



Secrets of the Code: The Unauthorized Guide to the Mysteries Behind the Da Vinci Code

Dan Burstein

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Draws on the works of theologians, art historians, and other experts to explore the sources, ideas, and major themes of the novel The Da Vinci Code..

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From Reader Review Secrets of the Code: The Unauthorized Guide to the Mysteries Behind the Da Vinci Code for online ebook

Carol says

So far this book is raising more questions than it attempts to answer & I'm really enjoying it. The author's intention to get people thinking about the origins of Christianity and its subsequent evolution is well designed. I look forward to finishing my reading of this book.

Hugo Basson says

I found this book very interesting and informative although at times it was a bit hard to read. The book definitely makes one think. I loved it!!

Yana Rosli says

what i got from this book is HEADACHE~...

Keith Brough says

This book is fun with a capitla F-U-N. It is, however, a very thick and acedemic book filled with excerpts and articles from published scholars. The DaVici COde is fiction. Yes. This book makes that very clear. But what the novel did to its audience is simple and healthy... it wet peoples appetite for reading, and made them curious about a slew of conspiracy theories as well as Christian history. This book has a smattering of every topic readers might be curious about. Interviews with ELain Pagels whose scholarship I don't hightly value is in the book. So are some things I find boring. But the editor has even included a lengthy excerpt from the notirously un-scholarly "Holy Blood, Holy Grail". Beacuse, well, because its printed, published and read by many people...including Dan Brown. So, buy this book and have fun reading it. Skip around or read bits in parts. Its incredibly fun for a scholarly smattering into real historical research.

Jose Gaona says

Los secretos del código no oculta sus intenciones y no pretende ser más de lo que su modesto título pretende mostrar, a saber, un compendio de datos históricos y hermenéuticos acerca de lo que hay o no de cierto en la gran conspiración presentada en El Código Da Vinci. Por ello, trata de dar respuestas a preguntas como: ¿Qué papel desempeñó María Magdalena en la historia narrada en los Evangelios? ¿Por qué ese halo de desprestigio que la rodea? ¿Estuvo casada María Magdalena con Jesús? ¿Tuvieron descendencia? ¿Es cierto que Jesús le encomendó la tarea de ser la líder de la Iglesia? ¿Huyó hacia Francia? ¿Y qué hay de las primeras comunidades cristianas? ¿Y de los marcionitas y los ebionitas? ¿Qué peso tenía en el primer cristianismo los evangelios gnósticos? ¿Qué interpretaciones cabe hacer hoy en día de algunos de sus

polémicos pasajes? ¿Es cierto que el relato de la vida de Jesús tiene las suficientes similitudes con personajes de otras mitologías como para no dar demasiada validez histórica a los evangelios? ¿Qué cabe decir del emperador Constantino? ¿Existió el Priorato de Sión? ¿Hasta qué punto es creíble la existencia de una línea de filiación que conecte la dinastía merovingia con Jesús de Nazaret? ¿Cómo se hicieron tan ricos los caballeros templarios? ¿Es cierto todo lo que se cuenta del Opus Dei en la novela? ¿Son creíbles las interpretaciones de la obra de Da Vinci? ¿Y qué hay del simbolismo, en general? ¿De qué material de referencia extrajo Brown su información? Estos y otros muchos interrogantes están presentes a lo largo de todo el libro.

(...)

Pero lo que termina de decantar la balanza, más allá del mayor o menor interés de ciertas secciones (algo siempre subjetivo) y de la pluralidad de los contenidos, es la reiteración que se produce en la exposición. A pesar de la ordenación de las temas, los contenidos se encuentran inextricablemente ligados, por lo que estos vienen y van, una y otra vez. Al principio esto favorece la imagen de conjunto, pero tras unas pocas iteraciones se hace molesto y se echa de menos cierta profundización en cada una de las cuestiones abordadas. Este problema se ve agravado por la inexistente sistematización de Burstein y por la participación en lugares distintos de mismos autores a lo largo de la obra. Todo lo cual hace que como obra de divulgación, "Los secretos del código", deje un tanto que desear.

Resto de la reseña aquí.

Joy Marie says

This was a good book to get background information on the topics found in the book "The DaVinci Code". The author gave good information on both sides of several historical arguments highlighted by the book and allowed the reader to draw their own conclusions.

Sammy Sutton says

Seriously, I'm a little worn out with the whole Da Vinci Code 'Holy Vessel' controversy. Nevertheless, I still get a little caught up in the concepts surrounding it. Dan Burstein seems to be one of the more credible theorists. I enjoy his work a lot.

Shyam says

I have to admit that Dan Burstein has indeed edited a comprehensive book about the most controversial figure in the Christian history among other things. The book is especially enjoyable for it's extensive collection and distinction of the fact from fiction in Dan Brown's da Vinci Code.

It starts off with a promising note and urges you to recollect what you learned in the novel. But as the pages wear on it gets increasingly complicated and confusing.

I think you'll come to get the full impact only when you had read it more than three or four times.

But the book is not without it's highs. One who thinks of getting to the bottom of the novel won't have his shelf without this book.

Cat. says

Started this in July, put it away while on vacation and during the Great Vacation Readup, and now it's finally done. If you read and enjoyed The Da Vinci Code (which I did, two years ago, but it's only a thriller people!), this might pique your interest. Burstein has rounded up some of the sources that Dan Brown used and either reprinted the crux of their works or interviewed them specifically for this book. He then goes and finds a rebuttal for all this kooky stuff. :-)

It's a bit boggy at times, and if you're in a hurry you could get by with just reading the glossary. Had I know about it, I think I might have done just that. Especially regarding the bits I didn't care about at all. I scoured the pages pertaining to the Leonardo debate, and I find the Mary Magdalene arguments to be flat-out fun to observe. I so enjoy taking the piss out of Fundamentalists... heh.

Again, however, I must say: The original book is a NOVEL. And Burstein generally keeps that pretty clearly in sight as he investigates the non-fictional possibilities that spring from Brown's book.

Ernest says

Solid if a bit stodgy. The book's title faithfully attempted to tell the secrets of the Code and did it in a largely non-point of view manner, inserting excerpts of other works and interviews. However, the book attempted to cover much material and this may have detracted from its impact. Additionally, the book's length might put people off reading it.

Teycordero says

I read this book back in my high school days. I got curious from the graphic images of the famous painting Mona Lisa and the last supper of Leonardo da Vinci. Did really Leonardo hide some secrets in his paintings? Merely this book collected facts from fiction in Dan Brown's da Vinci code. Dan Burstein has indeed edited an extensive far-reaching book about the most controversial figure in the Christian history.

It starts off with a promising note and urges you to recollect what you learned in the novel. But as the pages wear on it gets increasingly complicated and confusing. I think you'll come to get the full impact only when you had read it more than three or four times. It didn't affect me at all. I won't and never believe that Jesus Christ married Mary Magdalene.

Gloria says

very interesting book seeks to debunk some of the things in the DA Vinci code, a book that can be somewhat dry at times but well written and thought provoking.

Anita says

A collection of scholarly articles on The Davinci Code. Interesting and challenging.

Nicki says

Hard to get my head around, lost interest

Jovy says

Loved this! I watched the movie, read the book, saw the documentaries in the history and discovery channels and then this...I love the illustrated timetable, 'sacred feminine' and all about Leonardo.
