



The Story of B

By Daniel Quinn

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The Story of B By Daniel Quinn

The Story of B combines Daniel Quinn's provocative and visionary ideas with a masterfully plotted story of adventure and suspense in this stunning, resonant novel that is sure to stay with readers long after they have finished the last page. Father Jared Osborne--bound by a centuries-old mandate held by his order to know before all others that the Antichrist is among us--is sent to Europe on a mission to find a peripatetic preacher whose radical message is attracting a growing circle of followers. The target of Osborne's investigation is an American known only as B. He isn't teaching New Age platitudes or building a fanatical following; instead, he is quietly uncovering the hidden history of our planet, redefining the fall of man, and retracing a path of human spirituality that extends millions of years into the past. From the beginning, Fr. Osborne is stunned, outraged, and awed by the simplicity and profundity of B's teachings. Is B merely a heretic--or is he the Antichrist sent to seduce humanity not with wickedness, but with ideas more alluring than those of traditional religion? With surprising twists and fascinating characters, *The Story of B* answers this question as it sends readers on an intellectual journey that will forever change the way they view spirituality, human history, and, indeed, the state of our present world.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Quinn returns to fiction after a five-year hiatus with a sequel of sorts to *Ishmael*, winner of the Turner Tomorrow Award in 1991. Like its controversial predecessor, this book is not really a novel, but an extended Socratic dialogue that promulgates the same animist solutions to global problems that the author recorded last year in his spiritual autobiography, *Providence: The Story of a Fifty-Year Vision Quest*. The narrator, Jared Osborne, is a priest of the Laurentians, a fictional Roman Catholic order under an ancient, covert mandate to stand watch against the coming of the Antichrist. Although skeptical, Jared is enjoined by his superior to investigate Charles Atterley, an expatriate American preacher known to his followers as "B." Allowing Jared into his inner circle in Munich, B soon dispels both the concern that he is the Antichrist and the shivery intimations of apocalypse that make the opening chapters darkly intriguing. Through long, often numbingly repetitive parables and speeches, B instructs Jared in the solutions to overpopulation, ecological despoliation, cultural intolerance and other ills that have dogged civilization since the time of "the Great Forgetting" 10,000 years ago. B's smug pontificating and his disciples' unquestioning devotion reduces them to interchangeable mouthpieces for Quinn's philosophies. As a result, Jared's spiritual conversion away from Roman Catholicism and toward Quinn-ism, intended to be the book's dramatic high point, falls painfully flat. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From Library Journal

Quinn, author of the best-selling cult classic *Ishmael* (LJ 12/91), returns with another quasispiritual tale about a priest who awaits the arrival of the Antichrist. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From [Booklist](#)

Continuing the thought-provoking philosophical construct that he set up in *Ishmael* (1991), Quinn provides an even deeper and more wide-ranging story: Is the guru known as B the Antichrist? Jared Osborne is a priest of the Laurentian order, one of whose religious tasks is to identify the Antichrist. He is sent to Germany to ingratiate himself with B and divine his mission. Not surprisingly, Jared is soon in much deeper than he could possibly have imagined, questioning every facet of his own beliefs. Like his previous book, Quinn's new novel is heavily structured as philosophic instruction; here the topics are religions based on animism versus those based on salvation, the nature of society, and the destruction of the planet. Although this sounds like heavy going (and occasionally it is), the book is also enormously readable, with several shocking plot twists that help mold what could have been just a treatise into a good story. A must for fans of *Ishmael*, this disturbing, intelligent book will also attract new readers. *Ilene Cooper*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Sandra Conaway:

Book is definitely written, printed, or created for everything. You can know everything you want by a book. Book has a different type. As we know that book is important point to bring us around the world. Close to that you can your reading proficiency was fluently. A book *The Story of B* will make you to always be smarter. You can feel a lot more confidence if you can know about every thing. But some of you think that will open or reading a new book make you bored. It is not make you fun. Why they could be thought like

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