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Inferno: A Novel (Robert Langdon Book 4)



Synopsis

In his international blockbusters *The Da Vinci Code*, *Angels & Demons*, and *The Lost Symbol*, Dan Brown masterfully fused history, art, codes, and symbols. In this riveting new thriller, Brown returns to his element and has crafted his highest-stakes novel to date. In the heart of Italy, Harvard professor of symbology Robert Langdon is drawn into a harrowing world centered on one of history's most enduring and mysterious literary masterpieces . . . Dante's *Inferno*. Against this backdrop, Langdon battles a chilling adversary and grapples with an ingenious riddle that pulls him into a landscape of classic art, secret passageways, and futuristic science. Drawing from Dante's dark epic poem, Langdon races to find answers and decide whom to trust . . . before the world is irrevocably altered.

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Customer Reviews

This is the first time that I have read Mr. Brown's book and I found I just can't help loving it. It is a complex tale in very interesting language, which was excellent from the start to the end. Dan Brown uses a lot of history and art into the story, which in a

way feels like having an art lesson at home. The interesting subject, compelling characterizations, an appealing plot that moves easily from one scene to the next, also remind me of thinking about the world where we live in. What really hit me most is that it also presents some really interesting and deep questions, such as, the future of humanity and a legitimate threat to the species. A good book is not only excellent in its characters and its plots, but also able to inspire its readers to think, to ponder and to make progress. Therefore, I give this five stars and highly recommend you to read it.

I found this to be the least interesting of the Robert Langdon books. There may be a spoiler here so proceed with caution. There is much history in the descriptions of various locations in Italy and Turkey and that is okay, but sometimes it seems like filler. There is a plot twist that I don't think makes much sense and the ending is, well, okay. It just kind of ends. In other books Robert Langdon actually does something. In this book, the end result would have been the same with or without Robert. And what is the entire point of the book, meaning the plot? Why would someone intent on creating the "device" make a way for it to be discovered in such a convoluted way? The dude would have created the device then set it off and probably would live to see the results. One could do that and not even make it known to the world. And the creator would probably have set some off in multiple locations as it was basically undetectable under normal circumstances. Why not place a few in various airports around the world? And why suicide? Just make it, spread the virus without letting people know, sit back and watch if the world catches on. Oh well.

I couldn't wait to read still another installment featuring Dan Brown's character, the brilliant professor, Robert Langdon . In *Inferno* Robert Langdon meets Sienna Brooks a young woman almost as brilliant as him. Unfortunately he can't remember her as he awakens in a hospital bed with amnesia. After an attack on his doctor and with the help of Sienna he embarks on a life and death escape from people who for whatever reason want to kill him. His only clues are in Dante's *Divine Comedy*. We, readers are taken on a wild tour of Florence, Venice and Istanbul. The story ends up having as many twists and turns as these ancient city streets. I almost gave this 4 stars for the fact that so much description was given to the locales and backgrounds of Dante and other artists. But the story doesn't disappoint and is no doubt controversial in it's thought. My only regret is the fact that I didn't get the illustrated version, which I may still do. I urge those who haven't got their copies yet to get the illustrated book which is also available for Kindle.

I was a big fan of The Da Vinci Code, even though I got a lot of flack from many friends and fellow readers. I read a LOT of books, and although I agree these novels aren't high literature filled with dog-eared pages of quotable prose, I think they are a lot of fun and I think you can learn a lot as well. I read the Da Vinci Code when it first came out and knew very little about Biblical theories, especially those surrounding Mary Magdalene. So without spoilers, let me say that I was really surprised and interested about the twists that were in that book. Both in that book and in this one, there are discussions about European art and history. I know a little more about that having been an art history minor in college, but Dan Brown really has fun (and so did this reader) in exploring the intricacies and possible hidden meanings and details of many old writings, and in showing us the secret portals to ancient churches and mosques not seen on your average tour. In this case, what is explored in detail is Dante's Inferno, although other works and historical sites are detailed as well. The story itself is about professor of religious iconography Robert Langdon - Dan's Brown's recurring hero - who tries to stop a madman from unleashing a possible plague on humanity. And to do so requires figuring out the secrets hidden away in Dante's epic poem. Yes, yes, I know. There are many far-fetched things and you may not want to look all that closely at plot details but instead have fun and know that you will learn things along the way. I loved learning things such as the following: "By the time city officials realized it was the rats that were causing the disease, it was too late, but Venice still enforced a decree by which all incoming vessels had to anchor offshore for a full forty days before they would be permitted to unload. To this day, the number forty - quaranta in Italian - served as a grim reminder of the rings of the word quarantine." I have tried reading Angels and Demons and found I didn't get too far, but this book was the first one since the Da Vinci Code that kept ahold of me till the end. Lots of fun, and you even learn some interesting stuff along the way.

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