

***Christ the Lord:
Out of Egypt***
by Anne Rice

January 2006

**Book
of the
Month**

Scott Engle

Anne Rice is brave if nothing else. This is the story of Jesus at eight – as told by Jesus! I enjoy Anne Rice’s writing, but I came to the novel pretty skeptical. To my surprise, I very much enjoyed it. She makes no bones about being a devout Christian and lays out her approach to the historical research in an appendix. She found her way to some reliable New Testament scholars, notably N.T. Wright.

She does a good job of giving you a sense of what it was like in Judea and Galilee in Jesus’ day. But the parts I liked best were the interiors – what was going on in Jesus’ mind as a young boy. Ms. Rice is Catholic so she has to account for the Catholic belief in Mary’s perpetual virginity. She also moves a few events and dates around to suit her purposes. But don’t let all that put you off. This novel will certainly give you much to ponder and discuss.

Scott

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