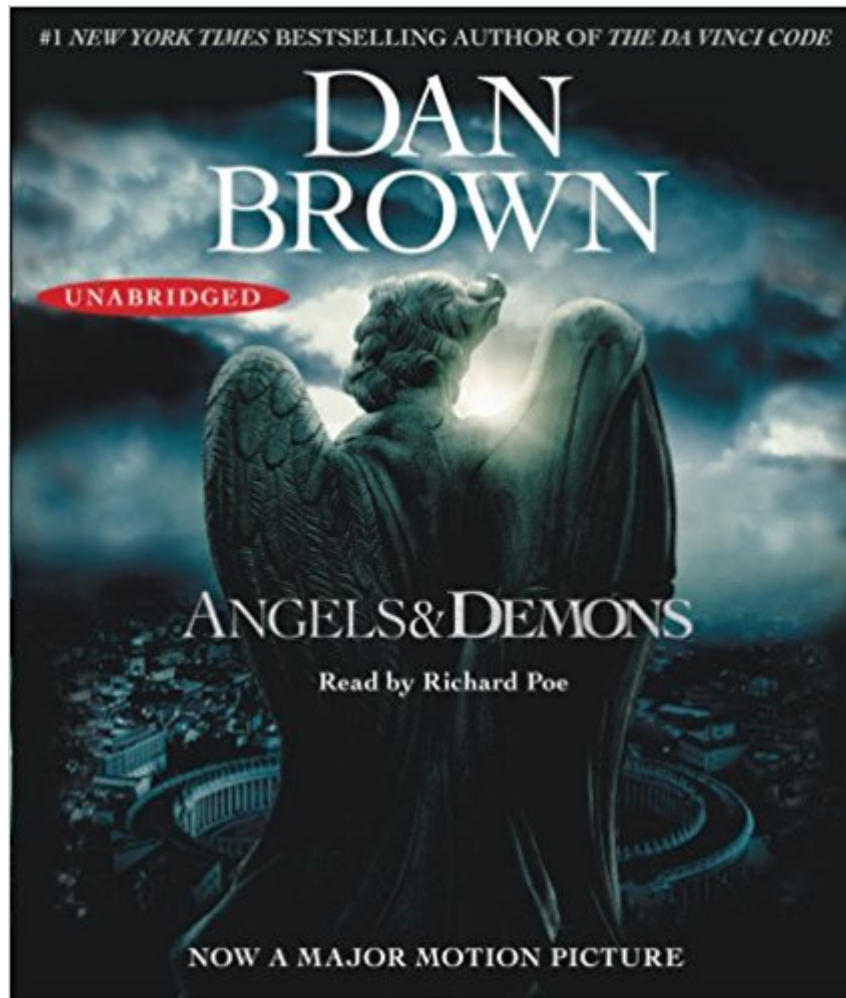




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Angels & Demons - Movie Tie-In



Synopsis

An ancient secret brotherhood. A devastating new weapon of destruction. An unthinkable target. When world-renowned Harvard symbologist Robert Langdon is summoned to a Swiss research facility to analyze a mysterious symbol -- seared into the chest of a murdered physicist -- he discovers evidence of the unimaginable: the resurgence of an ancient secret brotherhood known as the Illuminati...the most powerful underground organization ever to walk the earth. The Illuminati has now surfaced to carry out the final phase of its legendary vendetta against its most hated enemy -- the Catholic Church. Langdon's worst fears are confirmed on the eve of the Vatican's holy conclave, when a messenger of the Illuminati announces they have hidden an unstoppable time bomb at the very heart of Vatican City. With the countdown under way, Langdon jets to Rome to join forces with Vittoria Vetra, a beautiful and mysterious Italian scientist, to assist the Vatican in a desperate bid for survival. Embarking on a frantic hunt through sealed crypts, dangerous catacombs, deserted cathedrals, and even the most secretive vault on earth, Langdon and Vetra follow a 400-year-old trail of ancient symbols that snakes across Rome toward the long-forgotten Illuminati lair...a clandestine location that contains the only hope for Vatican salvation. An explosive international thriller, "Angels & Demons" careens from enlightening epiphanies to dark truths as the battle between science and religion turns to war.

