



# Entangled

*Graham Hancock*

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## **Entangled** Graham Hancock

When a drug overdose causes Leoni, a troubled teen from twenty-first-century Los Angeles, to have a near-death experience, her soul is lifted from the modern world and flung into a parallel time 24,000 years in the past. There her fate becomes entangled with that of Ria, a young Stone Age woman fighting for her life against the ferocious Illimani, an army of evil led by the vicious Sulpa, a powerful demon determined to destroy humanity. As the invaders annihilate Ria's people, inflicting torture and human sacrifice, Sulpa moves ever closer to his ultimate goal: to manifest physically in the twenty-first century and condemn all of mankind to perpetual slavery. The hour is late and any chance of stopping him seems lost. But there is still hope, if Leoni and Ria can rise to the challenge fate has set them. Uniting outside the flow of earth time, they must venture forth into regions of wonder, master their own deepest fears, and fight battles they could never have prepared for, if Sulpa is to be defeated...

## **Entangled Details**

Date : Published April 1st 2010 by Century (first published January 1st 2010)

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Author : Graham Hancock

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# From Reader Review Entangled for online ebook

## Justin Green says

Leoni has endured a wayward upbringing.

Tainted by sickening sexual abuse from her father which was aided and abetted by her mother, perhaps it's no surprise that she's gone off the rails.

In a particularly bleak moment, she overdoses on prescription drugs and gets admitted to a psychiatric hospital for assessment. When she tries to lift the lid on the inhumanity of her parents behaviour, she's given a heavy dose of ketamine to quiet her as well as sedate her.

And it's then when she gets a glimpse of another world.

Enter Ria. A girl who lives in a prehistoric era who is clearly in a desperate situation, trying to overcome a dominant and evil race of men who want to rid her kind from the face of the earth.

Via the medium of psychadelics, Leoni is to form a bond with Ria and begins to understand that she must help her in any which way she can, to help both her friend and the future of mankind.

If the concept of this book hadn't been as fascinating as it was, I may well have bailed on this early.

I was more battle weary than any of the characters of the book could ever be. There's only so many ways to read about blood spurting and innards being revealed before surely even the most ardent fans of man to man combat feel their eyes get a little heavy-lidded. I know that most of the book is set in pre-history and so is to be expected perhaps, but really Graham, it was too much.

That said, this book refused to allow me to put it down for too long. If someone is prepared to write a story about people using psychadelics to travel back in time and discover different worlds then you can sign me up right here and now.

Battle scenes aside, it's a captivating read. And it's quite an enthralling insight into what other theories that Hancock is bringing to the world, using the fictional status to say whatever the hell he likes without reprisal. Also worthy of comment is the strangely childlike feel that is engrained within the story. Although some of the language used and scenes portrayed are as far away from childrens stories as they could and should be, the book has a slight Lord of the Rings style of portrayal which neither detracts or enhances, but is just very noticeable.

Not without fault for sure, but you can be sure I'll be purchasing the sequel.

rates Entangled 7 out of 10 Author - Graham Hancock. Leoni has endured a wayward upbringing. Tainted by sickening sexual abuse from her father which was aided and abetted by her mother, perhaps it's no surprise that she's gone off the rails. In a particularly bleak moment, she overdoses on prescription drugs and gets admitted to a psychiatric hospital for assessment. When she tries to lift the lid on the inhumanity of her parents behaviour, she's given a heavy dose of ketamine to quiet her as well as sedate her. And it's then when she gets a glimpse of another world. Enter Ria. A girl who lives in a prehistoric era who is clearly in a desperate situation, trying to overcome a dominant and evil race of men who want to rid her kind from the face of the earth. Via the medium of psychadelics, Leoni is to form a bond with Ria and begins to understand that she must help her in any which way she can, to help both her friend and the future of mankind. If the concept of this book hadn't been as fascinating as it was, I may well have bailed on this early. I was more battle weary than any of the characters of the book could ever be. There's only so many ways to read about blood spurting and innards being revealed before surely even the most ardent fans of man to man combat feel their eyes get a little heavy-lidded. I know that most of the book is set in pre-history and so is to be expected

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## **Carly Casper says**

I liked this a lot more than I thought I would.

