



The Celestine Prophecy

James Redfield

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The Celestine Prophecy contains secrets that are currently changing our world. Drawing on ancient wisdom, it tells you how to make connections among the events happening in your own life right now...and lets you see what is going to happen to you in the years to come!

A book that has been passed from hand to hand, from friend to friend, since it first appeared in small bookshops across America, *The Celestine Prophecy* is a work that has come to light at a time when the world deeply needs to read its words. The story it tells is a gripping one of adventure and discovery, but it is also a guidebook that has the power to crystallize your perceptions of why you are where you are in life...and to direct your steps with a new energy and optimism as you head into tomorrow.

The Celestine Prophecy Details

Date : Published 1997 by Warner Books (first published 1993)

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Author : James Redfield

Format : Paperback 247 pages

Genre : Fiction, Spirituality, Philosophy, Self Help

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From Reader Review The Celestine Prophecy for online ebook

? Sh3lly - Grumpy Name-Changing Wanderer ? says

I haven't read this book since I was about 19. I remember quite liking it. I hadn't read anything like it before and it made me think *really deep thoughts*. So I have to give it credit for planting a seed. As someone who dislikes the term "new age," but is partial to many "new agey" ideas, I guess there was a higher possibility I would like this than others. I am not religious, but I am spiritual and know that there is more than just the physical world we typically see. I say "know" because I have directly and lucidly experienced it. Anyhow, we all experience reality differently. I am not sure what I would think of this book now. I actually think I still have my copy of it. I held onto it for some reason. But I'm also someone open to books like The Secret and Conversations with God: An Uncommon Dialogue, Vol. 1 and whatnot. (I have actually read *Bringers of the Dawn: Teachings from the Pleiadians* and LIKED it.)

Oh, I think I just remembered a big part of the book that has stayed with me. The types of people: aloof, poor-me, intimidating, and interrogative. Am I remembering that correctly? I found this to be very true and I notice it all the time in people. We do seem to fall into those categories. I myself am an aloof. I don't think I have transcended that yet, but I came to understand why I ended up with that type of personality.

If I *really* opened up on here about my ideas of spirituality and mysticism and conspiracy theories, etc., you guys would put a tin foil hat on me. (I would be considered even weirder than I already am!) Monster porn would be considered the least of my eccentricities.

:D

Sam says

I really hoped this book would be as good as "everyone" says it is. I was totally underwhelmed. Painfully jejune plot, paper-thin characters, pedestrian prose, and for what? A handful of ridiculous "insights" about how our expectations affect the physical world and how we fight for each other's "energy." Maybe if I sit down and meditate toward this book I can make it vanish permanently.

Ahmad Sharabiani says

The Celestine Prophecy, James Redfield

The Celestine Prophecy is a 1993 novel by James Redfield that discusses various psychological and spiritual ideas rooted in multiple ancient Eastern traditions and New Age spirituality. The main character undertakes a journey to find and understand a series of nine spiritual insights in an ancient manuscript in Peru. The book is a first-person narrative of the narrator's spiritual awakening as he goes through a transitional period of his life.

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Tess says

Utter rubbish from start to finish. This is the literary equivalent of a Ponzi scheme. He made loads of money based on fraud. Nothing there.

If you have a brain, use it, and don't go near this book.

Janine says

I cannot express in words how much I hated this book. Only retching noises will suffice. Several people whom I love recommended this book to me and I resisted until I was backpacking through Brazil and had nothing to read except a few romance novels in Dutch (which I can neither speak nor read.) I should have made the best of the Dutch.

Bill says

Someone gave my wife a hard cover copy of this book when she was in the hospital. I picked it up and read perhaps the first 50 or so pages while I was sitting in her hospital room, then I skimmed the rest of it and tossed it in the trash. What I saw was poor writing, misguided ideas, lack of structure and in general a waste of paper and ink, all in the guise of a novel of some sort. If I'd had anything else to read, maybe the back of a cereal box or the instructions for operating the medical equipment in the room, I'd have tossed it sooner.

