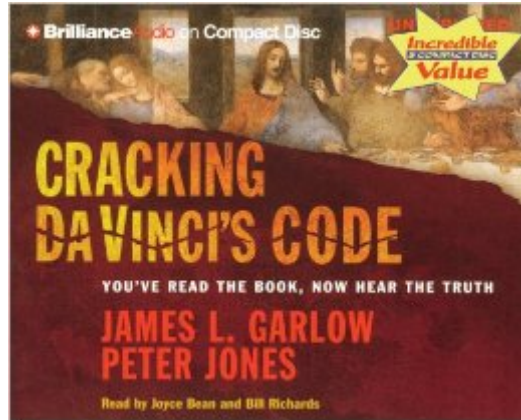


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Cracking Da Vinci's Code: You've Read The Book, Now Hear The Truth



Synopsis

The controversy grows with every sale of the bestselling novel. Throughout the contemporary fictional storyline of *The Da Vinci Code*, author Dan Brown skillfully weaves "historical" assertions intended to shake the very foundations of Christianity: Was Jesus merely human and not divine? Did Jesus and Mary Magdalene marry and have children? Is there a Holy Grail? If so, what is it and where can it be found? *CRACKING DA VINCI'S CODE* is the long-awaited answer to these and other questions. Authors James L. Garlow and Peter Jones present compelling evidence that Brown's assertions are not only historically inaccurate, but may also contain a hidden agenda.

Book Information

Audio CD

Publisher: Brilliance Audio on CD Value Priced; Unabridged edition (March 28, 2006)

ISBN-10: 1423315650

ASIN: B001G7RBHQ

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 6.1 x 0.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.2 ounces

Average Customer Review: 2.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (97 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

Christian apologists have been quick to respond to the historical inaccuracies taught in *The Da Vinci Code*. However, few have done much work on one of its central themes, "the sacred feminine," which is deeply rooted in a pagan worldview. Pastor James Garlow and Dr. Peter Jones co-authored *Cracking Da Vinci's Code* to respond to the historical errors of Dan Brown's novel, as well as its paganism. Garlow and Jones begin with a chapter explaining why they wrote their book. "Cracking Da Vinci's Code is for you if you have stopped to ponder Brown's 'code' woven into his novel. It is for you if you are now questioning all you have learned about Jesus. We are writing for you if you are now saying, 'I once thought of Jesus as the Son of God, but I guess I was wrong. He is simply a man after all.' For your sake, and His, we feel we must respond." (23) The first issue addressed is Brown's characterization of sex and the Christian view of it. Garlow points out that, "Sex is God's idea, and second to salvation, it's the best idea He ever shared with us." (51) The

authors go on to discuss the "sacred feminine," Jesus, historical revisionism, the canon of scripture, the Gnostic gospels, secret knowledge, and pagan symbols. They conclude by showing that, "Under the guise of a novel, The Da Vinci Code is an ideological call to arms." According to them, it is a call to embrace pagan monism. They ultimately present to the reader a choice between paganism and Biblical theism. At the beginning of each chapter is a brief narrative about their own fictional character, Carrie Williams. Carrie is a practical agnostic who is attracted to the claims of The Da Vinci Code, but she's turned off by her extremely pagan roommate.

While reading this book I found it very poorly put together. The book is written by two authors with very few clues as to what was written by whom. Occasionally one of their first names will appear in parenthesis, but there is little clear delineation who wrote what. To simplify I'll just refer to them as he. Each chapter is prefaced by a progressive symbol of half a circle which he refers to as the Divine Arc next to a full circle which he doesn't refer to at all. Near the end of the book he gives a weak explanation of his symbolism, which is within a few pages of writing about paganism in which he devaluates the importance of symbols in religion. At the beginning of each chapter he has a "after school special" type drama for a couple of pages. He also repeats the points he wants to make twice at the beginning of each chapter. I found this annoying chapter after chapter. Though the "after school special" is supposed to be a college age drama, it is written so poorly I suspect that most college age people will gloss over it quickly. The body of the book is written trying to defend traditional Christianity from the evil of feminine paganism. His references to Da Vinci are actually very few. He presents the theory that Dan Brown is not writing a novel based on "secret hints" that can be found in Da Vinci's work, but that Mr. Brown is actually hoping to seduce our youth into ancient paganism. Paganism is generally pictured by modern people as hedonistic tribal affairs with lots of drinking, sex, and dancing in a circle around a fire. He tries to give an objective description of paganism but fails to point out that it is a very ancient and noble religion that predated Christianity, and probably Judaism. He doesn't mention that Aristotle and Plato were pagans.

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