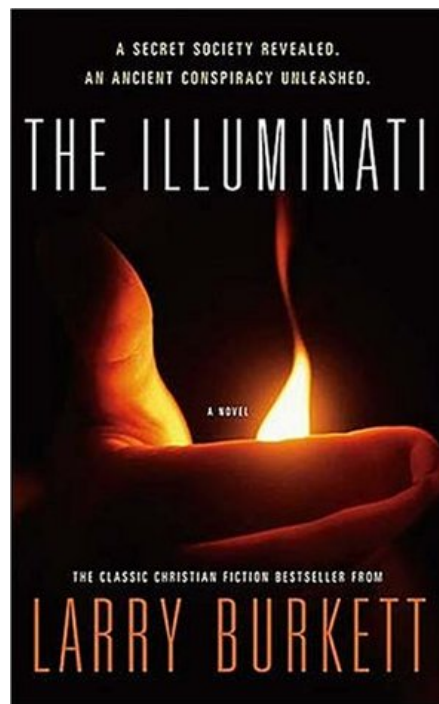




The Illuminati

Larry Burkett

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The Illuminati Larry Burkett

The year is 2001 and the world is on the brink of economic collapse as the Illuminati, a deadly secret organization, succeeds in placing one of their people in the office of the presidency of the United States, gaining control of world events.

The Illuminati Details

Date : Published January 1st 1992 by Thomas Nelson Publishers

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Author : Larry Burkett

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Genre : Fiction, Christian Fiction, Thriller, Christian

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From Reader Review The Illuminati for online ebook

Julie Simons says

Scared

I enjoyed the book, but it did frightened me. To think that God and this great country could be manipulated is now comprehensible.

Michel Meijer says

Horrible. In 200 pages we have read about: an impeached president, a killer tsunami in California, the mother of all earthquakes in Tokyo, a murdered president, all the oil in the world stolen Israel using slant wells, atomic bomb retaliation, cobalt bomb threats, Christian death camps in the USA (really? yes, really), an impeached USA Congress, a satanistic leader that rules the earth, a money-free economy, complete anarchy and martial law in the US, a computer controlled monetary system - oh no it controls everything, China, Japan and Iran going to war in Israel, IDs tattooed on every individual, Christian resistance groups, and a super hacker that "fights" for the good guys. Too much sir! How can you seriously compress that in 200 pages? Oh, add to that no character development but glad we got descriptions of the holy priest, the supersmart computer nerd that falls in love, the nazi-FBI camp guard that likes to strip women forcefully (really? yes really), the Hitler-like bad guy dictator man, and a complete distorted compression of event timing. And all under the nonsense title of "Illuminati". The Christian theme in the book was just annoying. Sadly there was no virus attack or a plague of grasshoppers, that would have completed everything.

Why the hell would you write a story that copies the horrible WW2 Jew genocide by the Nazis to modern USA and Christians under the title "Illuminati". It really freaks me out. As I was expecting a near-future thriller around a shadowy power group (Illuminati) and their power plays as the title and summary on the back cover states, this book does not make sense at all. I like near future thrillers (Suarez and others), but this was so over the top it was hilariously funny (please include grasshoppers the next time). That was also the reason I finished the book, just for the laughs. But for a humoristic tale it is actually also really bad. No stars. Oh you have to give 1. There you go.

Mark LaMountain says

I keep saying this because I happen to be remembering all the earliest books I've read, but this was like, THE FIRST book I can remember just getting entrenched in, on my own.

This book was wicked cool, even with its silly christian spin. :P

Crazy ideas about secret societies, the prediction of earthquakes, super-elaborate systems. It's scary too, that a lot of the stuff it talked about in this fun fictional way is actually being talked about seriously nowadays.

A great book and a wicked cool read. If I can get my hands on a copy of this, I'm totally reading it again.

Sean says

I think this book is FANTASIC!!!! It's thrilling, fast paced, twist-full, and pretty good writing. The story behind it is very exciting and the length is well worth it!

Stacy says

It is interesting that in the author's acknowledgments he said that his sincere desire was to make "good, non-offensive fiction" available to the public, considering this novel is neither good nor non-offensive.

Let's start with the offensive part since that was the first thing I noticed. This book is fundamentalist, conservative, anti-abortion, anti-gay, and anti-ACLU Christian propaganda. I have no problem with Christian fiction and read quite a bit of it, but I do not take kindly to the ACLU, homosexuals, or pro-choice people being clearly aligned on the side of evil. Case in point - when the head of the "NCLU" (the fictional stand in for the ACLU) is promoted to attorney general, the pastor main character says something like, "now I REALLY know we are fighting against the side of evil." People protesting for gay rights are frequently described as trouble makers of various sorts, and their symbol is an upside down cross, as an anti-Christian symbol.