The story follows two girls: one, a modern LA party-girl UGH MY PARENTS!!! type, the other a badass no-bullshit Paleolithic huntress. They are connected by their mutual use of psychedelics to fight a transdimensional demon who feeds on "goodness in the world". He is set on destroying the Neanderthal race, which as it turns out is totally perfect and peaceful and selfless and ~not at all like humans~.

The reason I was surprised to like this is because of the heavy-handed "moral messages" and opinions about humanity as evil/closed-minded/etc., in stark opposition to Neanderthals. It relies heavily on vague speculative research/opinions, and features things like ghosts, spirits, and other things that make my eyes roll. From a technical standpoint, it was very amateurishly executed, with gratuitous word choice, formulaic plot twists, and awkward phrasing in places.

Nevertheless it was consistent and engaging, and I couldn't put it down—I read the whole thing in two days.

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## **Un says**

"Entangled" was sort of like reading two different books for me: on one level it's a fun, fast-paced and highly original fantasy novel. On another it is a sort of spot the clues book full of references to the themes and facts contained in Hancock's non-fiction books from the last couple of decades.

If you've read "Supernatural" Supernatural: Meetings with the Ancient Teachers of Mankind there's definitely a lot in the novel that you'll recognize, from the ancient cave paintings to the modern-day shamans of the Amazon. Plenty of "Fingerprints of the Gods" material too, so that any fan of Hancock's previous work is going to have a lot of fun seeing how he applied his vast knowledge to creating a work of fiction. Highly Recommended.

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## **Amanda says**

I bought this book three years ago and it's been sitting on my bookshelf ever since. This year, in an effort to read at least one book a month, I decided to finally read it, and I loved it. You see, I only like to read books written in third person so sometimes it's hard for me to sit at a bookstore and go through books trying to find

my preferred format AND something that interests me. I wasn't up for the challenge in May and just decided to read a book that I already owned, but hadn't read yet, with the theory that, if it made it home, then it must already fit those two criteria. I don't know much about how to review a book, and reading way into it like a lot of people do. I review it for what it is. A book. A story. A 435 page journey into another world, even if it means I'm only in that world for an hour a day, but this was a fantastic one. Once I started it, I couldn't put it down. It had done something that I hadn't felt in a while. I made me want more. It gave me the same feeling as reading the Harry Potter series a few years back. It kept me on the edge of my seat wanting to know what was going on next with Leoni or Ria. There were parts where those with vivid imaginations could only be thankful that what they were reading was merely fiction, that they didn't have to see it in real life. Sometimes, words can make one incredibly squeamish, but they are only just words, and you keep pressing forward. At the end, I wanted to know more and since I bought this three years ago, I have to yet to any research to find out if there is a sequel to this or not. I want to know what Ria faces in her fight to bring Leoni back. I want to know what Leoni and Ria do to overcome Sulpa. I want to know what happens with Leoni's meat body and Don Leoncio. I want to know more!

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## **Apu says**

Graham Hancock? Yeah I've got all of his records!

Graham Hancock started out as a travel journalist and then moved into historical sleuthing which is when I first came across his work (*The Sign and the Seal*, *Fingerprints of the Gods*). What I loved about his stuff was that he was obviously very passionate and enthusiastic about his research and that came across completely in his writing to such an extent, that even potentially mundane topics such as the age of the pyramids or detailed descriptions about astrological precession became exciting page turners!

For me, some of his more recent work, whilst still excellent seemed to have lost a little oomph. Now, with *Entangled*, I was aware that he was writing a fiction book to get across ideas that would attract too much criticism and ridicule if they were presented as fact. I'll be honest, I was expecting something similar to *The Celestine Prophecy* or *The Da Vinci Code*, ie, a book desperate to get ideas across with a superficial plot and basic prose to carry these ideas along - not that I am knocking these books, I have enjoyed them and will continue to recommend them to others.

The last reason for my trepidation is a more personal one. This is my year of change. I'm trying very hard to become aware of and break bad habits, whilst hopefully creating newer better habits. As a consequence, I have become very conscious and protective over how my time is spent. I have given up on watching TV completely. I haven't given up on fiction books, but I have started several this year that have not engaged me and they have quickly been returned to the shelf after only a few pages.

I needn't have worried, Graham Hancock, is back to his best!

