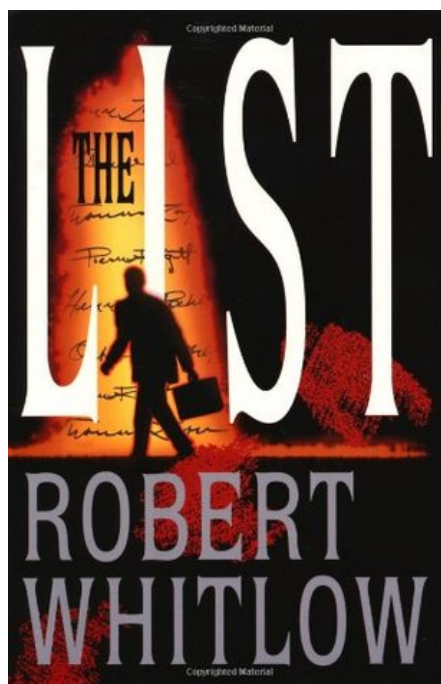




The List

Robert Whitlow

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A sudden death tied to a list from the past leads to unimaginable evil.

Fresh out of law school and full of hope for the future, Renny Jacobson is stunned by his father's sudden death--and then by the terms of the will: the elder Jacobson has left the bulk of his estate to charity. For his only son, he has left nothing more than the contents of a deposit box and interest in a company no one has heard of--the Covenant List of South Carolina, Ltd.

When Renny encounters lovely Jo Johnston, meets the members of "The List," and discovers the staggering value of his father's mysterious bequest, his hope is resurrected. But why is Jo, to whom he is deeply attracted, so reluctant for him to claim his rightful share?

Renny feels the supernatural power of the 140-year-old covenant--feels it and wants it for himself. But when his life and Jo's begin to unravel, he is forced to face the truth about "The List." And nothing short of a miracle will save them from its grasp.

The List Details

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From Reader Review The List for online ebook

Beverly Lum says

Excellent writing! Mr Whitlow always delivers a five star captivating read!

I always get lost in the telling of the stories he writes, I can imagine myself in the book watching events transpire. I particularly like the unpredictable way he weaves his characters into unlikely scenarios, building their faith, and giving Jesus the glory. Inspiring and motivating!

Merry says

The book started with a flashback and quickly moved to present day activities. There was no way to orient the two events.

I felt the narrative moved very slowly through the first half of the book. I laid the book down and didn't know if I would finish it. Then I decided I would go ahead and read the last few chapters to see how it ended. That piqued my interest enough to go back and finish the book. I would have missed quite a lot of good reading if I had not finished The List.

I read this book because I am a Frank Peretti fan and it has a writing style and spiritual dimension that is covered in his books.

Jerry says

Avid readers will tell you that books are usually better than their celluloid adaptations...and, in this case, that's the truth. While the film adaptation was one of the most disappointing flicks I've seen in recent years--which was heartbreaking, given the A-list talent--this book was much better. Even if you prefer movies to literature, you should read this and not bother with the film.

Stefanie says

This book has a ton of good Christian lessons. It is all about spiritual warfare, the fight we face against the powers of evil. It is a good reminder to put on the full armor of God. It can be a bit wordy at times. In my opinion the author spent too much time describing the south. Otherwise it was a good book.

Melanie says

Not quite a Grisham thriller, not a Peretti caliber either but it did keep my attention! I would read more by this author.

Pat says

Christian Audiobook--great book about the power of good and evil and spiritual warfare.

Josiah Jacobson, a young lawyer, known to everyone as Renny, is launched into a world of deceit and wickedness when he reads the terms of his father's will. He is disappointed and angry at his father, who he couldn't really get close to when he was older, until he hears about the money involved in being heir to his membership of The List.

This unholy inheritance is compared to our eternal inheritance in Jesus Christ, and the prophetic vision that his maternal grandfather passed down to him in a letter - he was to destroy the strongholds of idol worship like the godly King Josiah did in the Bible.

When a member of The List dies, his oldest son takes over the membership in this evil secret society , based on greed, lies and covetousness. In fact, we see clearly how the sins of the fathers are passed down through the generations! An example of this is the way Renny gets migraines like his father did as soon as he signs the oath of membership. Also the members have often died in suspicious circumstances.

Renny goes to his first meeting of The List with Jo Johnstone, whose father named her to make it seem as though she was male in order to not lose his family's membership. There is a great deal of money involved, which is what has lured Renny into joining, but Jo only wants to know more about her father. She is a strong Christian and is uneasy about the whole situation, and is uncomfortable with Renny's obvious love of money. The members of The List are afraid of Jo's Christianity.

Largely due to Jo's, Mama A's and his landlady, Daisy Stokes' prayers, Renny realizes his need for the Lord and makes a commitment to the God they serve. He is impressed by the way they talk to God so easily, like a friend.

When he realizes the evil in which he has become involved, he tries to destroy The List in his own strength and ends up bringing danger to the one he loves.

When he reaches rock bottom, he is led by his Christian lawyer to give over the control of his life to Jesus and to repent of his love of money, so that he can fight the battle in the Spirit against the satanic forces lined up against him.

We see the importance of prayer and fasting and even of laying down one's life for one's friends. We see also that the Lord is the God who answers prayers and is true to His Word, delivering and healing His children. This novel is rich in Scripture reference, and is a wonderfully exciting story of the fight between good and evil. It leaves us in no doubt that we cannot fight evil in our own strength, and that nothing is impossible to the Lord.

This is a book that I cannot recommend highly enough, for the gripping plot, the very real characters and the spiritual insight of the author.