Prairie78 says

I resent when a writer who has a lot of opinions about, ya know, stuff, decides that everyone should hear about all the stuff he's thinking about, but then realizes that maybe it would be boring as all get out, so then decides that if he turns all the stuff he's thinking into a novel, then maybe people will read it. This way he still gets to spout rhetoric at his readers, but couch it in "fiction." No, sir, you cannot bend fiction to your evil will. Just because you put something within quotation marks does not make it dialogue. Maybe

diatribalogue, but that's not even a word.

mark monday says

a mea culpa for me and Ruby!

once upon a time, a long time ago, i was an Entertainment Insurance Underwriter for AIG (well, a *junior* underwriter). i got to read a lot of scripts, i dealt with a lot of famous people, i got paid a lot of money. it was a time of much partying, much coke, an expense account, 1.5 assistants, and daily hangovers. one day i learned that i had written a movie policy that was so successful, so full of clever exclusions to coverage that it managed to cut off an entire family from any AIG benefits after a fatal helicopter crash. i found this out because the current CEO was visiting the san francisco office and decided to stop by and see this promising young underwriter to tell him "the good news". that was the day i realized that i was an evil person. i looked inside and didn't see a whole lot there. soon after, i quit my job and became a counselor for homeless kids, and so my life changed.

during this time period, i had an associate named Ruby. we had a complicated relationship, based around sex, drugs, and a long trip to Turkey. Ruby was a Crisis Management Underwriter... she wrote policies for folks working in danger zones. her policies included kidnap insurance, explosion insurance (car & building & home), insurance that included services from high-tech spy & security group Kroll and information brokers/ hostage negotiators Pinkerton, insurance that allowed you to insure various limbs and appendages so that you could get a financial return if you were kidnapped and some torture-amputation occurred. her promo materials included an empty swing with a teddy bear (kidnap insurance), the world on fire (global coverage), and some cute lil' gray styrofoam bombs. no joke. later, she quit her job and moved on to buying and selling condominiums.

we were two heartless people. Ruby's favorite book in the whole wide world was The Celestine Prophecy. it formed her view on life and how to live it... "it taught her so much". she read it multiple times, and loaned it to me. i loved it. "it spoke to me"... it gave me a perspective on the world that had me nodding my empty little head repeatedly in agreement while reading it.

good grief! this must have been a monstrous book indeed if it gave such toxic, horrible individuals a kind of bizarrely personalized spirituality and a host of new agey life lessons to cling to desperately. sometimes you can judge the value of a book by the readers who love that book.

<http://www.kroll.com/>

<https://www.pinkerton.com/>

Victoria says

I take more from this book every time I read it.

My original review:

I've read this book a few times, the first time after it had been given to me by a rather 'hippy-ish' friend of mine.

The first time, I wanted to throw it in the bin. Written badly with two dimension characters. Flaws in the plot and the historical information and lots of the ideas were wishy washy.

Given my reaction to the first read, I can't really say what made me pick it up a second time. Maybe I was feeling wishy washy lol!

On the second read, I let go of the fact that it was badly written and the characters were bad and all the other flaws. I don't think it was ever intended to be a work of literary wonder but as an accessible vehicle for ideas. In that case, I think it is unfair to treat it as an attempt at a literary wonder and I decided to look past the bad writing and so on and look only to the ideas it puts forward. I think it is unfair to criticise it for not being something I don't think it ever intended to be.

So, ignoring all the flaws and reading it only for the ideas. I started to enjoy it. Yes, some of the idea - maybe more than not - don't make much sense. Lots of them are, like I said, wishy washy and try to be too 'new age'. That said, there is a lot of good stuff in there. The notions of peace and calm that it puts forward, the ideas of becoming one with nature and looking after one another are all worth while.

The whole concept of energies can be a little batty at times but a watered-down version is definitely worth thinking about. We do take energies from our surroundings - that is why some places feel naturally calm or naturally wired. And as for passing energies from person to person, that has got to be true. It is self-evident.

It is not all good I admit. But if the reader stops fretting about how bad the writing is and actually PAYS ATTENTION to what it is trying to say, it offers some good insights and is good for making the reader think. On the whole it has a calming atmosphere. No, it is not a great literary work but that doesn't make it necessarily bad.

Evan Leach says

The Celestine Prophecy outlines the spiritual beliefs of James Redfield, a New Age religious thinker. It is presented as an adventure story, where an American protagonist is searching Peru for nine "insights" from a mysterious manuscript. The book is divided into nine chapters, each focused on one specific insight.

Essentially, the adventure story lets Redfield's main character move around and meet a variety of people who explain the key tenets of Redfield's spiritual philosophy, one by one. That philosophy can be summarized as follows. Since the dawn of time, the world has been building to a spiritual awakening destined to culminate in the late 20th century. People will realize that we live in a world of sacred energy that we can sense and also project. Instead of competing for this sacred energy, as humans historically have, people will start experiencing an inner connection with the divine energy and discover their growth paths and personal spiritual missions. This will allow people to manipulate the flow of coincidences in order to guide them to their destinies, ultimately (in the ninth insight) (view spoiler). You can read all about these on the author's website: <http://www.celestinevision.com/insigh....> According to Redfield, this philosophy does not contradict any of the world's major religions, but rather supplements them.* The important thing to take away from this is that these insights are **not** mere plot devices; they are key components of a spiritual movement that Redfield fervently believes in and is trying to spread with this book.