*Entangled* has, without doubt, surpassed all of my expectations. It is very well written, there is a depth to the main characters that allows for empathy, the plot flows and most importantly, that spark, that oomph is back.

There is science and pseudo-science involved in the story, but it is fitted in on the whole as part of the story, and there was only one (short) point in the book when I felt it nearly slipped into lecture mode. Let me reassure you, this book can be enjoyed without knowledge of, or even contemplation of the science behind it, it really is a brilliant, easy to read piece of fiction. You also don't need to be familiar with any of Hancock's

previous non-fiction work, but if you are new to him through this book, I would definitely recommend his work.

Entangled reads like a thriller because, er, that's exactly what it is! Each chapter is told from the viewpoint of either Ria or Leoni. It is fast paced, exciting and features lots of battle scenes which in some ways you don't even notice as you find yourself unable to put the book down and trying to read one more chapter to find out what happens next!

Hancock does not shy away from either using industrial language when appropriate or inserting the gory details of the fights, and this is a credit. Too much entertainment nowadays tones down both violence and language in an attempt to gain wider audiences. Hancock has a story to tell, and tell it he does, superbly.

My only real criticism is the fact that this book whilst it can be read and enjoyed in isolation, is the first in a series. How many books will form the series, I don't know. There's no mention of it on the cover nor in any of the (limited) blurb that I have read. If I had known, in all likelihood, I wouldn't have started this until the series was complete, but that's just me. I haven't started Thomas Covenants Third Chronicles as an example even though I am desperate to and won't until it has been completed.

5 stars, and highly recommended to everyone.

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## **Stefan says**

In the acknowledgments for his novel Entangled, Graham Hancock doesn't just thank his family and his editor, but also "Ayahuasca," the "visionary brew" used by Amazonian shamans to make out-of-body journeys into the realm of spirits. He also explains that the novel's premise, characters, and plot resulted from visions brought to him by Ayahuasca. Given that information, it shouldn't come as a surprise that Entangled is — and I am choosing my words carefully here — a seriously weird book.

Leoni is a troubled teenager in present-day Los Angeles. She has a near-death experience after a drug overdose, travels to a mysterious spirit realm and meets the Blue Angel, who explains that she is an important participant in the fight against Sulpa, an evil spirit from the same realm who is attempting to manifest in our world.

Meanwhile, Ria is a prehistoric teenager living 26,000 years ago. (And yes, I realize "meanwhile" and "26,000 years ago" don't usually belong in the same sentence. Bear with me.) When she saves a young "Ugly" (Neanderthal) from being killed by youths from her clan, Ria discovers that this (now extinct) humanoid species has mysterious powers, including telepathy and magical healing. Already hated because they look different, the Neanderthals are now the victims of an attempted genocide by the Illimani tribe, who are under the control of Sulpa.

The "meanwhile" part of the last paragraph is directly connected to the novel's title: Leoni and Ria eventually find out that time doesn't move in a linear way from the past to the future, but rather follows a complex path full of loops and curves. Because of this, even though they live 26,000 years apart, their lives have become "entangled." Leoni learns from the Blue Angel that, during her out-of-body experiences, she can spiritually travel far into the past to help Ria save the Neanderthals, because their continued survival is vitally important for the future of the world...

Despite this original (to put it lightly) premise, *Entangled* unravels because of a few unfortunate shortcomings. The main issue with the book is its structure: 99 very short chapters, usually only 3 or 4 pages long, alternating between Leoni and Ria. These chapters are so short that the reader never really gets the chance to be immersed in one character's narrative before being forcibly switched to the other. The connection between the two stories isn't very strong until well into the second half of the novel: you know there's a link, but you're still pretty much reading two separate stories, set 26,000 years apart. Worst of all, a disproportionately large amount of these mini-chapters end on cliffhangers, which initially can be a bit jolting — and later on frankly becomes hugely annoying. If only we'd gotten 20-30 pages per story at a time, and fewer cliffhangers, this novel would have been much more enjoyable.