Becky says

Different

I read this for my book club, and was surprised at how different the beginning and the end were. Loved reading about places in the Lowcountry of SC.

Shontell Brewer says

Meh. It was good. I think the story was interesting enough, but it seemed to just drag for a while.

Ian Healey says

This is probably the best book I've ever read. The story is of a young man discovering his inheritance from his father is locked into membership in a mysterious secret society. He starts to unravel the secret, falling in love on the way, and finds out more about his father and himself than he could begin to suspect. The showdown sees everything put on the line, his love, friends, faith and his life itself, in a physical and spiritual battle which is exciting, challenging and ultimately believable.

Anne says

I'm deeply ashamed to admit I read this drivel. A new friend(?) recommended this Christian lawyer/writer, said she'd read all his books. That big C should have been my first clue. I was hoping for a gripping story, but instead this is shockingly poorly written, and just a reason to discuss sin/evil/ vs god's direct hand in the cardboard hero's life which equalled about 75% of the story. I haven't quite figured out how to thank her for the loan but certainly won't try another. As an aside, the reviews on this site are just as positive as they are for the genius Tony Morrison so the entire membership of goodreads is now suspect for me.

Caryl says

I enjoyed this story! I was engaged from the beginning. The twists and turns kept me turning the pages. I highly recommend!

Darren Sapp says

This isn't the author's fault, but many suggested this as a legal thriller in the vein of John Grisham. It's not. The main character is a lawyer but there's not much law or thrill in this one. The writing is decent and plot interesting. Just OK.

Lin S. says

I enjoyed the start of this book and looked forward to a good story....and then it took a turn. Would not recommend it.

Alex says

I felt we really could've done without the two hundred pages in the middle that dealt with Renny's finding God again. It distracted from the more interesting part of the story -- the power of the List. We got *one scene* where its darkness became obvious, and it was, for this fan of supernatural/sci-fi/fantasy, exciting. But that was all we got. I guess it's sort of hard to have decent conflict if there's a Deus in your Deus Ex Machina (automatic win, right there). Nice try, though.

Then again, what am I saying? This book is about finding your faith again and being accepted into the family of God despite all the stunts you've pulled in life. In that sense, the story did what it set out to do. As a story, it just wasn't the most compelling book I've read.

Kathy Dobyys says

A Covenant List

Robert Whitlow didn't disappoint in his presentation of "The List". Everything was written in order and his followthrough brought this story to a novel conclusion. I was very satisfied with how inclusive his continual use of Scripture gave glorious detail to the subject matter which was salvation and spiritual warfare. I very much enjoyed his characters. And their whit. Highly recommend.

Deloris Mercer says

Excellent

Thank you Mr. Whitlow for such a wonderful book. The characters were refreshing, and real. The setting was just perfect. The plot was very believable. Lot's of twists and turns.

Gloria says

This was a book that I liked. I like when an author throws threads in at the beginning that are revealed to be extremely relevant at the end of the book (and I like series when they do that). This was one such book. I won't speak more on that because of spoilers.

In the vein of Frank Peretti's Oath/Darkness series and Shaunti Feldhan's novels, the author uses spiritual warfare to drive the story. I compare it to the Oath, but this is a group of men instead of a town - and it's not a dragon killing people, but the use of devilish forces. Contrasted with the Darkness series, the author does not involve angels or show the spiritual warfare explicitly, but rather shows how people are obedient to God's leading in praying for those under attack. Like Shaunti Feldhan's novels, the List instituted a dark authority over a particular group of people - but in this story, the group was kept a secret in order to gain more money through generational investments.

On a personal level, I found that everything flowed together and there was nothing in the book that seemed out of place. I think the author wanted to bring back the old "LOL" meaning "Lots Of Love" instead of

"Laugh Out Loud". He also talked about chat rooms where one could only type eight words at a time and "private rooms" online - which now there are instant messengers everywhere online, so "private rooms" would be "everywhere online".

Because the main conflict was driven by spiritual warfare, the author had to show how fighting worked, who exactly was being fought against, and how various people had different ways of fighting, but it was all done (mostly) by prayer and not by physical action. This book (and the others mentioned above) are probably NOT for anyone who does not have a slight portion of Pentecostal in them.

Mom says

This story line was unique and did keep up my interest plus I enjoyed the history of the Civil War involved and the history, culture and sights of N.[or was it South?]Carolina. It's written from a Christian perspective and thought the theology was pretty much 'right on' except for the curse issue. Question: Can Satan cause a physical illness leading to death of a true believer just by someone cursing that individual? The Holy Spirit within would protect that person is my thinking. Appreciated how it rightly represented the reality of evil and it's power,however. Did feel as tho the conversion of the main character was a bit unrealistic in all its aspects as well as his rapid maturing in the faith.

Matt says

Possibly the worst book I have ever tried to read. One of the few I didn't force myself to finish. It wants to be a mystery and a historical fiction and a love story and a bible lesson. And was bad all of it. Don't bother. If you want Christian fiction, read ted dekker. If you want historical fiction, read William Martin. I think I got this book for free and still paid too much.

Jenny says

I have to say this is a book like none other I've read. Although maybe close to the craze series Left Behind. The book is an easy read and admittedly was kept enthralled throughout but just weird combination of unlawful corruption and somewhat religious zealots. I viewed it as a entertaining book trying to entice a non-believer. I think it could be a great discussion for a bookclub but many may not want to finish if Biblical foundations turn them off. Interesting is all I can think to say... topped with bizarre. ;)
