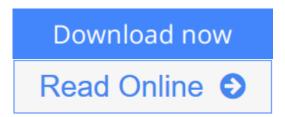


Mysterium

By Robert Charles Wilson



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In a top-secret government installation near the small town of Two Rivers, Michigan, scientists are investigating a mysterious object discovered several years earlier. Late one evening, the local residents observe strange lights coming from the laboratory. The next morning, they awake to find that their town was literally cut off from the rest of the world...and thrust into a new one!

Soon the town is discovered by the bewildered leaders of this new world?at which point, the people of Two Rivers realize that they've arrived in a rigid theocracy. The authorities, known as the Bureau de la Covenance Religieuse, have ordered Linneth Stone, a young ethnologist, to analyze the arrivals and report her findings to the Lieutenant in charge.

What Linneth finds will challenge the philosophical basis of her society and lead inexorably to a struggle for power centering on the mysterious object that Two Rivers' government scientists were studying when the town slipped between worlds.

In *Mysterium*, Robert Charles Wilson "blends science, religion, philosophy and alternate history into an intelligent, compelling work of fiction" (*Publishers Weekly*).



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Mysterium By Robert Charles Wilson Bibliography

Sales Rank: #1753454 in BooksPublished on: 2010-08-31

Released on: 2010-08-31Original language: English

• Number of items: 1

• Dimensions: 8.50" h x .79" w x 5.50" l, 1.00 pounds

• Binding: Paperback

• 352 pages





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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

The residents of Two Rivers, Mich., wake up one morning to find themselves in a changed world. The entire town and the top-secret government research facility that was located near it have been blasted into a parallel world. Their own history has been erased and they are faced instead with a repressive government controlled by a powerful church that professes a version of Gnostic Christianity. The governing Proctors plunder the town for information, gaining the knowledge to build an atomic bomb; to prevent the contagion of ideas, Two Rivers is designated as the first test site. A few residents--history teacher Dex Graham, physicist Howard Poole, along with Linneth Stone, a cultural researcher sent from the outside to study these "aliens"--slowly piece together the events that brought them to this strange universe and begin to fight against the forces that now control them. The solution lies in a mysterious fragment found in a Middle Eastern desert that turns out to be part of a "wormhole boat," a device for traveling between parallel worlds that physicist Alan Stern came upon and piloted as he took the town of Two Rivers with him into a world that echoed his own obsessions. Wilson (The Harvest) blends science, religion, philosophy and alternate history into an intelligent, compelling work of fiction.

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From Library Journal

An alien artifact transports the small town of Two Rivers, Michigan, to an alternate universe, where political repression is the order of the day and survival an ever-growing concern. The latest novel by the author of The Harvest (LJ 11/15/92) and The Bridge of Years (LJ 8/91) offers a study in culture shock as simple people find their values and their future irrevocably redefined. Wilson is a graceful storyteller who relies on the power of his characters to convey the underlying messages of his tale. This belongs in most libraries. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From **Booklist**

The plot here may recall vintage *Twilight Zone* fare, but, as masterfully rendered by veteran sf stylist Wilson, unfolds as ingenious and gripping suspense. After an anomalous UFO fragment is bombarded with radiation at a secluded government facility in Two Rivers, Michigan, the townspeople awaken the next morning to find themselves and their entire village miraculously transported to an unfamiliar, forested landscape. Within days their new neighbors' disposition becomes starkly apparent as tanks roll in to establish martial law and mark the townspeople as citizens (or prisoners) of a twisted 1940s-era America in which a theocratic French-English government is at war with Spain. Hoping to penetrate the mystery of the displacement, local scientist Howard Poole traces responsibility to his Nobel Prize-winning uncle, a senior researcher at the now unapproachable government laboratory, while the military gleans valuable information from the town library--information that will ultimately allow it to destroy Two Rivers with the country's first nuclear bomb. Wilson echoes the best of Orwell and Huxley in creating an atmosphere of brooding tyranny, meanwhile displaying an uncommon gift for combining keen insight into human behavior with original scientific speculation. *Carl Hays*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Jill Vaughn:

Book is to be different for every single grade. Book for children until eventually adult are different content. We all know that that book is very important usually. The book Mysterium was making you to know about other information and of course you can take more information. It is rather advantages for you. The book Mysterium is not only giving you far more new information but also to be your friend when you experience bored. You can spend your spend time to read your reserve. Try to make relationship with all the book Mysterium. You never truly feel lose out for everything should you read some books.

Mary Parker:

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Charles Anderson:

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Bonnie Vassallo:

Many people spending their time by playing outside using friends, fun activity with family or just watching TV the whole day. You can have new activity to enjoy your whole day by reading through a book. Ugh, think reading a book really can hard because you have to accept the book everywhere? It all right you can have the e-book, having everywhere you want in your Mobile phone. Like Mysterium which is having the e-book version. So, why not try out this book? Let's view.

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