There are a few other issues, but none of them are as problematic as the novel's structure. Some readers may be shocked at the incredibly graphic and gory descriptions of violence, torture, mutilation and rape. If you have a weak stomach, this novel may not be for you. As for the characters, Ria is definitely a strong female protagonist, but it's hard to connect with her (although readers who enjoy prehistoric fiction in the vein of Jean M. Auel may feel differently.) The present-day character Leoni is more recognizable, but unfortunately not very likable until later in the story. The cast of side characters has very little depth: they are basically just vehicles to move the plot along, either by guiding Leoni towards her spiritual journeys or helping Ria in her quest to save the Ugliers. Finally, *Entangled* is the first book in a projected trilogy, and even though there's a solid climax, it ends on yet another tremendously annoying cliffhanger.

In the end, despite its problems, *Entangled* is still an action-packed and often entertaining novel with a highly original concept. After all, it's not every day you find a story in which the two protagonists live 26,000 years apart but still influence each other. Graham Hancock has obviously done a tremendous amount of research and invested a lot of time and effort in creating this story. Unfortunately, after the 20th or so mini-chapter ending on a cliffhanger, I genuinely had to fight the urge to launch *Entangled* across the room. Still, if you're interested in shamanism, time travel or prehistoric fiction, or if you have anything by Carlos Castaneda on your bookshelves, *Entangled* might be right up your alley.

(This review was also published on [www.fantasyliterature.com](http://www.fantasyliterature.com))

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## **Mur Lafferty says**

Gave it three chapters. Not for me. Unconvincing female protags.

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## **Kristin says**

I had to read this in separated segments, preferably only during mornings, because it worked like a horror movie on me. It made me afraid to be alone, etc., because Sulpa was so real. I have dreams now where Sulpa-like figures lurk. Probably it affected me like this because of Hancock's statements that the story was "downloaded" to his brain by a figure in the ethereal realms of ayahuasca. While I was reading it, I comforted myself by latching onto what I saw as flaws-- the implausibility of Leoni, a dumb teenaged LA coke whore (regardless of the sinister causes of her being this way), somehow becoming capable of not only a fantastic British vocabulary, but also unparalleled athletic strength and altruistic heroism; the little detail that Leoni had always been afraid of jungles, something that a Californian urbanite would have no occasion to fear; the fact that exceptionally short, 16-year old Ria was able to kill men with thrown rocks, which I'm

pretty sure is physically impossible (and having once been a small 16 year old girl and fighter myself, I also know that her other large-man-beating abilities are totally impossible in real life); and the absurdity of the idea of a doctor and researcher having legal clout to induct a minor into not only a hallucinogenic drug study at a university, but also flying said specific minor and no others into the Amazon to do ayahuasca outside of the actual research.

However, when I was all finished reading the whole book, I closely read all of Graham Hancock's notes and acknowledgments, searching perhaps for more closure after the cliff-hanger ending, and all of my comforting thoughts of plot flaws to make it less real were defeated as he pre-counteracted each argument with his trademark sound reasoning and appropriate disclaimers. His notes highlighted, in sum, I think, the fact that extraordinary things happen all the time, and have happened throughout history, and so things that might seem unbelievable are actually true nevertheless. I'm now left with perhaps a childish feeling, which does nothing at all to dispel bogeymen, that somehow the whole story is rooted in true events in other places in both time in space. Whether or not it is, that's the mark of good writing--the creation of that element of closing your blinds with a shudder at night, forcefully trying to avoid wondering whether some character from that harmless book is really out there, or will be out there if you continue to think about it.

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## **Marna says**

Entangled – Eater of Souls  
by Graham Hancock

The internet hype about this book started cranking during the summer, and I was so excited to hear it. I first heard mention of this book from the author himself, 3 years ago. He was here in Vermont as the keynote speaker for the Earth Spirit Conferences. His keynote address was fantastic. The next day I happened to sit at the same table for lunch as Mr. Hancock and his family, and we discussed his books, all of which had been non-fiction at that point. Talk then turned to his writing fiction for the first time, and I remember the feeling of excitement he had for this new adventure, which was quite contagious.

Well, here it is, and what a story! Graham Hancock is as equally adept at fiction as he is at non-fiction. We're drawn in from the get-go—and I was delighted to find that this 50-something British white male very convincingly portrays the two main characters; one, Leoni, a young white woman from 21st century America, the other Ria, a prehistoric teenage girl living 24,000 years in our past. The tale is one of great adventure, and skillfully weaves the two timelines together with ease. It is a page-turner, and you're caught up in the chase with the heroines while your learning a few things, too. To quote from the acknowledgements, "There is a considerable research background to Entangled in fields as diverse as neuropsychology, consciousness, quantum physics, shamanism and palaeoanthropology." Graham Hancock is known for his research, and with that background he builds the foundation for a very believable story.