As for the writing and plot, there was a lot to be desired. I enjoy a good thriller, especially one of the conspiracy theory persuasion, which is why I picked up this book in the first place. This one was not good. The plot was set in the author's future and our past - written in 1991, takes place in 2001. However, there was a lot of historical information to fill in (from 1991 to 2001), so many of the events in the book took place in the past. Those parts were dry and disjointed. There are also so many characters. Instead of a few main characters or a small ensemble, there were far too many characters. They were always getting killed or carted off somewhere and it became very hard to keep track of them all. Sometimes they would pop back into the story, but sometimes they would pop back into the story 100's of pages later so I couldn't remember exactly who they were. The dialog was terrible. I had to laugh sometimes. And some lines were extremely cheesy - for example, "Randy left the cabin feeling like he had just received the Nobel Peace Prize - only from the Lord."

By the last third or so of the book, I realized that it was just a big preachy bit of propaganda. Aside from the whole "gays are bad" aspect, it just got really preachy at the end. And this coming from a Christian! But I suppose since I support gay marriage and don't think abortion is necessarily murder, maybe the author thinks I need to still be saved. Ugh.

Cathy says

I read it a long time ago, but remember that I really enjoyed it.

Calle says

This review is from back in 2008 when I read the book. It deserves to be here because it shows how crazy the book is:

(This review is based on the 1991 edition of the book. apparently some details have been altered in the 2004 edition)

I suspect the title of this book was chosen to cash in on the mythical Illuminati, which has nothing to do with the secret society in this novel, "The Society" (although Burkett calls it the Illuminati a few times when first describing it). Burkett's Illuminati is a group whose goals, besides world power, is to "establish Satan's kingdom on Earth". Needless to say, they hate Christians, which we are told more times than I can count. The novel is set in 2001 (re-edited version in 2015), ten years after it was written, and somehow everybody in the USA, except for a small minority, is now against Christianity. Considering that a vast majority of americans are christians, this scenario is just too implausible to believe.

Instead of just telling his story, Burkett constantly voices his own opinions, calling liberals "fanatics" and portraying liberals as anti-Christian, foul-mouthed, coke snorting homosexuals who somehow managed to outlaw religious broadcasters and turn their tv and radio stations over to the evil "Gay power" groups. The bad guys are laughable stereotypes:

"By this time an avowed socialist and atheist, Sievers was attracted to a young English woman traveling with the group. Their mutual interests included an elitist view of themselves, a disdain of religion, and a desire to establish a new world order." (p.90)

Later in the book we have large mobs assaulting and killing Christians, carrying signs with an inverted cross, which according to Burkett is a symbol of the gay rights movement. The gay rights people continue their killings and in the meantime we learn how liberals want to harvest organs from babies. If Ann Coulter would write a novel, it would probably be like this one.

In the foreword, Burkett tells us he is a talented writer (leave that up to the reader to decide, why don't you?) and that the story is realistic. Unfortunately, he's wrong on both points. As for the realism, there is none. The Christian resistance movement can do absolutely anything by hacking the "Data-Net", and the government is left clueless as to how they do it. And the writing, all other flaws aside, is awful. He constantly jumps between different perspectives and even locations within the same scene. It's a mess.

A reliable source told me that Burkett was, although a bad fiction author, a wonderful man. If that is true, this book doesn't show it. Instead he comes off as simple minded, homophobic and paranoid. And an incompetent writer. Read this book only if you want to read some of the worst religious fiction there is. As trash, it is somewhat entertaining but it's too boring to qualify as true "so bad it's good" trash.

Mainon says

This, weirdly, was one of the formative books of my elementary-school years. No, it's not a young adult book. I was just a weird kid.

The year was 1992. I was nine years old, and two months into fifth grade. My parents had just moved us to a new house, which meant a new school, and the kids in my class were about to spend three days taking a standardized test-- the same standardized test I had taken a couple of weeks before at my old school. The new school obviously thought it would be dandy if I would consent just to take the test again, but I refused. So for three days, I sat in the principal's office and read while my classmates clutched No. 2 pencils and stared at row after row of scantron bubbles.

Don't ask why I wasn't allowed to stay home instead of sitting in the principal's office, because I have no

idea. But in those days, I didn't really care where I was sitting as long as I was allowed to read. Yes, I say "allowed" to read, because I read so much that my mother would occasionally tear the book out of my hands in exasperation, hoping to jolt me into participating in conversation at the dinner table. The woman who cut my hair when I was growing up told me later that she was always terrified that my hair would come out noticeably crooked, because I insisted on having my head bent down toward my book during my haircuts.

