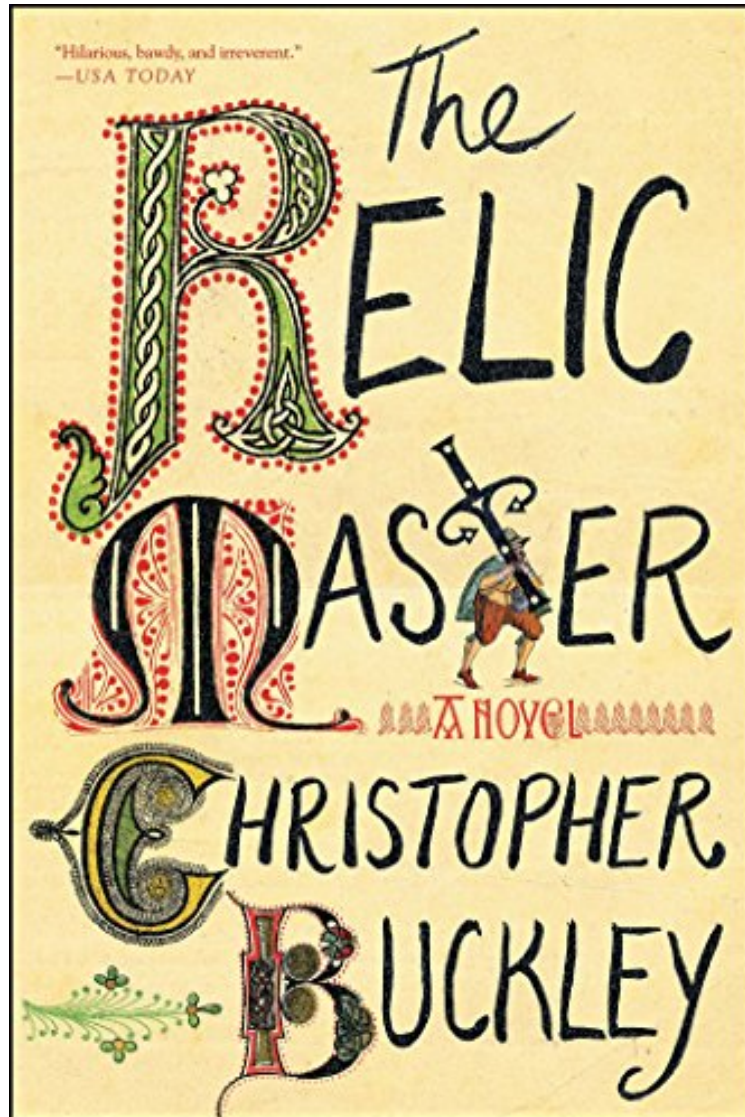


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The Relic Master: A Novel (English Edition)

Von Christopher Buckley

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Von Christopher Buckley : The Relic Master: A Novel (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Relic Master: A Novel (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A romp among the relics...Von Jill MeyerA good novel can teach as well as entertain its readers. American author Christopher Buckley's new novel, "The Relic Master", is a farce set in 1519 Germany with real figures like Johan Tetzl, Albrecht Durer, Paracelsus, Martin Luther, and various dukes, popes, and cardinals mixing it up with fictional characters over the possession of the Shroud of Turin. (When was the last time you heard the words "farce" and "Martin Luther"

written in the same sentence? I bet never...)The year 1517 was sort of a fulcrum year in history. A tipping point with the perceived sins of the Catholic Church beginning to be denounced as "unchristian". The Pope was condoning the sale of indulgences - with half the profits going to build that splendid new church in Rome - to Catholics to lessen their time in Purgatory before ascending to heaven. And the purchase and adoration of relics - every thing from St Barbara's toe to a sliver of the True Cross - abounded. For a church to own a relic meant a source of income as believers paid to pray to it. One of the most important relic was the shroud that Jesus was wrapped in after his crucifixion. Buckley's story centers on one man - Dismas - a retired soldier who has taken up relic trading. He travels from relic fair to relic fair, picking up perceived relics and selling them to his two main patrons in Germany. He is trusted by his patrons - though who can ever know the if "St Barbara's toe" REALLY belonged to St Barbara? One of his good friends in his travel is Albrecht Durer, the famous painter from Nuremberg, who is very confident in his identity as Germany's best painter. A handsome fellow, he likes the good life and fame that his art has brought him and is contemptuous of other artists. Together, Dismas and Durer - get in trouble with Dismas's patrons over a fake Shroud and they are sent off to retrieve the real Shroud, which was currently located in the Savoyard town of Chambéry. The book deals with that journey and the scheme to retrieve the Shroud. (Which eventually wound up in Turin.)Christopher Buckley's book can be both a fun read and a chance to look at the beginnings of the Protestant Reformation. Luther doesn't play a large part in the book, but his ideas and influences on others is always in the background. I read the book on my Ipad and I spent a fair amount of time flipping back and forth between the book and Wikipedia. "The Relic Master" is a fun book with a bit of learning on the side.

