



The Zahir: A Novel of Obsession

By Paulo Coelho

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The narrator of *The Zahir* is a bestselling novelist who lives in Paris and enjoys all the privileges money and celebrity bring. His wife of ten years, Esther, is a war correspondent who has disappeared along with a friend, Mikhail, who may or may not be her lover.

Was Esther kidnapped, murdered, or did she simply escape a marriage that left her unfulfilled? The narrator doesn't have any answers, but he has plenty of questions of his own. Then one day Mikhail finds the narrator and promises to reunite him with his wife. In his attempt to recapture a lost love, the narrator discovers something unexpected about himself.

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The Zahir: A Novel of Obsession By Paulo Coelho Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #45612 in Books
- Brand: Harper Perennial
- Published on: 2006-07-03
- Released on: 2006-07-03
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.00" h x .76" w x 5.31" l,
- Binding: Paperback
- 336 pages

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

The press chat cites 65 million copies of Coelho's eight previous novels in print, making the Brazilian author one of the world's bestselling novelists (150 countries and 56 languages). This book, whose title means "the present" or "unable to go unnoticed" in Arabic, has an initial staggered laydown of eight million copies in 83 countries and 42 languages. It centers on the narrator's search for his missing wife, Esther, a journalist who fled Iraq in the runup to the present war, only to disappear from Paris; the narrator, a writer, is freed from suspicion when his lover, Marie, comes forward with a (true) alibi. He seeks out Mikhail, the man who may be Esther's most recent lover and with whom she was last seen, who has abandoned his native Kazakhstan for a kind of speaking tour on love. Mikhail introduces the narrator to a global underground "tribe" of spiritual seekers who resist, somewhat vaguely, conventional ways of living. Through the narrator's journey from Paris to Kazakhstan, Coelho explores various meanings of love and life, but the impact of these lessons is diminished significantly as they are repeated in various forms by various characters. Then again, 65 million readers can't be wrong; the spare, propulsive style that drove *The Alchemist*, *Eleven Minutes* and Coelho's other books will easily carry fans through myriad iterations of the ways and means of *amor*. (Sept.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

From [Booklist](#)

Subtitled *A Novel of Obsession*, this tale is the philosophical and spiritual chronicle of one man's quest for self-discovery. Stunned by his wife's inexplicable disappearance from their Paris home and immediately suspected of foul play by the authorities and the press, the unnamed protagonist, a best-selling writer, is forced to reexamine both his marital relationship and his own life. What he eventually discovers with the help of a -mysterious stranger named Mikhail--a man he suspects is somehow involved in Esther's disappearance--is that he must first "find himself" before he can ever hope to find his wife. Although Esther is physically and emotionally lost to him, he rediscovers her as he retraces both her footsteps and the disintegration of their visceral connection. Finally able to release the past and his anger, he can accept the uncertainty of the present by traveling to Kazakhstan with Mikhail in search of Esther and the remote possibility of resurrecting a dormant love. As in *The Alchemist* (1993), Coelho continues to prove himself a contemporary fabulist, spinning irresistible stories while seeking enlightenment at the same time. Interwoven with details drawn from his life, the mesmerizing narrative offers a highly personal meditation on the meaning and the power of love. *Margaret Flanagan*
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Review

"Coelho is a novelist who writes in a universal language." (New York Times)

"Fans of Paulo Coelho will love this eloquent meditation on commitment--as will anyone who's ever been in a relationship." (Marie Claire)

"If you read Coelho's book *The Alchemist*, then you should definitely read this.... There's really no one else like him." (Vibe)

"Likely to entrance even the most cynical of readers." (Bloomberg.com)

"An enlightening story of faith and the reclamation of pure love." (Library Journal)

“A fast-moving, captivating, both satirical and thoughtful novel about love and desire.” (Edmonton Journal (Alberta))

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Eddie Nelson:

This The Zahir: A Novel of Obsession book is simply not ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The benefit you obtain by reading this book will be information inside this reserve incredible fresh, you will get information which is getting deeper you read a lot of information you will get. This specific The Zahir: A Novel of Obsession without we understand teach the one who examining it become critical in thinking and analyzing. Don't always be worry The Zahir: A Novel of Obsession can bring if you are and not make your handbag space or bookshelves' turn into full because you can have it with your lovely laptop even cell phone. This The Zahir: A Novel of Obsession having great arrangement in word in addition to layout, so you will not sense uninterested in reading.

Frederick Palazzo:

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Jennifer Smith:

A lot of people always spent their own free time to vacation or perhaps go to the outside with them family or their friend. Were you aware? Many a lot of people spent that they free time just watching TV, or perhaps playing video games all day long. If you would like try to find a new activity here is look different you can read a new book. It is really fun to suit your needs. If you enjoy the book that you read you can spent all day long to reading a reserve. The book The Zahir: A Novel of Obsession it is extremely good to read. There are a lot of people that recommended this book. We were holding enjoying reading this book. When you did not have enough space to bring this book you can buy the e-book. You can m0ore quickly to read this book from the smart phone. The price is not too costly but this book provides high quality.

Nila Cobb:

The Zahir: A Novel of Obsession can be one of your basic books that are good idea. We recommend that straight away because this publication has good vocabulary that could increase your knowledge in words, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nonetheless delivering the information. The writer giving his/her effort to set every word into satisfaction arrangement in writing The Zahir: A Novel of Obsession yet doesn't

forget the main level, giving the reader the hottest along with based confirm resource info that maybe you can be one of it. This great information could drawn you into brand-new stage of crucial imagining.

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