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THE DA VINCI LEGACY

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The Da Vinci Legacy

Lewis Perdue

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From Reader Review The Da Vinci Legacy for online ebook

Lewis Perdue says

Not the best of my books. Originally written in 1983 when I was still seeking a style. The current (2003) edition suffers from a badly botched update filled with anachronisms and inconsistencies. It was sloppily edited and hurried by the publisher to take advantage of the Da Vinci Code phenomenon. And while DVC did lift some of my work from this book, it took most heavily from Daughter of God. Better to read the 1983 edition.

Belinda says

Een avontuur, een Da Vinci Codex waaruit pagina's ontbreken. Als Da Vinci-kenner Vance Erikson ontdekt dat verschillende pagina's uit de Codes vervalsingen zijn, gaat hij op zoek naar de originelen. Nadat hij zijn ontdekking wereldkundig heeft gemaakt, wordt hij het doelwit van een genootschap van conservatieve monniken die beweren dat hun organisatie stamt uit de tijd van Petrus zelf. Erikson begint aan een tocht door Europa om de documenten te vinden, terwijl het Genootschap hem op de hielen zit. Het gegeven is goed. De verhaallijn en spanningsopbouw zijn ook goed. Maar de hakkende manier van schrijven, zonder een "gedachte" goed af te maken en het verspringen van hot naar her in locaties vind ik minder en soms zelfs storend.

Tifa says

This was obviously a novel written for men by a man. The lead character is ridiculously perfect and impossible, as well as the obviously gorgeous femme fatale who enters the picture. Everything is cliché and over the top, and not in a fun B-action movie type way. I rolled my eyes at so many parts, I think I sprained something. The convoluted conspiracy plot was disappointing, and I'm sorry there wasn't more about Da Vinci in it because that was the only reason I chose this.

Brian says

Less like The Da Vinci Code than one is led to believe, but a perfectly decent thriller in its own right. The Da Vinci and Christianity stuff is McGuffin here, rather than meat, but it's still a pretty fun ride.

Susie G says

This book was originally published in 1983 then republished in 2004 to capitalize on the Da Vinci Code phenomenon. It may seem rather dated to those not familiar with a world without cell phones, the World Wide Web, etc.

The book does not contain many details about Da Vinci or his works, so if one is hoping for a lot of Da Vinci - related information, background, or intrigue he/she will be disappointed. However, if one enjoys a story of spies, international intrigue, and action, with a fanatical religious order thrown in for good measure, it's a good read. Not amazing but enjoyable enough.

N Mursidi says

Perebutan Naskah da Vinci

(sumber: Suara Merdeka, Minggu 28 Oktober 07)

Judul: Deadly Triangle,

Pengarang: Lewis Perdue

Penerbit: Dastan Books, Jakarta

Cetakan : Pertama, Juli 2007

(512 halaman)

SEBUAH karya sastra memang tak semestinya ditulis berdasarkan fakta, apalagi hanya sekedar merekam peristiwa sejarah yang pernah terjadi di masa lampau. Karena pada dasarnya fiksi merupakan capaian ikhtiar pengarang meniti jalan berkelok dalam menerobos "relung-relung" sejarah, juga realitas. Tak pelak, kalau "jalan peniruan" itu yang kemudian dipilih atau ditempuh, tidak mustahil, karya sastra yang lahir tak ubahnya sebongkah foto hasil jepretan kamera. Indah dan menggugah, tetapi kurang bisa memantik kesadaran pembaca untuk berpikir kritis.

Tapi novel Deadly Triangle (aslinya berjudul The Da Vinci Legacy; 1983) karya Lewis Perdue ini termasuk perkecualian. Meski sebagaimana diakui pengarang yang kini tinggal di Sonoma, California ini ditulis berdasarkan fakta sejarah, Perdue tetap tak terjebak pada setumpuk bahan literer "sejarah yang bisu" melainkan dapat melangkah lebih jauh, menyeruak di balik bilik peristiwa juga melampaui realitas dan lorong-lorong masa lalu yang nyaris tidak terekam sejarah.

Jika diibaratkan, sejarah merupakan kisah tentang pertumpahan darah orang yang membunuh, mencuri, dan bahkan melakukan berbagai hal di tengah lautan. Tak mustahil, apa yang terjadi di tepian laut justru luput dari perhatian. Nah, Perdue melalui novel ini dapat diibaratkan menulis kisah mengenai apa yang terjadi di tepian laut tersebut.

Kisah yang terjadi di tepi laut itu dituturkan oleh pengarang dengan jalan membuka lapis demi lapis "lingkaran maut" The Elect Brothers (kelompok biarawan keturunan St. Peter), Nazi, GRU (intelejen kemiliteran Rusia), dan Vatikan dalam memperebutkan naskah kuno karya da Vinci. Awalnya, Kingsbury membeli sebuah naskah kuno Leonardo dari keluarga Caizzi. Saat Vance Erikson --sarjana da Vinci yang dipercaya Kingsbury-- mengamati dengan cermat, ternyata ia tahu naskah kuno da Vinci itu dipalsukan.

Sontak, Kingsbury dan Vance ingin mengetahui "isi dari naskah yang hilang" itu, serta mencari tahu di balik pemalsuan tersebut. Tapi, saat Vance menyelidiki lebih jauh, dia justru dihadang berbagai peristiwa aneh. Tiga orang ahli da Vinci yang mau ditemui justru meninggal dunia dan ia bahkan menjadi target pembunuhan. Dari petunjuk yang ditulis Martini, satu dari tiga ahli da Vinci yang terbunuh, Vance kemudian terbang ke Italia. Jalinan kisah pun jadi berbelit, karena Vance selalu diburu oleh sekelompok orang yang tidak jelas beralifiasi di pihak mana.

