

The Alchemist By Paulo Coelho 9780060887964 كل شيء مكتوب! ما إن انتهيت من قراءة هذه الرواية حتى أحسست أن الدنيا سكتت ، و العالم سكت و أنني أريد أن أسكت باقي عمري . لعل روح العالم تغمرني فأفلسف الحياة كما شاء لي قلبي مليئة هذه الرواية بالرموز و الحكم و التراث و الأخلاق بل وحتى الآيات الإسلامية تحسّ و أنت تقرؤها برياح أندلسية تلمح فركك ، تجعلك تبتسم بين حكمة و أخرى ببساطة القدر ، و تعقيد البشر . بعمق المعاني ، و سطحية الفهم هذه الرواية تجسد القدر و الحكمة في أسمى معانيها ، كما نؤمن بها تماماً أحببتُ حكمها جداً كيف يتحدّث الكون لغة واحدة هي الحب ، العمل ، متعة الهدف و كيف نتعلّم تقديس الحياة من حولنا على بساطتها، والتفكّر في كلّ أحداثها على أنها منحٌ و إشارات يلقيها الله في طريقنا لتقودنا نحو نواتنا و مجدنا و كيف أن الكنز قريب جداً جداً من أهدنا كما كان قريباً عند شجرة الجميز التي نام تحتها سانتياغو أو الفتى – كما يسميه الكاتب – إلا أن العمل من أجل الحصول و الجهد المبذول و التعب المضني في سبيل الوصول. و هو سرّ الوجود و الإنجاز العظيم فما معنى الكنز إن لم تستحقّ الحصول عليه !! أحسستُ بالقرب الشديد من جوّها ، صورة الراعي ، و الخيميائي . روح العالم و الأسطورة الشخصية حقاً ، لقد خلق كلّ منا لـ يحقق أسطورة و الحياة لا تمنحُ الفرص إلا للراغبين 9780060887964 It's the possibility of having a dream come true that makes life interesting. The Alchemist ~~ Paulo Coelho I preface my review by saying I am amazed how wildly passionate people are in their feelings toward this novel ~~ regardless of whether they love or hate The Alchemist. But.

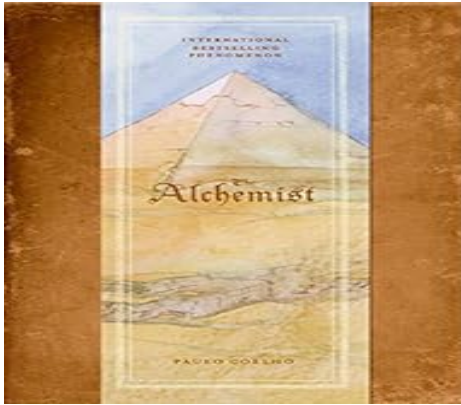
I need to start this review by stating 1) I can't stand self-help books and 2) I'm a feminist (no I don't hate men- some men are quite awesome but I am very conscious of women and our place in the world. Is the person who struggles to put food on the table every day for his or her family consciously realizing that he or she may not be following his or her 'personal legend' any less heroic than some traveler who leaves everything and everyone he or she is responsible for to go on a spiritual quest? Coelho comes close to labeling such people as losers in life which I find completely off the mark as some of these people have the most to offer in terms of wisdom. Thats fine but what about her own Personal Legend? Instead of traveling to find her dreams she is content to sit around do chores and stare everyday at the desert to wait for his return. The fact that women don't have Personal Legends is even more galling considering the fact that according to Coelho even minerals such as lead and copper have Personal Legends allowing them to 'evolve' to something better (ie gold). In the ideal world presented in THE ALCHEMIST it seems that the job of men is to seek out their personal legends leaving aside thoughts of family and responsibility and its the job of women to let them and pine for their return. If everyone simply goes off on spiritual quests deciding they have no responsibility other than to seek their Personal Legends no one would be taking responsibility for the unglamorous work that simply has to take place for the world to run. On the other hand what if both men and women are allowed to struggle towards their 'Personal Legends' and help each other as best as they can towards them but recognize that their responsibilities may force them to defer compromise or even 'sacrifice' their dreams? This may seem depressing but it isn't necessarily. Coelho seems to think that Personal Legends are fixed at childhood (or at birth or even before) and are not changeable: they have to be followed through to the end no matter how silly. But in my experience many people have chosen to adjust compromise and even 'give up' on their dreams only to find that life grants them something better or they have a new better dream to follow a path providing greater wisdom. But I suppose you need the collateral of winning the Guinness World Record for most translated book by a living author and selling more than 65 million copies in more than 150 countries as one of the best-selling books in history* to get that treatment. They grow fat and stupid(er) under the illusion that they have received nutrition without ever experiencing the pain of having to cook and possibly work up a sweat or burn one's fingers. I wondered what kind of people would be deluded into thinking within the guise of a poorly written but deviously well-conceived parable that this book's philosophy was in fact Deep and Meaningful Truth. This I felt was the lesson to be learned: in the Middle of the Centre of the Soul of the World where blank-eyed acolytes are led (like sheep? hmmm) to unquestioningly accept and proclaim as truth the vacuous platitudes spouted by crystal-wearing self-appointed mystics psychics tarot card readers

