

Novels, 1970-1982 /

Bellow, Saul

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Monografía

Humboldt's Gift depicts the deep and troubled friendship between the tormented poet Von Humboldt Fleisher and the renowned writer Charlie Citrine. Humboldt has died in squalid obscurity, but for Citrine the memory of their earlier days persists as counterpoint to a middle age studded with difficulties: a messy divorce, a demanding mistress, and the attentions of a Chicago hoodlum who claims that Charlie has cheated him. Writing of the book's "rich and suggestive" narrative voice, Sven Birkerts observes, "There is a feeling when reading this novel that a tightly rolled sultan's carpet has splashed open before our eyes."

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