KurzbeschreibungFrom New York Times bestselling author Christopher Buckley, one of the funniest writers in the English language (Tom Wolfe), a compelling and hilarious adventure featuring a sixteenth-century relic hunter and his best friend, Albrecht Drer, who conspire to forge the Shroud of Turin.The year is 1517. Dismas is a relic hunter: one who procures authentic religious relics for wealthy and influential clients. His two most important patrons are Frederick the Wise, Elector of Saxony and soon-to-be Cardinal Albrecht of Mainz. While Frederick is drawn to the recent writing of Martin Luther, Albrecht pursues the financial and political benefits of religion and seeks to buy a cardinalship through the selling of indulgences. When Albrechts ambitions increase his demands for grander and more marketable relics, Dismas and his artist friend Drer conspire to manufacture a shroud to sell to the unsuspecting noble. Unfortunately Drers reckless pride exposes Albrechts newly acquired shroud as a fake, so Albrecht puts Dismas and Drer in the custody of four loutish mercenaries and sends them all to steal Christs burial cloth (the Shroud of Chambry), Europes most celebrated relic. On their journey to Savoy where the Shroud will be displayed, they battle a lustful count and are joined by a beautiful female apothecary. It is only when they reach their destination that they realize they are not alone in their intentions to acquire a relic of dubious legitimacy. Filled with fascinating details about art, religion, politics and science; Vatican intrigue; and Buckleys signature wit, *The Relic Master* is a delightfully rich and intelligent comic adventure.Pressestimmen"An inspired piece of literary gymnastics [that] tumbles into an exuberant adventure caper. . . so tightly written that it holds the reader till the very last page. . . . a smart, tart, well-researched romp into one of historys most irresistibly grubby and outrageous periods of excess. (New York Times Book)"We may be in 1517, but this is still a political send-up, and its as rascally and convivial as any that Mr. Buckley has written." (The Wall Street Journal)Buckley hasnt abandoned political satire at all hes just found a different playing field for his favorite sport. The calamitous 16th century proves a supple mistress for this Washington writer. lively, entertaining and occasionally educational. (Washington Post)"Might be pitched Hollywood-style as *The Princess Bride* meets *Ocean's XIII*." (Kirkus s, starred review)A humorous and enchanting adventure. (Bustle.com)"A madcap heist adventure...thats as comical as any in Buckleys modern era tales. Buckleys many fans will be pleased." (Booklist)"This historical novel is part Monty Python and part *Ocean's 11*. The clever narrative is filled with laugh-out-loud one-liners but, amazingly, doesn't stint on the suspense.... Through the cheeky humor, the author gives readers a very real sense of the early 16th century, when science and superstition held equal sway, and a man was always a swordsbreadth away from a horrible death." (Publishers Weekly)Christopher Buckley has transported his signature wit and irreverence from the Beltway to sixteenth-century Europe in *The Relic Master*. Think of it as *Monty Python and the Holy Grail* meets *Pawn Stars*, which is to say it's hilarious, absurd, and mildly infuriating (in a good way). You really cant go wrong when one of Americas savviest humor writers takes on relic-mongers, artifact forgeries (about that Shroud of Turin . . .), and corrupt religious leaders. In short, *The Relic Master* is a rollicking good time set in an era just begging for Buckleys biting satire. (GQ)A witty, deft and often surprisingly big-hearted pleasure.Buckley is one of Americas wiliest satirists. (Seattle Times)"Beguiling, funny, and slyly erudite." (National)KurzbeschreibungFrom New York Times bestselling author Christopher Buckley, one of the funniest writers in the English language (Tom Wolfe), a compelling and hilarious adventure featuring a sixteenth-century relic hunter and his best friend, Albrecht Drer, who conspire to forge the Shroud of Turin.The year is 1517. Dismas is a relic hunter: one who procures authentic religious relics for wealthy and influential clients. His two most important patrons are

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