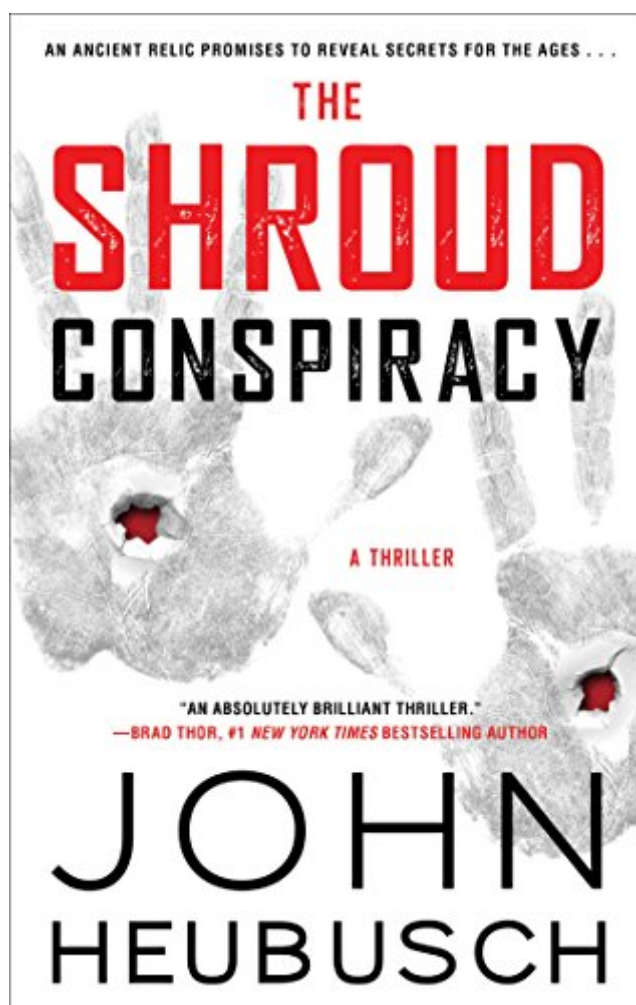


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The Shroud Conspiracy: A Thriller (The Shroud Series Book 1)



Synopsis

In this intense and “absolutely brilliant thriller” (#1 New York Times bestselling author Brad Thor), a forensic anthropologist sets out to prove that the Shroud of Turin is a fake, but quickly discovers the opposite and must race to stop the evil forces who want to use traces of blood in the fabric to clone Jesus Christ and bring on the second coming of their own design. Throughout his career, forensic anthropologist and outspoken atheist Dr. Jon Bondurant has investigated many religious artifacts said to be real, but he knows better. Only weak minds rely on such obviously false relics to maintain their silly, pointless faith. So when he is invited by the Vatican to examine the Shroud of Turin, said to be the burial cloth that covered the body of Christ and the most revered of all Christian artifacts he is delighted for the opportunity to prove once and for all that the Shroud is a fake. But when he meets Domenika Josef, the beautiful and devout Vatican representative who finds him arrogant and self-important, he realizes his task will not be as straightforward as he once imagined. Domenika believes that the relic is real, and wants nothing more than to rescue the tarnished reputation of the church by announcing the good news. As Bondurant and his team examine every element of the Shroud, he and Domenika begin to see each other in a whole new light. And as the evidence about the origin of this highly contested piece of fabric starts to pile up, he begins to realize that he’s been seeing a lot of things incorrectly. But when a sample of the blood from the Shroud believed to be the real blood of Jesus Christ vanishes, he realizes his problems are just beginning. The DNA in that sample could have earth-shattering consequences if it falls into the wrong hands. When Domenika vanishes too, Bondurant is caught in a globe-spanning chase to rescue the woman he loves and stop the evil forces who have their own motives for bringing on the Second Coming.

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Customer Reviews

Loved the fast-paced story! Peppered throughout with interesting characters. I had fun "globe-trotting" with this weekend read. Was refreshing to see a Polish female portrayed as a strong-willed, witty & likable character. As a dog-lover, I almost stopped reading after an incident involving Aldo. I second-guessed how that might get resolved, and was rewarded well for my patience and faith. I also found Father Parenti to be loveable in a quirky way. But I have a lot of unresolved suspicions about Father Barsanti. Being just a no-name uncredentialed reader, I know what I like, and I know what I don't. The protagonist was NOT a likable character. For me, Bondurant was not three-dimensional. His character seemed cliché from the start -- the absent-minded professor type who chases after young things in tight skirts. Good gosh, do professors do anything else on campuses these days, or shall we devote an entirely new genre to them? Yawn. If I could change Bondurant, I would wish for him to develop further, perhaps by offering the reader snappier dialogue peppered with sharper humor, or some other qualities along those lines that would overshadow his vanity and arrogance. Didn't exactly like the ending, or rather where it ended, as it felt like a classic set-up for the next book. (Also, all the name-dropping in the Acknowledgements at the end seemed excessive. Got it! You're well-connected. Congrats. Don't be such a Bondurant about it.) That said, I will probably engage my money in buying the sequel to this novel, with the hope that Bondurant becomes all the man that he could be. Certainly, Mr. Heubusch, you possess the credentials needed to pull that off. Now get to work! (BTW, you can thank your friend Levin for spending valuable air-time on mentioning this novel, as that is what brought me to purchase it. As usual, Levin was correct with his assessment.)

Well researched and a very compelling story. Cannot wait for the sequel to come out. This book will

definitely be made into a movie. John Heubusch is already a great story teller and it is only his first book. What a talent. Five stars. Bravo Zulu.

While this book was extremely entertaining and exciting be warned it has a cliff hanging ending! What next? Well worth the time to read!

Couldn't put the book down. The main characters were strong but unique in their individual way. I liked the physical strength of Jon, the religious strength of Dominika and the spiritual strength of Father Parenti, all three of which were engulfed with truth, honesty and sincerity. The very interesting plot was so thought provoking. Bravo to the author for his first novel!

I'm no book critic but I like this book quite a bit. There are a variety of characters that you could cheer for or against, and many more developed enough you can kind of get to know them although I wouldn't have minded if the work had been 30 to 70 pages longer with more in-depth character development for most of the characters. Maybe that's just me. I like the story I like the subject matter and I was sorry to see the novel come to an end. I do recommend this book 4 people who like a lot of mystery and intrigue a little faith strengthening and hope.

A great spring break read or must add for your summer reading list. It's positively fascinating.

Seems a little repetitive in places but generally is a very good, interesting read. If you like Dan Brown you will appreciate this book.

Lots of twists however predictable, but well worth the read. Truly engaging and full of smart connections that want to make you keep reading.

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