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Customer Reviews

It takes guts to write a novel that combines an ancient secret brotherhood, the Swiss Conseil Européen pour la Recherche Nucléaire, a papal conclave, mysterious ambigrams, a plot against

the Vatican, a mad scientist in a wheelchair, particles of antimatter, jets that can travel 15,000 miles per hour, crafty assassins, a beautiful Italian physicist, and a Harvard professor of religious iconology. It takes talent to make that novel anything but ridiculous. Kudos to Dan Brown (Digital Fortress) for achieving the nearly impossible. Angels & Demons is a no-holds-barred, pull-out-all-the-stops, breathless tangle of a thriller--think Katherine Neville's The Eight (but cleverer) or Umberto Eco's Foucault's Pendulum (but more accessible). Harvard symbologist Robert Langdon is shocked to find proof that the legendary secret society, the Illuminati--dedicated since the time of Galileo to promoting the interests of science and condemning the blind faith of Catholicism--is alive, well, and murderously active. Brilliant physicist Leonardo Vetra has been murdered, his eyes plucked out, and the society's ancient symbol branded upon his chest. His final discovery, antimatter, the most powerful and dangerous energy source known to man, has disappeared--only to be hidden somewhere beneath Vatican City on the eve of the election of a new pope. Langdon and Vittoria, Vetra's daughter and colleague, embark on a frantic hunt through the streets, churches, and catacombs of Rome, following a 400-year-old trail to the lair of the Illuminati, to prevent the incineration of civilization. Brown seems as much juggler as author--there are lots and lots of balls in the air in this novel, yet Brown manages to hurl the reader headlong into an almost surreal suspension of disbelief. While the reader might wish for a little more sardonic humor from Langdon, and a little less bombastic philosophizing on the eternal conflict between religion and science, these are less fatal flaws than niggling annoyances--readers should have no trouble skimming past them and immersing themselves in a heck of a good read. "Brain candy" it may be, but my! It's tasty. --Kelly Flynn

Look Inside the Motion Picture Angels & Demons (Sony Pictures, 2009) Click on each image below to see a larger view

Ewan MacGregor as Carlo Ventresca with College of Cardinals

Tom Hanks as Robert Langdon

Tom Hanks as Robert Langdon and Ayelet Zurer as Vittoria Vetra

Armin Mueller-Stahl as Straus and Ewan MacGregor as Carlo Ventresca

Tom Hanks as Robert Langdon, Ayelet Zurer as Vittoria Vetra, and Ewan MacGregor as Carlo Ventresca

Ewan MacGregor as Carlo Ventresca

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Pitting scientific terrorists against the cardinals of Vatican City, this well-plotted if over-the-top thriller is crammed with Vatican intrigue and high-tech drama. Robert Langdon, a Harvard specialist on religious symbolism, is called in by a Swiss research lab when Dr. Vetra, the scientist who discovered antimatter, is found murdered with the cryptic word "Illuminati" branded on his chest. These Illuminati were a group of Renaissance scientists, including Galileo, who met secretly in

Rome to discuss new ideas in safety from papal threat; what the long-defunct association has to do with Dr. Vetra's death is far from clear. Vetra's daughter, Vittoria, makes a frightening discovery: a lethal amount of antimatter, sealed in a vacuum flask that will explode in six hours unless its batteries are recharged, is missing. Almost immediately, the Swiss Guard discover that the flask is hidden beneath Vatican City, where the conclave to elect a new pope has just begun. Vittoria and Langdon rush to recover the canister, but they aren't allowed into the Vatican until it is discovered that the four principal papal candidates are missing. The terrorists who are holding the cardinals call in regarding their pending murders, offering clues tied to ancient Illuminati meeting sites and runes. Meanwhile, it becomes clear that a sinister Vatican entity with messianic delusions is in league with the terrorists. Packing the novel with sinister figures worthy of a Medici, Brown (Digital Fortress) sets an explosive pace as Langdon and Vittoria race through a Michelin-perfect Rome to try to save the cardinals and find the antimatter before it explodes. Though its premises strain credulity, Brown's tale is laced with twists and shocks that keep the reader wired right up to the last revelation. (May) Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I read this a long time ago after reading the DaVinci Code. Essentially, this is the same format. Same excellent lead character, who goes on another thrilling, intelligent and twisty adventure! This is kind of like a smarter version of the National Treasure movies. Very entertaining, and highly recommended if the other things listed appeal to you!

