



The Remnant

William Michael Davidson

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One nation, without God...

Colton Pierce apprehends Abberants--those who display symptoms of faith--and quarantines them on a remote island to ensure public safety. Years prior, the government released a genetically-engineered super flu that destroyed the genes believed to be the biological source of spiritual experience in an effort to rid the world of terrorism. As an extractor with the Center for Theological Control, Colton is dedicated to the cause.

But Colton's steadfast commitment is challenged when he learns his own son has been targeted for extraction. An underground militia, the Remnant, agrees to help Colton save his son in exchange for his assistance with their plan to free the Aberrants on the island.

Colton is faced with the most important decision of his life. Remain faithful to the CTC? Or give up everything to save his son?

The Remnant Details

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Author : William Michael Davidson

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From Reader Review The Remnant for online ebook

Kathleen (Kat) Smith says

According to the Bible, we know that in the future Christians and believers in Christ will face the ultimate persecution. To deny Him means you will live, but to acknowledge Him means the world will put you to death. However in the science fiction futuristic novel *The Remnant* by William Michael Davidson, the world is a vastly different place. The world has always known that most wars were based on religion and thus the need to find a way to reprogram the human brain so that the need for religion and belief in God is no longer an issue. So the governments of the world developed something known only as a super flu that destroys what they believe to be the genes that they have determined to be the biological source of spiritual experiences to rid the world of this type of terror threat.

Each person on the earth is implanted with a device known as a NRNT or Neurological Registry of Neurological Transmissions meaning they can communicate with an individual in a one-way manner by the CTC or Center for Theological Control and locate and track them as well like a built-in GPS. Now they have resolved to seek out individuals who willingly practice any type of faith-like activity like prayer, reading a religious book or even talking about it with others. Those that they extract, they interrogate and then ban them to Catalina Island. Those people are called Abherrants and those that hunt them are known as Extractors and Colton Pierce is the number one man in the CTC.

The government is trying to figure out a way to terminate Abherrants instead of giving them a life of imprisonment, kinda of like the Holocaust back in Germany. It would make those who practice or consider practicing such ideas reconsider if their life is worth losing over a belief in a God that Colton refuses to believe in. Now he struggles with communicating with his own teen son and the loss of his wife while trying to make a name for himself at the CTC for a future position as Chief Officer. He will stop at nothing to ensure that this promotion is his and he will do whatever it takes to look good in the eyes of the CTC. But what happens when the next extraction turns out to be a function his son is attending? Will Colton be willing to lay down his own life for his son?

I received *The Remnant* by William Michael Davidson compliments of Dancing Lemur Press and MC Book Tours. This is such a great novel and love the idea that the government would attempt to find a way to reprogram the human brain in an attempt to stop the need for faith. A great futuristic novel that is guaranteed to make you think twice about the governments involvement in our own religious freedoms we take for granted far too often! I would give this book a 4.5 out of 5 stars in my opinion. It even looks as if a sequel might be in the works as well!

Cheryl says

This book is an intriguing read (in a good way). I found the concept of this storyline to be believable. Which is a little scary that the thought of faith is getting to be more forbidden. Mr. Davidson was smart about the way he went about addressing the topic of religion without being too overpowering. I felt the conflict that Colton endured by choosing between his job and his son. The world that the author built as well was good. It had a nice futuristic vibe to it. It helped to really bring the story to life. Although, the chapters are short, this was not the reason this book was a quick read. It was due to the good storyline and characters. The ending was a nice one. I would check into more books by this author.

Tarah says

I enjoy the Dystopian genre (which is ironic considering that some of it hits way too close to home. There was a time when I read this genre that it seemed more sci-fi to me, but now it's seeming less and less sci-fi and more and more real.)

I will admit that I struggle with books where I don't like the main characters. Colton was a pompous arrogant jerk for over half of the book. I would have liked this book better if we started in the middle and went from there.

There is some swearing and some editing issues (which may be fixed since I got an advanced copy). While the ending is open for a sequel, it is tied up enough not to be a cliff-hanger.

Todd Coburn says

Enter a future world that has eliminated all forms of religious expression... or almost eliminated them. Enter Colton, the self-centered, egotistical, Extractor, who is the best of those who hunt down and capture anyone who dares to have a religious moment. What happens when the narcissist tool of an anti-theistic government agency encounters a green-eyed beauty with eyes that see past the surface and courage to shape a new future? Read this and find out.