numerologists motivational speakers and this author irony is dead. Skepticism is turned back at the gates by ill-formed philosophies based on the unwavering power of evangelical groupthink and our species' rather fascinating susceptibility to cognitive bias or errors in thinking that cause us to believe as truth that which can actually be scientifically validated as false. This book makes a mockery of spirituality and the search for truth and meaning under the guise of the easy anxiety-quelling New Age philosophies that spoon-feed the stupid with Twitter-sized bites of nonsense. Coelho's message--and boy is this a book with a message--is that each of us has his own Personal Legend and that if we recognize that legend and pursue it sincerely everything in the Universe (which is after all made up--wind stone trees--of the same stuff we are) will conspire to help us achieve it. Corollaries: 1) people who don't recognize their legends are never happy 2) people who fail to realize their legends are afraid and 3) people who refuse to pursue their legends even when they know what they are are both unhappy and afraid.)I fear that the result of taking such a message seriously will be to make the successful even more self-satisfied the narcissistic more self-absorbed and the affluent more self-congratulatory. At the same time those who are unfortunate will blame themselves for their bad fortune those who lack self-esteem will lose what little they have and the poor will see--no not God as the beatitude says but--the poor will see they have only themselves to blame. Their basic message is that if you want something to happen you need to want it as hard as you can without caring about anything else not allowing yourself to doubt it or let criticisms will get in the way then it will happen. Who are we to be the arbiters of truth? Why should our hearts be sources of information that go beyond logic doubt and reasoning? Haven't we all desired things that have turned out to not be in our best interest or to be harmful to others? Andrew Jackson was a man known to have a lot of integrity. 9780060887964 when you really want something the whole universe conspires in helping you to achieve it This book has crossed the boundaries of books and has taken a life of its own creating a movement all around the globe. It is all about finding your Personal Legend and pursuing your dream regardless of any hurdles and about being spiritually connected to the universe which is part of us and part of God. Recognizing my personal legend being able to talk to the trees sky ants the core of the earth the air particles and to my heart feeling a deeper spiritual connection with everything/everyone that is around me feeling God inside me and not being afraid of failing or facing challenges are just some of the few things this book has given me. The story of the treasures Santiago finds along the way teaches us as only a few stories can about the essential wisdom of listening to our hearts learning to read the omens strewn along life's path and above all following our dreams. Other titles include *Brida* (1990) *The Valkyries* (1992) *By the river Piedra I sat Down and Wept* (1994) the collection of his best columns published in the Brazilian newspaper *Folha de São Paulo* entitle *Maktub* The Brazilian author PAULO COELHO was born in 1947 in the city of Rio de Janeiro. Other titles include *Brida* (1990) *The Valkyries* (1992) *By the river Piedra I sat Down and Wept* (1994) the collection of his best columns published in the Brazilian newspaper *Folha de São Paulo* entitle *Maktub* (1994) the compilation of texts *Phrases* (1995) *The Fifth Mountain* (1996) *Manual of a Warrior of Light* (1997) *Veronika decides to die* (1998) *The Devil and Miss Prym* (2000) the compilation of traditional tales in *Stories for parents children and grandchildren* (2001) *Eleven Minutes* (2003) *The Zahir* (2005) *The Witch of Portobello* (2006) and *Winner Stands Alone* (to be released in 2009). From this intensive interest and use of the Internet sprang his bold new project: *The Experimental Witch* where he invites his readers to adapt to the screen his book *The Witch of Portobello*. {site_link} The problem with this book is not just that it's bad which it certainly is but that there are so many people out there who want to corner you at parties and tell you how it's totally changed their lives. In a way you might as well read it just so you can see how feeble-minded they must be to get any kind of philosophical nourishment out of this inexhaustible stream of clichés. The profound lessons you'll learn from this book amount to nothing more than several variations on the theme of only the very ugly is truly beautiful only the very stupid are really intelligent only black is white only up is down etc etc. *The Alchemist* is a novel that combines an atmosphere of medieval mysticism with the voice of the desert -- dreams symbols signs and adventure follow Santiago and the reader like echoes of ancient wise voices. With this symbolic