Since I can't improve upon it, I'm going to quote from the inside front flap, a quote by the author of The Steampunk Trilogy: "This ... tale ... might have been written by J.K. Rowling—if Rowling had apprenticed herself for seven years with Mary Leakey, seven years with Carlos Castaneda, and seven years with Robert Crumb." That about sums it up. My one complaint about the book is the sudden ending; it's a doozy of a cliffhanger—the sequel can't come any too soon for this eager reader. Graham Hancock knocked this one out of the park, and hopefully further adventures of Ria and Leoni are well under way.

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## Kate says

This book was a real surprise. I wasn't sure what to expect, but once I got into it, it was hard to put down. I thought it was extremely creative and original, and it definitely got me thinking about mind-expanding concepts. I enjoyed Hancock's ideas on parallel universes, spirit beings, and the non-linear idea of time. I have to say, however, if Hancock doesn't write the end of this story, I am going to be very disappointed. He set up an epic struggle between good and evil that makes the ending of the book a real let down if there is no sequel. I've gathered from some internet searching that *Entangled* wasn't necessarily well-received. I don't get why. Yes, it's violent, but if the evil guy wasn't violent on an evil level, the whole idea that he could tear apart all universes (the Totality) wouldn't be all that convincing. There are a lot of violent books out there, and just being violent doesn't make them bad. I hope Hancock ignores the critics and gets a sequel out soon!

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## Sebastian says

The Good:

Strong, compelling characters, especially female characters, and Hancock should be applauded for that. Fascinating ideas and story, a fast-paced page turner with the end of each short chapter leaving you hanging. It flows a bit like a comic book - something I liked.

The Bad:

Gratuitous violence done to women and children - I found this pretty disturbing and it really got in the way of the story at times.

Hancock didn't do a good enough job suspending my disbelief over some of the most improbable parts - and there were many.

The writing was mediocre at best - you can tell this is a first novel written by someone accustomed to writing non-fiction.

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## Averil Heath says

Interesting, simultaneous time, a bit too violent for me.

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## Vhilm Namrets says

I really wanted to like this book as I love Graham Hancock's non-fiction books. His other books are super entertaining with ideas and hypothesis that are way outside accepted main-stream points of view.

Unfortunately, his *non-fiction* was more apt to pique my imagination with flights of fancy than the premise of this book.

This book contained gratuitous violence that seemed forced, out of place and overused - The attempt at reflecting brutality didn't work. The female protagonists were somewhat shallow and lacking a believable back-story and motivation.

The mysticism was fun, but the crutch of drug use motivating it was too simplistic.

I *did* however enjoy the multiple time-line, Science Fiction that takes place in the stone age, urban Los Angeles and in a modern Peruvian jungle. His description of the locations was rich, yet efficient with minimal detail.

Also, using Neanderthals as main characters was ultra-entertaining and original.

Fortunately, this was an easy to read book which was mildly entertaining. G. Hancock has great writing skills and a trove of original creative fodder - He just didn't seem to take full advantage of that talent in this book.

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## **Ard says**

I only knew Hancock's non-fiction, such as *Supernatural*, *Sign and the Seal*, *Underworld* and *Fingerprints of the gods*. It was fun to read his fiction about more or less the same ideas. It draws its inspiration primarily from *Supernatural*, and if you like that book, you're likely to appreciate *Entangled*. In his non-fiction, Hancock shows himself a fine writer and for the most part his fiction is equally easy to read. The only problems I really had with this book is the twodimensional characters, which in some cases seem to come straight out of a Harry Potter novel, including the somewhat childlike dialogues. And that's excluding the dialogues of the parts of the book that play in ancient times. Maybe this has to do with Hancock's relative little experience writing fiction, and maybe it will be a lot better in his next novel. And that brings me to the other disappointment, because this book is definitely not finished. I assume there's a part 2 in the making, but in the book there's no mention of this. So after finishing the book you're left with an unfinished story, and that's a bit of a bummer. Nonetheless, this book is interesting, exciting and a lot of fun to read. I'd definitely buy the sequel when, or if, it comes out.

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