously wanted to put the book down and take a nap.

Towards the end, I wasn't entirely sure why Kitty froze up like she did, and didn't shoot, um, certain people. It's not like an execution, where she has the duty to shoot someone. No, she's hiding somewhere, and watching a man hurt someone she cares about... why not just shoot him? Why stare at the scene in the shadows, when it's him, the person, and Kitty? You have a pretty good chance to hitting him, and rescuing the person. Why didn't she think to do so?!

The new setting (Elsewhere) was cool, but it really shut out what was happening in the outside world. This is where dual perspectives could have come in handy... alas.

Finally, I didn't like this one as much as I liked book one, and I gave book one four stars, so this one is getting three stars. If that makes sense.

Would I Recommend It:

If you enjoyed book one, then you'll enjoy this one for sure! It's a good sequel, and I have no regrets - it was definitely worth the time. I want to read on! Too bad the next book won't be out for another year.

Rating:

3.5 stars -> rounded down to 3 stars. Not bad! Hopefully the conclusion to this trilogy is seriously epic. I can't wait!!

Ai Haibara says

Knox and Kitty.

özlem says

[Hannah'n?n Kitty'nin annesi oldu?unu son anda ö?renmesine mi, Knox'un Kitty'i sevdi?ini anlamas?na m?, Benjy'le ili?kilerinin olamayaca??n? sevi?tiklerinden sonra anlamalar?na m?, gerçek Daxton'?n Kitty'nin babas? oldu?una m?, Kitty'nin saf bir Hart oldu?una m? yoksa, art?k iki tane Lil