novel Coelho states that we should not avoid our destinies and urges people to follow their dreams because to find our Personal Myth and our mission on Earth is the way to find God meaning happiness fulfillment and the ultimate purpose of creation. However by the end of the novel he discovers that treasure lies where your heart belongs and that the treasure was the journey itself the discoveries he made and the wisdom he acquired. As the alchemist himself says when he appears to Santiago in the form of an old king when you really want something to happen the whole universe conspires so that your wish comes true. Isn't it true that all of us want to believe the old king when he says that the greatest lie in the world is that at some point we lose the ability to control our lives and become the pawns of fate. This is where Coelho really captures the drama of man who sacrifices fulfillment to conformity who knows he can achieve greatness but denies doing so and ends up living an empty shell of a life. And Coelho keeps backing up and running over it just to make sure that we get it (and he capitalizes important key words necessary to understanding it lest we overlook their significance). All of nature conspires to bring you luck and good fortune so that you can fulfill your destiny whether it's to be a shepherd on a quest for treasure at the pyramids a butcher a baker a candlestick maker or one would assume a prostitute drug dealer or porn star. But with faith perseverance and just a little goshdarnit good luck the boy learns to speak the Language of the World and tap into The Soul of the World and fulfills his Personal Legend. And while you're at it dream BIG2) Follow your bliss3) Don't be surprised if you find obstacles in your way but you will overcome4) It's good to travel and encounter people from other cultures5) What we most often seek is right in front of us but sometimes we have to leave home to realize itTo all of these important life lessons I can only say Well no shit Sherlock: By the end of the book you'll want to track down the philosopher's stone yourself and carefully beat Coelho to death with it,)Short summary (mild spoilers): A boy named Santiago follows his 'Personal Legend' in traveling from Spain to the Pyramids in Egypt searching for treasure. Along the way he learns 'the Language of the World' the 'Soul of the World' and discovers that the 'Soul of God' is 'his own soul,' If the statements in quotes above ('personal legend' etc) fascinate you then you'll enjoy this book, If you think they are hokey and silly then you'll think this is a terrible book, If you think statements such as When you want something all the universe conspires you to achieve it and All things are one are moving and life-changing you'll love this book. If such statements have you rolling your eyes then this isn't your cup of tea: In my experience 'following your dreams' (or personal legend) is not the only way toward wisdom and strength. The issue of responsibility is also part of this book's sexism: The main male characters in the novel have 'Personal Legends' - they are either seeking them or have achieved them or have failed to achieve them. But Coelho never mentions 'Personal Legend' with regard to women other than to say that Fatima Santiago's fiance is 'a part of Santiago's Personal Legend: Of course someone has to do the unheroic inconvenient work of taking care of the children the animals the elderly the ill. For me these people have a more realistic more humble more fair and less cliched vision of the world than Paulo Coelho's vision in THE ALCHEMIST. 9780060887964 My heart and I chatted and we agreed this book was short, My heart thinks it was also stupid and after spending some time talking to the wind I came to agree with my heart: Yet after beginning the journey with this book and despite the words of my heart something impelled me to continue. Surely it had something to teach me? The book had a lovely cover made of nicely textured stock that felt good in my hands: It offered the added efficiency of a fold-over flap--something that more publishers should make an effort to do as it makes the use of a bookmark superfluous: * my heart cries In my country we have an expression: one should not judge a book by its cover: The prose turned out to be not nearly as nicely textured, As I continued my journey I found that the text inside was set in a pleasing font. I could find no typos which are always a portent of doom: I found the words that the font expressed were simple and easy to read. As I read them before falling to sleep each night they neither challenged me nor troubled my dreams, Many people I believe enjoy this in a book in the same way that they enjoy Hostess Twinkies, They are filled up with calories which causes their bodies to believe that they have been fed a nutritious meal when in fact their brains are lulled into sheep-like somnambulism: This book I felt was perhaps insidiously evil a force with which I needed

to do battle. I did not know which weapon to use as irony appears to be rendered completely ineffective within a 3-metre radius of this book, Still irony and a love of absurdity hovered around me as I searched for the true meaning in this book and why it appears to offer a powerful message to so many. I consulted the Oracle known across all the lands by many names, She appeared to me in the form of Wikipedia Queen of All The People's Knowledge, Now there's an alchemist for you: Queen Wiki can turn knowledge into nonsense and then back again before your very eyes, Queen Wiki turned out to be very entertaining and illuminating in this case: I learned that Joe Jonas and Russell Crowe loved this book, I glommed on to this as an omen that absurdity was lurking close. Again I was struck by the irony of that but turning back to the book this fleeting insight that might have had a grain of real value was immediately squelched. I sipped some sweet tea from a crystal goblet and plodded on through the desert of thought that is this book, To be