I'm not going to pretend I have all the answers and start snarkily laying into this stuff. If you find this worldview convincing, and clearly a lot of people do as this book has sold a bazillion copies, more power to you. Personally I've always thought that Christianity is mysterious and opaque enough to be compelling without messing around with energy levels (which sound suspiciously like thetan levels, a la Dianetics: The Modern Science of Mental Health) and other new age concepts. This book is way outside my wheelhouse in terms of areas of interest; it came to my attention because it was my book club's June selection. If you are into this kind of thing, spiritually speaking, you have probably already read this and if not ignore my 1-star rating and go buy it now. But if not, I have some thoughts:

The Good

First off, this is not a train-wreck of a book and I certainly see why people might like it. The idea of using a journey story to discuss spirituality is not new by a long shot (for example, *Inferno*), but Redfield does a solid job of using his adventure tale to sugarcoat what is really a series of didactic lessons. The writing is nothing special, but it's not grating either. The best thing I can say about the book is that it is almost inexplicably **readable**: I did not think that the adventure story was particularly compelling, and I was...*unconvinced* by Mr. Redfield's spiritual insights, yet I hummed through this book pretty quickly and never felt like it was a slog.

The Bad

The problem is, I'm not sure how much you can really enjoy this book without getting *some* fulfillment from the spiritual/philosophical insights Redfield is pushing. *Celestine* is stuffed with passages like this:

I looked closely at him. Clearly he spoke about energy in the same sense it was used in the Manuscript. I nodded affirmatively, then said, "I'm at a point where I'm consciously trying to build energy and deal with my control drama."

The adventure story is really the secondary plotline in this book, and passages like this one the central concern. This is a book about new age philosophy. If, like me, the second paragraph in this review doesn't really interest you I simply cannot recommend reading this. It's just...not a novel. Most of the chapters/insights are more like a Platonic dialogue, with the protagonist discussing these concepts with a supporting character. If you don't find these spiritual concepts compelling, I have a hard time thinking of anything you'd really enjoy about this book.

The Ugly

Finally, I'm all about "to each his own" in regards to religious belief. But before you select James Redfield as your spiritual Sherpa, allow me to present a passage that made me squirm:

"And our gifts," he went on, "should go to the persons who have given us spiritual truth. When people come into our lives at just the right time to give us the answers we need, we should give them money."

Not exactly the Sermon on the Mount, is it. But at least Redfield practices what he preaches. The last page of my edition** is a form the reader can fill out and tear away. Among other things, it says:

Also available from James Redfield is a personalized audio tape based on his unique interpretation of aspects of an individual's astrological data. This personalized audio tape is aimed at helping you understand your particular control issues and discover your most inspired, spiritual mission. Complete the following

information form and mail along with... **49.95** for the audio tape...

Ewwww. **1 star.**

**Although how this system doesn't effectively invalidate Christianity, when the ninth insight blows the Trinity to smithereens by implying that (view spoiler), is beyond me.*

***1994 Warner Books hardcover printing*

Jack Tripper says

(Actual footage of me reading this book*)

*It was the only book available to me during a recent stay with some relatives down south, as I'd stupidly left the stack of paperbacks I'd planned to bring on the kitchen table at home. It's really really good if you like crap. I'm sorry if this book is really important to any of you. So, so sorry.

Just not my thing. To each their own.

David says

- This is the 2nd time I've read this book. And while I'm pretty sure most of it is fictional, I still think it carries some valuable insights... so I want to summarize them in the 9 insights of the book and my understanding of them:
 - o 1) Noticing the coincidences in life is the first step. The more I become aware of coincidences, the more I'll become aware of a universal force behind them.
 - o 2) This is about putting my awareness into a longer historical perspective. Imagining myself as a part of all humanity, and standing at the tip of the arrow with over two millennia behind me. As I see within myself the entire history of thought and actions of humanity I can see myself waking up to what is really going on.
 - o 3) This is about a transformed understanding of the physical universe. It begins with a heightened sensitivity to beauty, the uniqueness, and presence of nature. Then we begin to see that the whole universe is made out of energy that responds to how I think.
 - o 4) Often, when people cut themselves off from the infinite source of energy in the universe, they try to take it from other people... leading to a struggle for power (energy), and often in the end we feel depleted.
 - o 5) This is about the truth that we can tap into the infinite energy of the universe. It brings a lightness with it, and we feel ourselves connected to everything. Whenever we want to, we can tap into this.
 - o 6) This is about clearing our past. We operate out of certain control dramas that we learned to make sure we had enough energy as children... Either being an intimidator, interrogator, being aloof, or being a poor

me. All are usually unconscious patterns we fall into to get energy from others. I'm still not sure what mine is, I think it'd be interrogator. The second part of this is that our parents left us with a basic life question that is the combination of the question both of their lives stood for. Put simply, mom's life question is how to I live spiritually within the world? And dad's is how do I have fun, do well, and live a life of service? So in that case mine would be trying to blend service and joy and spirituality.

