



The Zahir: A Novel of Obsession

By Paulo Coelho

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The narrator of *The Zahir* is a bestselling novelist who lives in Paris and enjoys all the privileges money and celebrity bring. His wife of ten years, Esther, is a war correspondent who has disappeared along with a friend, Mikhail, who may or may not be her lover.

Was Esther kidnapped, murdered, or did she simply escape a marriage that left her unfulfilled? The narrator doesn't have any answers, but he has plenty of questions of his own. Then one day Mikhail finds the narrator and promises to reunite him with his wife. In his attempt to recapture a lost love, the narrator discovers something unexpected about himself.

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The Zahir: A Novel of Obsession By Paulo Coelho Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

The press chat cites 65 million copies of Coelho's eight previous novels in print, making the Brazilian author one of the world's bestselling novelists (150 countries and 56 languages). This book, whose title means "the present" or "unable to go unnoticed" in Arabic, has an initial staggered laydown of eight million copies in 83 countries and 42 languages. It centers on the narrator's search for his missing wife, Esther, a journalist who fled Iraq in the runup to the present war, only to disappear from Paris; the narrator, a writer, is freed from suspicion when his lover, Marie, comes forward with a (true) alibi. He seeks out Mikhail, the man who may be Esther's most recent lover and with whom she was last seen, who has abandoned his native Kazakhstan for a kind of speaking tour on love. Mikhail introduces the narrator to a global underground "tribe" of spiritual seekers who resist, somewhat vaguely, conventional ways of living. Through the narrator's journey from Paris to Kazakhstan, Coelho explores various meanings of love and life, but the impact of these lessons is diminished significantly as they are repeated in various forms by various characters. Then again, 65 million readers can't be wrong; the spare, propulsive style that drove *The Alchemist*, *Eleven Minutes* and Coelho's other books will easily carry fans through myriad iterations of the ways and means of *amor*. (Sept.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

From [Booklist](#)

Subtitled *A Novel of Obsession*, this tale is the philosophical and spiritual chronicle of one man's quest for self-discovery. Stunned by his wife's inexplicable disappearance from their Paris home and immediately suspected of foul play by the authorities and the press, the unnamed protagonist, a best-selling writer, is forced to reexamine both his marital relationship and his own life. What he eventually discovers with the help of a -mysterious stranger named Mikhail--a man he suspects is somehow involved in Esther's disappearance--is that he must first "find himself" before he can ever hope to find his wife. Although Esther is physically and emotionally lost to him, he rediscovers her as he retraces both her footsteps and the disintegration of their visceral connection. Finally able to release the past and his anger, he can accept the uncertainty of the present by traveling to Kazakhstan with Mikhail in search of Esther and the remote possibility of resurrecting a dormant love. As in *The Alchemist* (1993), Coelho continues to prove himself a contemporary fabulist, spinning irresistible stories while seeking enlightenment at the same time. Interwoven with details drawn from his life, the mesmerizing narrative offers a highly personal meditation on the meaning and the power of love. *Margaret Flanagan*
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Review

"Coelho is a novelist who writes in a universal language." (New York Times)

"Fans of Paulo Coelho will love this eloquent meditation on commitment--as will anyone who's ever been in a relationship." (Marie Claire)

"If you read Coelho's book *The Alchemist*, then you should definitely read this.... There's really no one else like him." (Vibe)

"Likely to entrance even the most cynical of readers." (Bloomberg.com)

"An enlightening story of faith and the reclamation of pure love." (Library Journal)

“A fast-moving, captivating, both satirical and thoughtful novel about love and desire.” (Edmonton Journal (Alberta))

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Ronnie Hamilton:

Book is actually written, printed, or outlined for everything. You can know everything you want by a reserve. Book has a different type. To be sure that book is important issue to bring us around the world. Next to that you can your reading skill was fluently. A book The Zahir: A Novel of Obsession will make you to become smarter. You can feel far more confidence if you can know about every thing. But some of you think this open or reading a new book make you bored. It is far from make you fun. Why they may be thought like that? Have you searching for best book or suited book with you?

Harold Hutchison:

A lot of people always spent their own free time to vacation or maybe go to the outside with them friends and family or their friend. Were you aware? Many a lot of people spent that they free time just watching TV, or maybe playing video games all day long. If you wish to try to find a new activity that's look different you can read any book. It is really fun to suit your needs. If you enjoy the book that you read you can spent the entire day to reading a reserve. The book The Zahir: A Novel of Obsession it is quite good to read. There are a lot of people who recommended this book. These folks were enjoying reading this book. In the event you did not have enough space to develop this book you can buy the particular e-book. You can m0ore simply to read this book out of your smart phone. The price is not to fund but this book features high quality.

Kevin Lemon:

The reason why? Because this The Zahir: A Novel of Obsession is an unordinary book that the inside of the guide waiting for you to snap this but latter it will shock you with the secret it inside. Reading this book beside it was fantastic author who else write the book in such wonderful way makes the content on the inside easier to understand, entertaining way but still convey the meaning totally. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this any longer or you going to regret it. This unique book will give you a lot of rewards than the other book possess such as help improving your expertise and your critical thinking way. So , still want to hold off having that book? If I were you I will go to the guide store hurriedly.

Daniel Watkins:

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