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A gripping novel that brilliantly blend ancient prophecy with vivid, complex characters, Millennium Rising is a chillingly plausible thriller that will forever haunt your dreams . . .

For thousands of years, sacred texts have predicted the end of the world. The prophets have always proved false. Until now. For in a small Mexican village, people flock from all over the planet to witness a miraculous visitation. But twenty-four of them receive a message that is far more personal . . . and horrific: the Day of Judgment is at hand.

Father Michele Deauchez, sent by the Vatican to investigate, finds his faith shaken to the core. New York Times reporter Simon Hill smells a Pulitzer in the making. Especially when the portents foretold in the Book of Revelations begin to come true, one by one.

The end of the world. Is it a case of mass hysteria . . . a devious, far-reaching plot . . . or has God truly spoken?

Judgment Day Details

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Download and Read Free Online Judgment Day Jane Jensen , Shelly Shapiro (Editor)

From Reader Review Judgment Day for online ebook

Keith Davis says

Could someone actually fake the apocalypse, and could they have a good reason to try? A young Italian priest is sent by the Vatican to Mexico to investigate a Marian apparition and becomes involved with a diverse group of religious visionaries from around the world who are all prophesying the immanent end of the world.

Rae says

I rather enjoyed this novel in spite of its silliness. I especially enjoyed the information on how the Vatican goes about investigating cases of stigmata and visitations from Mary.

John says

Amazing end-of-the-world story-telling from a relatively unknown writer. Ok, so it's arguably not as "spiritual" as, say, the Left Behind series, but it's at least ten times better in every other respect--plus, it covers the entire apocalypse in a single volume. Feels like a cross between Michael Crichton and Umberto Eco. It's not perfect--it's a tad too long, and the ending is a little weak--but Jane Jensen delivers here one of the most ambitious, assured debut novels I've ever read. Ok, maybe it's not technically her "debut novel," but since the only other things she'd previously written were a couple of video game adaptations (she was the creator of the popular Gabriel Knight computer game series)I feel the term "debut" rings true enough. It starts out a little slow, so impatient readers beware. But I couldn't put it down after a couple hundred pages or so. If life were fair, I think this book would be stealing a lot of the hype from writers like Dan Brown. This is take-no-prisoners fiction with a wide range of unique, evolving characters and lots of unexpected surprises.

Shaunalyn Disney says

It's the apocalypse! or an elaborate diabolical conspiracy? Either way it's a dark commentary on modern times and revisionist history.

Lisa Lilly says

Despite not being religious, or perhaps because of it, I'm intrigued by thrillers with an end-of-the-world bent. Here, thousands of people gather in Mexico. A small group of them -- each from different walks of life and religious (or non-religious) backgrounds -- claims to have been instructed by differing messengers to travel to Mexico to receive visions or experience miracles. Afterward, each predicts certain apocalyptic events that come to pass. Father Michele Deauchez, on assignment from the Vatican, struggles to understand why the

visions and later events occur. He views religious visions, supposed miracles and stigmata as resulting from a combination of superstition and psychological issues. But even he can't write off the plagues and catastrophes the prophets foresaw as coincidence. Along with reporter Simon Hill, Deauchez attempts to uncover the truth about what's happening in Mexico and the world. And the closer Hill and Deauchez get to the truth, the less likely they are to survive.

What I enjoyed most about this thriller is that I never knew quite where the book was heading or what the author's own philosophy was about the various views of the prophets. Throughout most of the book, I struggled along with Deauchez to decide whether the source of the events was divine or human and, regardless, the meaning or likely outcome. The contrasting approaches taken by the prophets, who range from Catholic to Indian to New Age to Born Again, provided good commentary on the role of religion in our culture and on people's need for meaning. I empathized with Deauchez as he learned not only about the cataclysmic events around him but also about the failings of his superiors. His struggles are both external and internal and he is a well-drawn, three-dimensional character.

Most of the prophets are a bit one-note. At the same time, I felt the scenes showing them became repetitive. For that reason, the pacing stuck me as a bit slow. To be fair, though, I read this book while recovering from surgery, and I could only read about 6 pages at a time before I got tired. Perhaps if I had read it when well I would have sped through and called it a page turner.

It's hard to say much about the resolution without spoiling the story. So I'll add only that the explanation for the visions and plagues was inventive but I didn't find it quite plausible.

I've rated this 3 stars rather than 4 or 5 because the premise grabbed me and I expected to love it. Instead, I only liked it. I recommend it to anyone who enjoys thrillers, particularly with a religious or psychological aspect.

Terry Polston says

Excellent Apocalyptic story. It's evident early on that it is man made. The characters are well developed. Reading this during unusually high temperatures, drought, and fires made the story very vivid

Tina says

I tried 3 times to get into this book, and I just couldn't. I enjoyed her book "Dante's Equation" but this one had too many threads that just didn't connect quickly enough.