o 7) This is about conscious evolution...by actively connecting to innate energy by thinking about love, then remembering my basic life question, then center myself on my path by discovering the immediate, smaller questions that currently confront my life. These questions always pertain to my larger question and define where I am on my lifelong quest. The problem is not getting answers, the problem is identifying my current questions! ? Holding these questions firmly in mind, pay attention to what pops out in the outside world.

o 8) This is about intimate relationships, and the danger that "love at first sight" can pull us off our important journey by mistaking our partner for the infinite love-connection of the universe! To avoid this, resist the love at first sight feeling for a while and learn to have platonic relationships with members of the opposite sex. And have them only with people who will reveal themselves totally, telling me how and why they are doing what they are doing. By doing this, I break out of a fantasy projection about that sex, and it releases me to connect again with the energy of the universe.

9) this last insight reveals our ultimate destiny...that as humans, we are the culmination of the whole of evolution. As groups of us vibrate at higher levels, we'll become invincible to those at lower levels, and vibrate high enough to walk into heaven in our same form.

Sammy says

An unbelievable book, that can be read one of two ways, you can simply read it as an adventure story of a man struggling to understand what it is he wants from life, or, as I have done, you can read it as a self help book.

What a self help book it is. It really encourages you to look at yourself and how you see your life both its past present and future.

It gives you insights on how to take a more positive and active approach to your life. This book can change your life if you let it.

Darby says

I read this book at the end of 1996 or around beginning of 1997. I read about it in a magazine I used to get that I loved called, "Catalist." (The magazine went out of print - sorry to say - because I loved that magazine and still have all my issues - less than 2 years worth published.)

The Celestine Prophecy woke me up. I had been sleepwalking in the world. I woke up after I read this book and realized there was so much more I was supposed to be doing in this world. I realized that so many times have had things happen to try to wake me up and I let them go by. So after this book, I woke up and started living life and looking at life differently - using many of the tools I learned from The Celestine Prophecy insights.

Bad point of this book it has a horrible...horrible...writing style. (though of course, much better than mine.) It is written in very simple sentences - structure and words. It is written for the masses...so that all people can read this book and "get it." But looking past the horrible writing style....the ideas and concepts outlined in the book are life tools....spiritual tools.

Tucker says

This book encourages a spiritual-but-not-religious awakening. The flimsy, implausible storyline and the not-so-well-crafted dialogue is only a device to present the pillars of this New Age philosophy. There is no plot and no tension. It is apparent from the beginning that the Nine Insights will be revealed, one by one, in order, at a predictable pace, and will not be rigorously defined or defended. In one sense, they cannot be defined, because they represent non-propositional knowledge—that is, things you have to discover, learn, and experience yourself, rather than things you can learn from a book. At least the author is on target in his recommendation that vegetables are better when you grow them yourself.

The Insights, paraphrased:

First Insight: Figure out what you are searching for. Notice coincidences.

Second Insight: Connect energy so coincidences happen more often. Think about time from the perspective of a millennium.

Third Insight: Be aware of beauty, eat home-grown vegetables, and see auras around all living things.

Fourth Insight: Understand that humans compete for energy in “control dramas” we learn from our parents.

Fifth Insight: Have a sensual “mystical awareness.” Appreciate beauty to receive energy, and feel love to give energy. Controlling others disconnects you from your own source of energy. This insight will end human conflict.

Sixth Insight: Examine your family “control dramas” on a spectrum that ranks individuals from aggressive to passive. See that there is an ambiguity in who is right and wrong. Transcend your drama and become aware of your own spiritual mission.

Seventh Insight: Love causes high energy, stress causes low energy. Push away frequent feelings of fear—but, after they are mostly gone, when you occasionally feel negativity, take it seriously.

Eighth Insight: Treat others well insofar as we help each other evolve. Talk to the right people to get the answers you want. Avoid being “addicted” to other people, especially to their opposite-sex energy. You can receive opposite-sex energy naturally and directly from the universe. Addiction to getting energy from other people will stop your growth. Tell children the truth, and don’t create control dramas for them.

Ninth Insight: We will choose to have less people and more old-growth forests, so everyone can live in a forest. We will do less labor and more philosophy. Evolved groups will become invisible to lesser-evolved groups and these invisible people will walk into heaven.