Back to the story. I'm sure I looked ridiculous, hanging out in the school administrative offices at age 9 with a book approximately the size of my head. But this book blew me away. I was riveted. Fascinated. It was, now that I think about it, probably my very first step into a dystopian future. I remember astonishing levels of detail, twenty years later, down to the year, make, and model of the car that figures into one of the escape scenes. (A 1993 Chevy Caprice, if you care, which you don't, because it is the epitome of trivial detail. Still, as a kid I loved the idea of a capricious car, which is probably why I remember it.)

This is the book that first taught me the word "tsunami," a word that no one else around me learned until 2004. This is the book that first caused me to think about how credit cards and debit cards could be used to track someone's movements. This is the book that first sent me fumbling in my pocket for a dollar bill, to examine for myself the weird eyeball on top of a pyramid that was pictured there. Finally, this is the book that is probably at the root of my tendency to develop mild crushes on computer nerds.

So twenty years later, I tip my hat to Larry Burkett. Thanks for writing a book that captivated me completely.

Lorna says

While I don't doubt there are evil forces at work I don't believe they are as shown in this book. This is the first book I have read by a "Christian" author and it may be the last. The use of the word Illuminati in the title is a cheap tactic to suck the reader in. It worked. This story is not even well told. 2 stars is probably generous.

Kim M-M says

It really skewed my view of the world! I've been so naive! :) Really good adventure/political/ thriller, though it leaves you a little bit messed up.

Philipp Dollmann says

quite good

Amy says

I have the updated version from 2004. It is the original book, but with updated times, people, etc. Instead of it all happening in 2001, it's 2015.

I am getting towards the end of it. Even though it's a christian book, it's a very good read. When I started it less than a week ago, the first few pages didn't quite grab me. But when the earthquake in Japan happened,

and the tsunami on the west coast, it caught my attention. It just got better and better from there. The conspiracy to eradicate the christians and the jews and anyone that helped them is all very scary. A government gone mad and wanting to take over the world. Hey, that sounds a lot like what is going on now in Congress. ;) It really makes you think and you may never feel the same way about the government again after reading this.

If I would have heeded the bad reviews on this book, I would have missed a very good read! I am just sorry that I will be finishing it tomorrow.

Nora St Laurent says

“In the year 2015, an ancient society takes over the presidency. The world's only prayer rests with a handful of Christians ready to take on the illuminati.

From before the time of Christ, there have been rumors of a secret society called the Illuminati - a vicious tribe of Druids with mystical, supernatural powers. Many saw them as demons or gods. Those who opposed them simply disappeared - or met an even worse fate.

As the centuries passed, this shadow - like group cloaked themselves in new identities, slowly infiltrating world organizations and financial institutions. The stealthy society had a singular goal - to bring the planet to its knees by controlling the world's economic system.

Now fast-forward to the year 2015. The Illuminati has succeeded in placing one of their people in the office of the presidency of the United States. With the worldwide launch of a financial system known as Data-New, they have gained seemingly unlimited power.

The Illuminati is a futuristic thriller tied to ancient mysticism that will leave fans of Christian Fiction wondering where facts fantasy begins.”

Disclosure of Material Connection:

I received a complimentary copy of this book from the publisher. I was not required to write a positive review. The opinions I have expressed are my own. I am disclosing this in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255 “Guides Concerning the Use of Endorsements and Testimonials in Advertising”

Nora St Laurent

TBCN Where Book Fun Begins www.bookfun.org

The Book Club Network blog www.psalms16.blogspot.com

Book Fun Magazine www.bookfunmagazine.com

Beth Miller says

Considering the fact that my father was once a Free Mason...this book was of great interest to me. It was also, quite accurate and just a bit scary. Imagine a world that is so easily controlled by an elite group. Where the use of violent force is not given a second thought...makes one wonder. I found the writing a little bit slow at times, but for the most part...particularly toward the end...I had a difficult time putting it down. A great read!

Suz says

I enjoyed this book very much. It was written in 1991 and this novel is a pretty darned good picture of what's happening in the world right now, including the earthquake/tsunami that hit Japan, the economy, the state of the middle east, the problems facing the United States, etc. It's pretty eerie how closely this author seemed to have looked into the future. The internet was not widespread in 1991...remember Prodigy and Compuserve? The author calls it the Data-Net, but wow...very interesting so far.