shelved between this and this to gather dust and never to be read again: Do not trade or give away--you'll just be spreading the bullshit, 9780060887964 A good parable--like The Prodigal Son--should comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable: The problem with this little book is that it does precisely the opposite. (I admit I've left out a nuance or two here and there but not many, There aren't more than three or four nuances in the book, I can see how a few individual young persons hemmed in by parental expectations and seeking their own paths may find enough hope and courage here to help them venture forth: But I am convinced the damage done by books like this--like The Secret The Celestine Prophecy and anything ever written by the late Dr. Wayne Dyer (or for that matter anything he may ever choose to channel from beyond the grave)--is far greater than the little good they may achieve. Go read a book of Hasidic tales collected by Martin Buber a book of Sufi stories collected by Idries Shah or a book of parables and sayings by Anthony de Mello instead: I dislike it in the way that I dislike a great deal of modern self help books: I disagree with this notion not only because it is false but because it is bad, Andrew Jackson is the man who initiated the 'Trail of Tears'. Next this idea of not letting ourselves doubt or consider doubts, If we don't consider doubts and entertain them often then we are deliberately blinding ourselves, If someone doesn't give serious consideration to the idea that they may be wrong, Give serious thought to why they believe what they do and that perhaps those who doubt them may be correct then they are behaving in a dangerous and dishonest way, Not giving heed to the concerns doubts and criticisms of others is something I believe is a major fault in modern society: Often people fail to recognize the needs of the group and the community, We place so much emphasis on the needs and rights of the individual. This causes people to focus so much on themselves to the detriment of others around them, At times it can be beneficial to go against the group but one should first give serious consideration to the groups concerns, According to Ideas like the Alchemist groups like the Westboro Baptist Church(godhatesfags. These are people who take a totally irrational stance and stick to it as hard as they can in complete defiance to the views of everyone around them. Santiago's journey and spiritual quest the people he meets the dreams he has the omens he encounters and the nature he speaks to are all things that we can relate to, things that we've either forgotten about or simply dismissed as childhood fantasies. Reading this book always sets me back on the right path towards achieving the dreams I have put on hold. We always try to do what everyone expects of us like pursuing a career that you hate just because that is what everyone does. It is maktub that Coelho writes this book shares it with the world and affect so many lives, 9780060887964 The Alchemist by Paulo Coelho continues to change the lives of its readers forever: With more than two million copies sold around the world The Alchemist has established itself as a modern classic universally admired: Paulo Coelho's masterpiece tells the magical story of Santiago an Andalusian shepherd boy who yearns to travel in search of a worldly treasure as extravagant as any ever found: The AlchemistThe Brazilian author PAULO COELHO was born in 1947 in the city of Rio de Janeiro, Before dedicating his life completely to literature he worked as theatre director and actor lyricist and journalist: In 1986 PAULO COELHO did the pilgrimage to Saint James of Compostella an experience later to be documented in his book The Pilgrimage: Slow initial sales convinced his first publisher to drop the novel but it went on to become one of the best selling Brazilian books of all time: Before dedicating

his life completely to literature he worked as theatre director and actor lyricist and journalist, In 1986 PAULO COELHO did the pilgrimage to Saint James of Compostella an experience later to be documented in his book *The Pilgrimage*. Slow initial sales convinced his first publisher to drop the novel but it went on to become one of the best selling Brazilian books of all time, During the months of March April May and June 2006 Paulo Coelho traveled to celebrate the 20th anniversary of his pilgrimage to Saint James of Compostella in 1986. He also held surprise book signings announced one day in advance in some cities along the way to have a chance to meet his readers: In ninety days of pilgrimage the author traveled around the globe and took the famous Transiberrian train that took him to Vladivostok. During this experience Paulo Coelho launched his blog *Walking the Path The Pilgrimage* in order to share with his readers his impressions. Since this first blog Paulo Coelho has expanded his presence in the internet with his daily blogs in Wordpress Myspace Facebook, He is equally present in media sharing sites such as Youtube and Flickr offering on a regular basis not only texts but also videos and pictures to his readers. Indeed Paulo Coelho is a firm believer of Internet as a new media and is the first Best selling author to