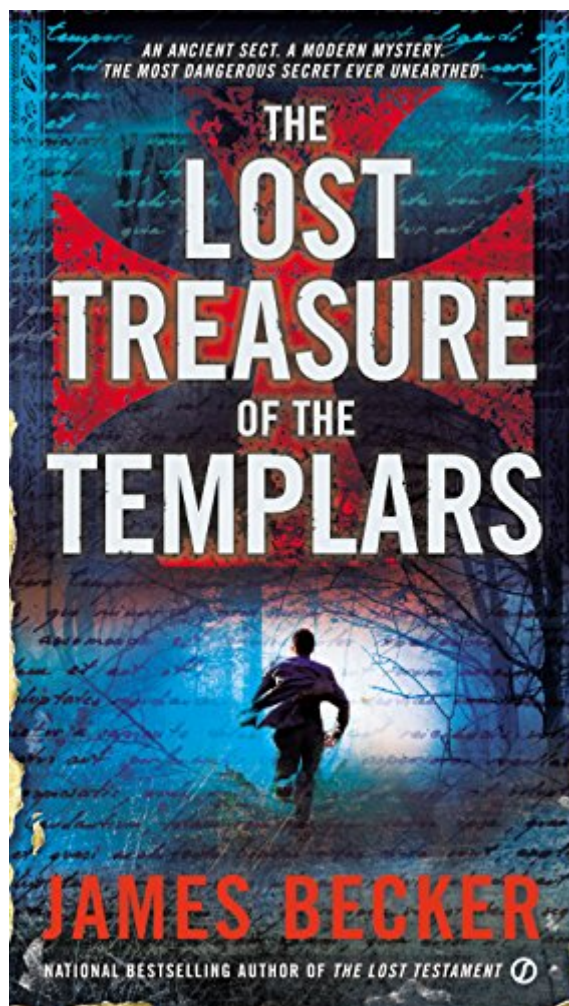


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The Lost Treasure Of The Templars



Synopsis

The New York Times's bestselling author of *The Templar Brotherhood* presents the first novel in a thrilling series about the powerful secrets of the Knights Templar "and a conspiracy too shocking to believe...In a quiet English seaside town, antiquarian bookseller Robin Jessop has acquired an odd medieval volume. What appears to be a book isn't a book at all, but a cleverly disguised safe, in which she finds a single rolled parchment, written in code. For encryption expert David Mallory, the text is impenetrable. Until an invaluable clue opens the door to a mystery, and a conspiracy, stretching back seven centuries, when the most powerful man in Europe declared war on the most powerful clan, the Knights Templar. Now, Jessop and Mallory find themselves on a global hunt for an unsurpassed treasure and this much closer to the keys to secrets that could change history, topple an empire, and bury them both alive. Because they're not only the hunters. They're also the hunted.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Well written to keep you reading. Danger, the prospect of great reward, and a little implied romance mixed with fascinating history of an order with mystical proportions. Can't wait to read the next book.

Good read

I like this genre (mysteries and lost artifacts with religious connections), but I could not get past the run-on sentences about nothing relevant to anything. I literally threw the book across the room after reading this: "The keys to her Volkswagen Golf were in a shallow ceramic dish on the narrow hall table, which stood at the end of the passageway next to the door to her apartment, behind which a circular flight of metal stairs led down the outside of the building to the single-car parking space and the rear door of the shop. It was the work of just a few seconds for her to step into the passage, collect the keys, and return to her desk" (p.39, paperback edition). The above excerpt is typical of Becker's writing style in this novel. If it doesn't bother you to muddle through such extraneous detail, then perhaps this book is for you. I don't have the patience. After reading other reviews that noted that the book has no "real" ending (hinting at a sequel), I abandoned finishing this book.

Though I've had issues with his writing, that was not enough to dissuade me from grabbing *The Lost Treasure Of The Templars* when I spotted it in Barnes & Noble. Mr. Becker can weave an interesting, though rather plodding thriller. The thing with his writing is that while there can be a sense of tension and plenty of chases, a lot of real estate is taken up with long passages of dialogue. Instead of lengthy exposition to tell the story, the author substitutes lengthy dialogue, way more than the average person probably speaks. When reading it, not only does it come off as very talky, but unrealistic, unless you're a college professor. There would be some action, then the story would go into lecture mode. This pattern pretty much defined the rhythm of the story. While I found it a bit annoying at times, all the same I became engrossed and still enjoyed it. The problem was seeing half and almost full-page paragraphs of dialogue. I don't particularly care for that with exposition, let alone dialogue. The writing was solid third-person and even though there was some head-hopping, it wasn't enough to jerk me out of the story, despite being a pet peeve. The editing was excellent and the Queen's English didn't bother me a bit. Despite the uneven pace, I liked the two characters, though I didn't get a warm fuzzy from their chemistry which lacked any real sizzle. Then again, that was sort of a refreshing change from the usual tropes. The ending turned out okay, while leaving me hanging for the inevitable sequel. What I thought was really weird was that the new book mentioned at the end of this one is unrelated. All-in-all, I closed the last page with a smile on my face. Despite the flaws, I've read much worse. Not the best thriller but I still like to read his stuff and look forward to the next one.

Recommended.

Being a bit of an amateur historian, I was interested in Becker's take of the Knights Templar. Historically, the book was well researched. However, as a work of fiction, this particular book was not as good as some of his previous works. To me it seemed a bit long-winded in some places, which slowed down the pace of the action for this particular type of genre (action/adventure/thriller). I'm not saying that it's a bad book at all, in fact it's okay for a summer read. But anyway, I'll still probably read the sequel just to see what happens and to see if the plot is a bit tighter on this one.

I did enjoy reading, until I got to the end to realize that the book doesn't have an ending. It leaves you hanging, and from what I can tell there is no 2nd book out yet to finish the story. I wouldn't recommend reading this one until the sequel is out.

Terrible cliff hanger ending! The book is decently written but with a lot of padding to make it longer. The way they decipher clues is a joke. I bought the sequel, but I wouldn't be bothered reading it after this, especially that ending!

Action movie pacing (with a bit too much action movie cliches and abilities) and an ending that will either bring a acknowledging nod and grin or you throwing the book at the nearest wall. Characters were fun and likable, but I bought the book for European location hopping and historic threads. Has usual ancient religious order that is still active but in hiding, and calls on other Dan Brown type plots machinations, but overall was an enjoyable read. Enjoyed scenic descriptions and historic detail (did not research those too much) as well. Would give 3.5 stars if possible :-)

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