I prefer this story both as a book and the movie. Way better than the DaVinci code, which I think was written after this book. Dan Brown not my favorite writer by a long shot but this is full of twists and turns. Even though I've re-read it and seen movie a couple of times still great story.

I did not finish the reading yet. So far, it is a very nice reading. I saw the movie based on the same book before having the chance to read it and even though I keep flipping the pages enthusiastically as Dan Brown's writing style is smooth while keeping the story thrilling and fast paced. I am not a native English speaker and I read kindle e-books very often to practice the language. The device is really great as it's easy functionality and it's English/Oxford dictionary helps a lot to grow fast my vocabulary. The only con of this e-book is that the version I bought from Kindle store did not allow for the text-to-speech/audible narration, a feature that is certainly very interesting when my eyes are a bit tired and a pair of earphones would allow them to rest a little without preventing me from

moving ahead in this thrilling story. The audible narration feature is also a helping hand for the ones intending to learn how to pronounce the words previously unknown. I definitely recommend Dan Brown, who is an amazingly creative author/writer that makes use of a writing style that is sophisticated while accessible, his book *Angels & Demons* and its Kindle version. Have a nice, and far from boring, reading.

I finally got around to read this. I'd give it a 3.8, but I rounded up. I believe it predates *Da Vinci*, but that's not clear with this ebook release. It sure seems like that. *Da Vinci* showed some plot savvy; this one not so much. Especially at the beginning where somehow I was reminded of *Moby Dick* and its detailed exposition of butchering whales and turning their blubber into lamp oil. Of course, I don't share Langdon's fascination with symbols and Church history either. From the sci-fi POV, it's clear that Brown doesn't know much science. This is a trend, though--maybe he was responsible for starting it? I'm talking about "soft sci-fi" which nestles up to and often crosses the line into fantasy. If you're a purist, you'll stay away. Even with his 2D characters, though, Brown spins a good yarn that lets us peek into the machinations and intrigues of the Catholic Conclave. He says all the history stuff is "true," but he said that about stuff in *Da Vinci* too--and was proven wrong. You can't argue about success, though. Like with *Harry Potter*, readers often reward bad writing. That usually means they enjoy the novelty of the tale. I'll admit I enjoyed this one--maybe more than *Da Vinci*, because it has enough twists and turns to be called a mystery, or sci-fi/fantasy/mystery--a mixed bag of goodies, to be sure.

Like many others, I started this series with the *Da Vinci Code*, and after learning about *Angels and Demons* I tried to read it. The first time I failed and was never able to get into the story. Finally I found the time and inspiration to sit down and finish this book. I was pleasantly surprised. It is not necessary to read this book before reading the *Da Vinci Code* since the story's are quite separate from each other, but after reading this book I was able to understand some of the comments that were said in the second book. I like the way that *Angels and Demons* was written, and the story progressed. I felt as if the story kept me guessing and wishing for more.

As always, Dan Brown does not fail to entertain and keep the reader on the edge of their seat. *Angels and Demons*, although written first, was just as exciting as the *Da Vinci code*. I read this on my Kindle and I was surprised by the number of chapters - 137 - and page numbers were not synced with the paper edition. But, nevermind, the length, it was a page turner and the short

chapters did make it go quickly. I read this while on vacation and it was a great way to make a 4 hour plane ride go quickly. It has been a while since I saw the movie, but I think that the movie script did not follow the book as closely as the Da Vinci Code did and there were some minor differences with the characters, but the overall plot was the same. If you are looking for an exciting book that makes you think, gives factual information that maybe you didn't know and thoroughly keeps you involved and entertained, then this is the book for you.

I had never read any of the Robert Langdon novels before. I also had never seen any of the movies. With Inferno getting ready to come out into the movie theaters, I finally decided to read the books and view the movies as well. I really enjoyed Angels and Demons as a novel. If you are a fan of the movie, I certainly believe that you will enjoy the novel even better. I did notice that the book and movie also ended with quite a few differences. I did overall enjoy that twist at the end, I will say that I never say it coming. I am looking forward to beginning the da vinci code now.

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