actively support online free distribution of his work, The writing is too simple to be really bad I understand why people are so passionate in their dislike of this work, Paul Coelho looks to inspire passion in people with *The Alchemist*, And he succeeds in doing so ~~ especially in those who are so passionate in their dislike of this book, The novel tells the tale of Santiago a boy who has a dream and the courage to follow it. After listening to the signs the boy ventures in his personal journey of exploration and self-discovery searching for a hidden treasure located near the pyramids in Egypt: In his journey Santiago sees the greatness of the world and meets all kinds of exciting people like kings and alchemists, Coelho also suggests that those who do not have the courage to follow their "Personal Myth are doomed to a life of emptiness misery and unfulfillment. Fear fear of failure seems to be the greatest obstacle to happiness. The old crystal-seller tragically confesses: "I am afraid that great disappointment awaits me and so I prefer to dream. *The Alchemist* is a novel that will not appeal to everybody, We all have dreams and are praying for somebody to tell us they can come true. The novel skillfully combines words of wisdom philosophy and simplicity of meaning and language and this is what makes it so enchanting, 9780060887964 (B+) 78% | GoodNotes: Composed simply and scripture-like it reads at times too much like a children's fable but picks up steam by the end. 9780060887964 ***spoilers and bitterness ahead--be forewarned**I'm not sure that I can capture my utter disdain for this book in words but I'll give it a shot. I read this book about three years ago and just had to re-read it for book club, It was a steaming pile of crap then and guess what? it's a steaming pile of crap now: The main reason I hate this book: it's trite inspirational literature dressed up as an adventure quest, You go into it thinking that it's going to be about a boy's quest for treasure, If you read the back there are words like Pyramids Gypsy alchemist, Turns out this is just *The Purpose Driven Life* dressed up with a little fable: It's Hallmark Hall of Fame territory set in an exotic locale: Which pisses me off to no end as I normally try to dodge that sort of thing but here it is masquerading as the type of book I normally like, Just as with Aesop's Fables there's a moral to the story. If there's one thing Paulo Coelho can do it's flog a dead horse, He's a shepherd who gets to travel the world has all of his needs met and owns a book which he can always trade for another book when he goes to market, What more can a boy need? Boy is then told by a mysterious stranger that he's not happy at all: Everyone has a Personal Legend which is life's plan for you: However most of us give up on our Personal Legend in childhood: If you are fortunate enough to hang onto and pursue your Personal Legend then *The Soul of the World* will help you obtain it. Boy seeks out his Personal Legend and finds it's a long hard road to obtaining what you want in life. And what does he learn? That what he sought was back home the place he started from: So in summation here is what you should learn from *The Alchemist*:1) Dream, If Coelho knew anything about alchemy he would have been able to transform this crap into gold. Cross posted at *This Insignificant Cinder* 9780060887964



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But it's the content that gets you. إكسير الحياة والإنجاز العظيم . أتأمل الحياة . كان هو الغاية . I'm one of those people who love it. Its not that I find anything wrong with these messages. They are important but must be balanced with responsibility. This is her 'fate' as a desert women. In this case this is especially true. That is irony. This book knows not of irony. Still though I needed to complete my journey. My heart tugged on my sleeve. So I kept going. I wondered if this book was possibly dangerous. The perfect Oracle for this book. I interpreted it as a sign that I must continue. Absurdity goes unrecognized. Beliefs like good things happen to good people. All is right in the end. If it's not right it's not the end. God doesn't give you anything you can't handle. My heart will go on. Perhaps I am being too harsh. If you like parables don't read this book. Or then again you could just try Jesus. Jesus is always good. 9780060887964 I really disliked this book. Just because we desire something does not make it good. This idea of 'following your heart' is often wrong. He was always 'true' to himself and followed his heart. Moving Native Americans from their homes and into reservations. This is a terrible and dishonest way to live. Deliberately making ourselves ignorant.com) should be seen as American heroes. we are all one. This masterwork is a legend and a precious treasure. In the following year COELHO published The Alchemist. In the following year COELHO published The Alchemist. This is the core of the novel's theme. Not everyone will identify with Santiago. It's cliché didactic and poorly written. Essentially boy thinks he's happy in life. Why not? He has failed to recognize his Personal Legend. Hey we're all fate's bitch in The Alchemist. But I digress. Oh silly boy. Alas it's still crap