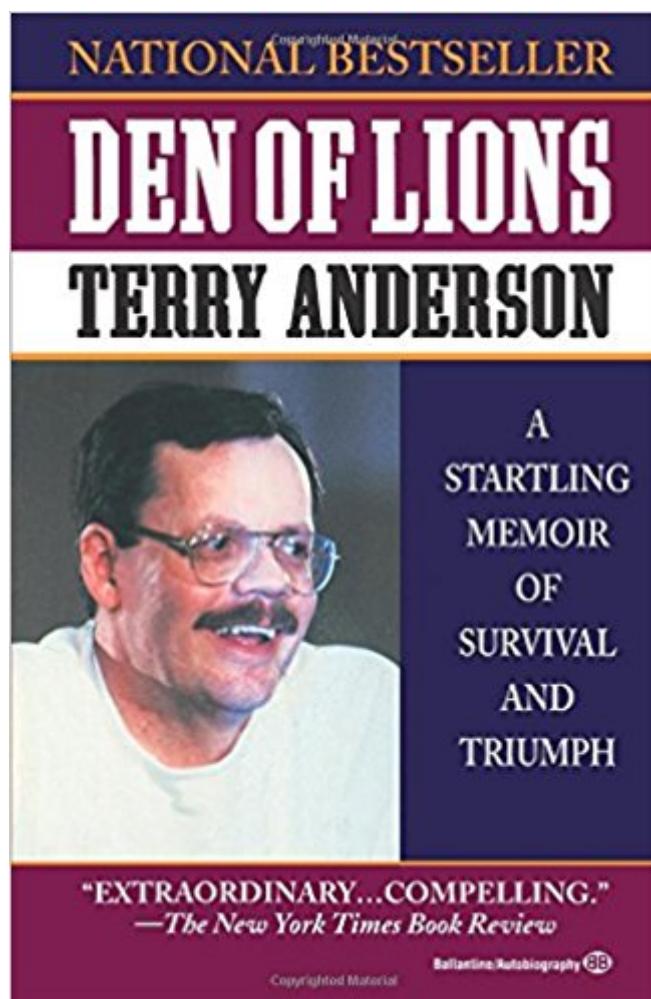


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Den Of Lions: A Startling Memoir Of Survival And Triumph



Synopsis

"Belongs on the shelf of classics about surviving degradation with dignity and even humor." Time In March 1985, Terry Anderson was swept up in the violent conflict of a turbulent era. At the mercy of Shiite captors for nearly seven years, he lived in chains, wondering fearfully if each day would be his last. But his spirit soared beyond captivity, and he never gave up. Nor did those who loved him. And now, a free man again, he tells the harrowing and poignant story of a hostage's survival and final triumph. From the Paperback edition.

Book Information

Paperback: 448 pages

Publisher: Ballantine Books (March 1, 1995)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0345467922

ISBN-13: 978-0345467928

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.9 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (4 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,227,612 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #99 inÂ Books > History > Middle East > Lebanon #499 inÂ Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Reference & Collections #934 inÂ Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Historical > Middle East

Customer Reviews

Journalist Terry Anderson (born 1947) describes his long ordeal as a hostage of Shite Muslims in Lebanon from 1985-1991. Anderson was kidnapped off the street one day in March 1985, and was destined to spend much of the next six years chained, blind-folded, and sitting on a mattress in a locked room guarded by captors that ranged from hate-filled to occasionally sympathetic. Along the way Anderson describes his increased (Catholic) faith, his regrets for past disgressions, and trying to cope with boredom and extreme emotional distress. Imagine his reaction as he heard fellow captive William Buckley being killed in the next room. At least Anderson was not alone through his long ordeal; he was often imprisoned in the same room with Father Lawrence Martin Jenco, Terry Waite, Tom Sutherland, Ben Weir, and a couple other hostages. We also hear from his fiance Madeleine, who waited, prayed, and raised their daughter Sulome alone - who finally met her daddy when she was six. Then there are tidbits of news and events (Iran-Contra Scandal, The Gulf War, Fall of Soviet Communism) the captives learned of through magazines, radio, and TV - when they

were allowed access to these. This is a very moving story of life as a prisoner, ranking with such top-level books as THE FIXER, NIGHT, PRISONER WITHOUT A NAME CELL WITHOUT A NUMBER, etc. Readers might also enjoy Father Jenco's BOUND TO FORGIVE and Terry Waite's TAKEN ON TRUST. At this writing, Anderson is semi-retired with his wife in Ohio, and has been variously involved as journalist, candidate for state legislature, blues bar operator, and college teacher. This is a powerful, readable, moving story.

I rather tired of Waite's love declarations and his accounting of his renewed spirituality, but it does provide his personal perspective on the whole sordid affair.

I recommend Den of Lions: A Startling Memoir of Survival and Triumph for certain groups of readers. For anyone who was alive during the '80s and '90s and remembers this event unfolding in the news, I recommend this book. For anyone who's a student of current events and who wonders what's in the mind of such people as recently murdered photojournalist James Foley, I recommend this book. For Christians who grapple with the concept of faith, The Holy Spirit and why God allows bad things to happen to good-- and bad-- people, I recommend this book. For folks who love poetry and want to understand how poems spring from the events of a poet's life, I recommend this book. Reading this book changed my life. And, actually, I recommend Den of Lions: A Startling Memoir of Survival and Triumph to just about everybody.

When a man is chained to a wall for 7 years the days run together. It's a good book but there are other prisoner memoirs that are better.

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