Arian Stoetzer says

A page turning thriller with incredibly high stakes and ambition.

Jaime Contreras says

I went into this book with an expectation of 'an end-of-the-world' scenario with suspense and a solid plot. This novel is a better attempt but it has several lapses in keeping up the suspense and trying to add too much. At one point, biblical prophecies, secret societies, religious organization-engineered plots, aliens, political power plays, economic, natural, and social upheaval are all thrown into the mix. All this confuses one and makes one stop reading to try and find out the direction of the novel. It is a decent read but it takes close to 150 pages for the reader to get where this may be going. Even then, I was not satisfied. The plot and feel of the book is best summarized by a main character, Father Deauchez' statement: "You fear massive death and destruction, so you cause massive death and destruction!" In this case, add confusion.

Jenna Raytor says

This was one of THE BEST books I have ever read. Kept me wanting to turn every page! I've recommended this to a lot of people. Scary, thriller, nerve-wracking...it has everything that a reader could want in a book and has no slow downs. This book starts at page 1

Charleen says

This is exactly the kind of large-scale, high-stakes story that I love to read, and Jensen executes it beautifully. It is a fusion of faith, philosophy, politics, all blended together in an extremely intense novel. I love that it doesn't shy away from where it's going, and really makes you think. A must-read for any thriller fan.

Joe says

Add this to your wish list if you enjoy "end of the world" books. All the signs are there. Is it time for the world to end or is it just mass hysteria? A perfect beach read.

Trevor says

My first introduction to the writings of Jane Jensen were as the Gabriel Knight computer games (Sins of the Fathers, The Beast Within and Blood of the Sacred, Blood of the Damned) which both my wife and I are quite fond of and are well written and paced games.

Due to my interest in these games and their author, by surfing the internet to see if a 4th game was forthcoming, I came across the notion that she had written stand alone books of which this is one.

The overall premise of this book is that several world religious leaders all attend a 'prophetic' event in Central America and each goes on their way to change the world. Shortly after their pronouncements from

"God" (whichever incarnation they individually saw) the events of the Apocalypse as written in Revelations begin to occur. The two protagonists of the book are a Catholic Priest from the Vatican and a reporter for the New York Times. And the book follows their investigation of the 'events and their meanings'.

This book has a very good overall concept however the manner in which it concludes is rather wanting. The biggest issue being that the author seems to be setting the audience up on a 'journey of discovery' but about half way through the journey she seems to abandon it and continues to just conclude the tale. I am uncertain as to whether this is due to the fact that a) the author didn't feel she could effectively conclude the discovery, b) that she was afraid to alienate a portion of her audience or c) if the editor didn't want to have bad press/sales because of the leanings of the author (she was brought up the daughter of a fundamentalist Christian minister).

Also I happened to be reading this book during a very difficult time, as my father had recently passed away and I was having a crisis of faith (perhaps not the best time to read a book of the Apocalypse).

I would recommend this book to those that are fans of the genre or of Jane Jensen, but I would throw in a caveat of not to expect too much.

Dianne Gothly says

Everybody needs to read this book. it's so amazing how Jane Jensen write and create a big story with many beliefs. you can't stop to read and the most important, how 15 years ago was published a book with many things that are happening just right now. it's like read to Orwell, Huxley...

Roheryn says

Bien podría titularse "apocalipsis" porque es eso de lo que se trata. Un montón de gente (cuando digo "un montón" es "un montón de los grandes") se congrega en el pueblo mexicano de Santa Pelagia y... ven a la Virgen, algunos sufren estigmas, esas cosillas católicas. A un puñado pequeño de personas muy diferentes entre sí les es revelado el final del mundo, y a lo largo del libro vas viendo como se cumplen las señales una a una.

Es un libro bastante entretenido, se lee muy bien (yo me he demorado más de lo normal por pura vaguería mía), y me ha servido para descubrir una nueva OTP. La historia solo flojea un poco hacia el final, al menos para mí, porque hay autores que me da la sensación que saben que tienen que terminar la historia pero no saben muy bien cómo y resulta un final un poco... tipo BSG. También hay un par de personajes que aparecen, hacen lo que tienen que hacer y luego desaparecen sin más, pero bueno, eso se lo paso.

Ah, sí, mi nueva OTP: un sacerdote católico francés llamado Michel Deauchez y un periodista afroamericano que se llama Simon Hill. OTP de las buenas, oye, de las que las lees y piensas "a ver si hay suerte y el francés cuelga los hábitos para que se vayan juntitos en un crucero gay del amor, como el de Vacaciones en el Mar"