Or perhaps not and experience this some day in a not-too-promising future. ;-)

Enjoy.

Christine Rains says

Colton Pierce is the top extractor with the Center for Theological Control (CTC), and he's determined to be the next director when his boss retires. The problem is he's arrogant and has no people skills. Skills he needs most when dealing with his son. Distracted by a beautiful new CTC employee, Selma, he is surprised when he discovers his son is on the list for extraction. Colton will do anything to protect his only child, even work with an underground militia group called the Remnant. With them, they may be able to free not only his son but all the Abberants in quarantine before they are put to death. Yet is the CTC lying to him or the Remnant? Who should he put his faith in?

An incredibly well-written tale of speculative fiction. It is interesting to ponder what the leaders of the world would do to rid it of war. In this book, they created a virus that destroyed genes that they believed were linked to spirituality. Anyone displaying behavior linked to religion is tagged, watched, and, if found guilty, extracted from society and forced to live in exile on an island. A harsh punishment which some folks don't think is enough. They believe those Abberants need to be exterminated. A grim future.

At the beginning, I wasn't a fan of Colton. He had an inflated ego and a lack of consideration of others. But then there was his son Marty. His love for the boy, however misguided, put a crack in that extractor armor of

his. And as the story progressed, more and more cracks appeared. Colton wasn't the man he presented to the world. This was amazing characterization of not only Colton, but all the cast of characters. Selma was one of my favorites. Brave and a little bit of a mystery, she's a woman to admire.

The plot takes us on several twists, and I wasn't certain who to trust. I wasn't even sure of the implants in their heads! Great suspense and action.

C. McKenzie says

I was worried that I'd be confronted with a lot of religious preaching when I read the blurb on this book, but that didn't turn out to be the case. There were Biblical comparisons along the way, but they didn't detract from my enjoyment of the story.

However, at first, I didn't think I'd be able to finish reading this book because I absolutely did not relate to the main character, Colton. He was obnoxious and oblivious to people's feelings. He blindly followed the government and had no compassion for the lives he destroyed to remain the top "extractor." He was everything I do not like in a real person. Then he came to his test: save his son or his career. From then on I could relate to him.

What I liked most was the theme of a world striving to do something good, and in that endeavor, creating something horrible. If you like different worlds with action and intrigue, you'll enjoy *The Remnant*.

I won this book in exchange for an honest review.

Christopher Schmitz says

I wasn't quite sure what to expect from *The Remnant*. According to the blurb it would obviously be two things: 1) be sci-fi with a mix of dystopia. 2) come from a faith-based background. I'm on board with both of those things (heck, that's the primary thing I write and one of my top three genres to read). It wasn't confusing or a let-down when I cracked the cover and saw it was a little different than I expected from the cover. It was a little less sci-fi than I expected from the robo-cop looking cover, but that was me reading too much into the artwork, but the overall book from Dancing Lemur Press was well done (even if I've got a natural bias against 6x9 books that aren't hardcover—but again, that's my own personal oddity).

Davidson's writing is good. It could use a little cleanup in some places (many spots I'd highlight, were I the editor, to suggest some tightened action verbs, but it's neither a glaring problem nor an overly obtuse one—just something I'm picking up on now during an heavy line-editing phase I've going on for a few books—the writing is really good, though... the nitpick is the difference between shiny and mirror-finish.)

Plot-wise, there is an Orwellian feel to the world that develops as you follow Colton Pierce—the main character almost seems to work for the Ministry of Love and the book opens on a sort of watered-down Room 101 where Winston Smith surrenders his humanity. Unlike the classic 1984, however, Davidson interlaces familiar imagery and names brands to keep the reader grounded in a not-too unrealistic future dystopia where people drive Mercedes Benzes, Toyotas, and Mustangs. It's both scarier and more

comfortable at the same time. There is something terrifying about a world so relatable and yet so different which Orwell establishes for his readers—but Davidson’s world has that same terror amplified because of the familiarity, though its oddly comfortable at the same time as readers will easily insert themselves into the ebb and flow of the culture and modern writing style (something readers new to Orwell will undoubtedly struggle to do).

