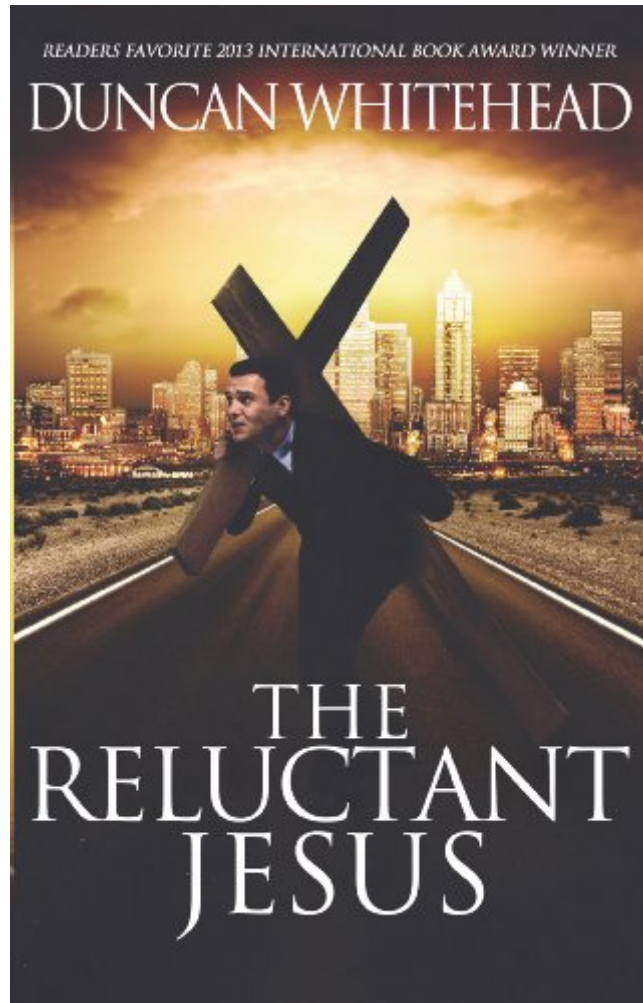


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The Reluctant Jesus: An Apocalyptic Laugh Out Loud Dark Comedy



Synopsis

Winner of the Reader's Favorite 2014 International Book Award for Comedy The year is 1999 and the millennium is fast approaching. Baseball fan and thirty-two-year-old confirmed bachelor and architect, Seth Miller, is content with his life, as long as the Yankees win and his mother stays away from his Greenwich Village apartment. Seth's life, though, is turned upside down when he is informed by his overbearing and overprotective mother that he is God's youngest son and by default the second coming of Christ. Initially convinced that his parents are crazy, his thoughts of their committal to a suitable care facility are superseded when he receives an unsolicited telephone call from God himself. With Armageddon fast approaching, and due to some poor editing and proofreading of the Bible, Seth must assume the role of Christ and fight God's corner in the 'Final Conflict' between good and evil. Despite his initial reluctance and attempts to shirk his new responsibilities, God is insistent, and Seth is cajoled into undertaking the role of Messiah. With his best friend and chief follower Bob Nancy, Seth embarks on a calamitous sequence of miracle doing and disciple gathering. All of which fail to inspire the legions of followers expected by God, but leads to a bout of food poisoning for a troop of visiting boy scouts and a suspected attempt on the life of the Mayor. God, a somewhat nonchalant character, is far more preoccupied with the lack of IT and administrative support he is receiving in heaven, than actual events on Earth; and is already planning to move on to other planets that he and Lucifer are in the process of developing for 'future projects'. Enter Maggie De Lynne, as Seth's second disciple and love interest, who adds her perspective to Seth's predicament; which is only compounded when a just as unsuitable anti-Christ, suffering from IBS and with a penchant for dressing up as cartoon characters, visits his apartment. Throw a 'gangsta' rapping Guardian Angel and Walter, the talking cat - who used to be quiet as a mouse - into the mix, and the scene is set for a hilarious tale of one man's reluctance to save the world and join the family business.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

British born author Duncan Whitehead has a colorful career: the Royal Navy serving in British Embassies in South America, a former boxer, former children's soccer coach and is, among other assorted hobbies and jobs, a standup comedian and it shows. After all the awards and hoopla over his successful novel THE GORDONSTON LADIES WALKING CLUB, he has come up with another novel that is even more hilarious. Some hardcore right-wingers may shy away from this 'further adventures of the Bible' book, but it is meant to be a parody on all that we hold untouchable - the funny things we have created in this new world of altered etherized communication. 1999, just prior to the millennium (remember that?) and we meet Seth Miller, an architect and bachelor with parents he'd rather avoid. Seth (and this seems important) in the Bible, the name literally means 'substitute,' as he was given by God to Adam and Eve, when their sons Cain and Abel were both disqualified as the carrier of the promised seed. Seth in Judaism, Christianity and Islam, was the third son of Adam and Eve and brother of Cain and Abel, and was born after the slaying of Abel by Cain, and Eve believed God had appointed him as a replacement for Abel. Seth Miller (jumping back into the story) is informed by his parents that he is the Messiah, that God spoke to Seth's mother on her wedding night (before consummation) that she would bear the next Messiah (the second coming of Christ) and must therefore remain a virgin. All went as planned, but Seth's parents failed to tell him the news until his 33rd birthday.

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