



Talks with a Devil

P.D. Ouspensky, J.G. Bennett (Translator)

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Ouspensky has written two stories: "The Inventor" -- an allegory of a modern person faced with the consequences of the miracles of science and technology -- a devilish technology, and "The Benevolent Devil" -- a story that takes place in Ceylon where a young man determines to do battle for his soul -- of course with the "devil!"

Talks with a Devil Details

Date : Published March 1st 2000 by Weiser Books (first published 1972)

ISBN : 9781578631643

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Format : Paperback 176 pages

Genre : Fiction, Philosophy, Short Stories, Psychology

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From Reader Review Talks with a Devil for online ebook

Murali says

Two wonderful metaphorical tales
A quick read

Simonida says

The devil, one of your lifetime companions whose opinion and perhaps good advice is rarely heard or discussed, but in most cases is indeed blindly followed...

Jimmy Pedersen says

Really liked the first story (The inventor), gave some food for thought! The second one wasn't at good, but still a good story!

Erchichi says

An exciting read that challenges the reader to rethink notions of human conception and mortality. There's also an interesting tale for the ideas of human perceptions and how we understand good and evil, in making our personal choices in life.

A good choice for philosophy and spirituality as it is an unbiased take to the above notions (of good and evil) while still exploiting upon the understandable analogies found in religious texts that we take for granted.

Ricardo Argiles says

A man want be a inventor and than he invented automatic pistol to kill lots of people. good job say The devil!

Gregory says

Only read once, looking forward to the second reading too. I'm on a different track of thinking somewhat now tho. Read this a bout a year or two ago. Great material to think on.

Faz says

I just wany read

Ashish says

I don't know what to make of this book. It is barely comprehensible to me. Mr. O continues to baffle me.

Scot says

Two allegorical tales by Ouspensky that are based on Eastern European and Sri Lankan folk tales about the devil. The underlying theme is the devil as a stand-in for materialism, keeping us connected to the external world and fearing our escape from it to the path of spirit and the inner world.

The first tale, "The Inventor" follows a man who knows there is more to this world than the mundane, yet he chooses to try to escape it by making a lot of money and the devil is by his side (unbeknownst to him) the entire time. His invention has disastrous consequences to the world which he somehow loses sight of.

The second tale was based on Ouspensky's travels in Ceylon (Sri Lanka) and is a dialogue between the narrator and a devil in which the devil explains and then shows him what he and his kin do in order to keep people connected to matter. There is a very interesting re-telling of the story of Adam and Eve included for anyone that is interested in exploring a deeper look at its meaning.