Alhasil, novel ini selain menghibur dapat dipastikan juga menyentak kesadaran pembaca.***

*) n_mursidi, cerpenis asal Lasem, Jateng. Kini tinggal di pinggiran Jakarta.

Calle says

This novel is fast paced, with lots of action and some nice conspiracy touches. My only complaint is the sloppy update in the 2004 edition (the novel was first published in 1983) which has resulted in some weird anachronisms and inconsistencies in time and setting. If you can overlook this (or I suppose if you read the original version), it's a fun, quick read. 4-

Hayley says

The novel was alright, very much follows the cliché of the hard hero who will always prevail and get what he wants in the end. Not heavily based on Da Vinci. It's based around people wanting to get their hands on some of his writings for new ideas of powerful weapons.

A few areas were stretching it a bit far, especially the graveyard in the monastery. Lots of famous people being "disappeared", their deaths faked and being imprisoned there.

Nothing like Dan Brown's 'The Da Vinci Code'

Nick says

I couldn't even finish it. It was so predictable and bland. I zoned out far too many times while reading it and then had no idea where the characters were and why they were doing what they were doing. Also, the characters were all over the place. One minute Vance seems like this shy professor type, the next he seems like an FBI agent, and then the next some bad boy. Suzanne was horrible. She was clearly the love interest from the start; detesting him, but then asking him out and falling head over heels for him (and of course, he did the same with her). Predictable.

The plot was a bunch of clichés. Da Vinci was almost completely forgotten. I'm still not sure what his codex even had to do with the plot; was it a forgery or was it missing?

If it wasn't for the fact that this was written in the 80s, I would have assumed it was a horrible knock-off of the Da Vinci Code, which I loved. Instead it was edited later to be a horrible knock-off. Why the author would edit his book to have it keep up with the times, is beyond me. There was no consistency as to when the story was supposed to take place because of the pointless edits.

Needless to say, I forced myself to read two-hundred pages before I realized that I just didn't care about the characters and what happened to them. I wouldn't waste your time. Read Dan Brown's version instead.

Mirella Grace says

Cerita ini tidak terlalu seru dan bagus kalau dibandingkan dengan the Daughter of God karya pengarang yang sama. Tapi, ceritanya tetap seru dan menarik.

Memang sejarah hidup Leonardo DaVinci selalu asyik untuk ditelaah ya, dari mulai The Medici Dagger, lukisan Monalisa, sampai lukisan The Last Supper.

Kathy Sheridan says

Don't bother

David Chess says

This would be an obvious ripoff of The Da Vinci Code, except that it was written first. The reader may draw their own conclusion, or for extra fun read the various websites and postings and comment threads and lawsuits real and threatened on the subject, as found in your favorite search engine. Doing that might in fact be more entertaining than either of the books! :)

This is an average airplane-reading potboiler about evil orders of Catholic (or faux Catholic) priests bent on world domination, lost secrets of Leonardo, car chases, assassinations, a plucky tough guy who overcomes all odds to save the world and get the girl, impossible escapes, implausibly flammable buildings, and so forth. The writing isn't unbearably bad, and the pacing is fine. Also lots of cool Italian placenames and stuff.

Vettius29 says

Good book. Many ideas from Perdue's book later show up in Dan Brown's DaVinci Code. While the authors of Holy Blood, Holy Grail claim he took ideas from their book, I think Perdue had a better case. Favorite Lewis Perdue book is "Daughter of God", one of the few fictional books that I have read twice.

Melissa says

I had to see how it ended. Not sure how impressed I was. It wasn't horrible but a lot confused me. It had elements I'm always attracted to though: nazis, the C.I.A., the papacy, high speed chases, castles... and then the city I went to high school in and a college there were mentioned even though the author is from Mississippi.

Not sure if I'd recommend to others. But it was good to me.

Julie says

This book was originally released in 1983, then was tweaked for a re-release in 2004 amongst all the DaVinci Code hubbub. However, this book lacks the cultural and historical awe of Brown's famous novel and a number of others who jumped on the religious conspiracy-theory type novel bandwagon. Purdue tries to fit in too much action and not enough character development or history, leaving DaVinci himself to take a backseat to international politics and economics. Plus, while Purdue tries to update his book for the 21st century (euros, Iraq war, 9/11) he fails to make other necessary adjustments, which leave the timeline inconsistent and half of the narrative stuck in the early 80's.

The hero, Vance has a background in the military, while being a rogue oil locator and the most experienced amateur DaVinci scholar in the world. Um, how convenient for a guy like him to have so many obscure skills. His accomplice in the adventure is enemy reporter turned lover, Suzanne, who happens to be an ex-spy, another set of useful abilities to go along with Vance's as they dodge bullets, make narrow escapes, and add to the body count. And though Suzanne still holds a grudge for being spurned by Lance in college, the immediacy of their professions of love seem a bit implausible.

The only moderately fascinating plot point was the mystery behind the secret organization, which wields uncanny power and has a bizarre if fanciful history. But the captivating things that should have been more elaborately portrayed fell short. There is not enough about DaVinci and the religious aspects of the plot. It tries too hard to be about international conspiracy that is so far reaching it seems ridiculous. While Purdue tried to capitalize on a hot topic that was revitalized in fiction, he would have been better off completely re-writing the book and thoroughly revising the sub-par dialogue, rethinking the poor decisions made by the characters, completely modernizing it, and developing the plot to be more engaging.