Of course, a key difference between *The Remnant* and the classic *1984* is that Davidson’s work has an undercurrent of hope whereas Orwell’s reeks of warning. Davidson obviously writes something palatable for a larger age spectrum and the book would be appropriate for YA readers. Rather than seeing the world through the eyes of a doomed man awaiting the interrogation of Room 101 Davidson’s Winston Smith and his Julia (Selma, in *The Remnant*’s case) escape the clutches of the Big Brother, The Spies, and Thinkpol to lead their pursuit on a manhunt where similarities begin to look a bit more like *Minority Report* in some ways—although *The Remnant* is a friendlier and more accessible *1984* with a solid faith component and it manages to do that without becoming heavy handed or preachy.

I received a free copy of *The Remnant* from the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

Read Ng says

This was a GoodReads giveaway book.

A take on the *Fahrenheit 451* story. Not as captivating.

This story is broken into 3 parts. The first half of the story is the setup for our hero. Unfortunately, Davidson does such a good job making a hero we hate, I could not get behind the transformation into a hero I would cheer for and love in the end. There just was not enough effort in the transformation.

And I had my own opinion of how the story might have ended better, but this one seemed to be setting us up for a sequel. Don’t set up for a sequel. Just tell a complete story. If readers love it, a sequel will naturally evolve.

NormaCenva says

As a Pagan, I am not really into Christian fiction, but this book was very entertaining and interesting story-wise. Happy I stumbled on it, was not expecting it to be so immersive and well-written.

Kellyn Roth says

Originally posted on Reveries Reviews

I wasn’t sure exactly what to expect when I started reading this book. I was a little wary, as I’ve never read a novel like this before. Of course, it is pretty original, so I’d probably be hard-pressed to find another book like it.

I loved it (and you can see by my rating), and I'd definitely recommend to anyone ... even people who, like myself, are skeptical of this genre.

Plot {4/5}:

I removed one point because it got off to a slow start. I was hardly able to make my way through part one. However, after that, it quickly sped up and became, well, amazing. My favorite scene was in the Mourning Room when Selma talked to Colton. I also enjoyed everything about downloading the virus, because I find that idea intriguing, and also when Selma tells Colton about 'Gus.'

Characters {5/5}:

The characters were all vividly portrayed and easy to keep track of. I especially liked Selma and Colton (more specifically, them together – they made a great team, honestly).

Selma was a unique, interesting individual. She's intriguing, and she stands up for herself while still being womanly.

Colton is a pretty cool guy. I totally got his motivations and understood why he did what he did. I also sympathize with him about Marty. Though I'm good with kids (unlike Colton ...), I can't stand signs of weakness. It just bugs me. I'm like, "So what if you fell down and broke your arm? Get up!"

Ashton deserves to die. Hopefully there will be a sequel featuring the tragic death of one Ashton. ;) Seriously, though, I hate him sooo much!

And 'Gus' was amazing, of course. :P

Setting {3/5}:

Probably the weakest part of the book. Although it is futuristic, not a lot has changed. Sure, there are some technological advancements (such as the ability to, you know, plant a chip in someone's head and keep tabs on them ...), but the characters in this book use the same cars we do (albeit battery-operated) and not many social changes seem to have taken place.

For instance, Colton mentally refers to Ashton as feminine. Would they really even care enough to point that out in the post-2060 world? I don't think so. It's all going downhill, especially if religion is banned! ;)

But this is just me picking at little things, and it didn't really decrease my enjoyment of the story.

Writing {4/5}:

Could have used a little polishing here and there, but it was overall good. Still, it was too long for my taste. I wish it could be shortened a bit. There could have been less explanation about every little thing.

Content {3/5}:

No language. Mild violence (including someone almost getting choked and then a lot of talk about cyanide gas being used to kill a lot of people). Disturbing stuff, such as religion/anything religious (e.g. praying, using the word 'God,' etc.) being banned and people who do these things being sent to 'the Island' and then those

people being scheduled for termination (with cyanide gas). One kiss towards the end, not-detailed, and some (barely noticeable, never a big part of the plot at all) romancey stuff.

Overall {5/5}:

This is one of those books that I'll probably reread at some point, that I won't delete from my Kindle, and that I'll recommend to my friends. I'm hoping the author will come out with a sequel ... and if not, I'd be excited to read something new by Mr. Davidson, anyway!

~Kellyn Roth, Reveries Reviews

InD'tale Magazine says

4.5/5.0

An interesting concept, "The Remnant" takes on a very political subject and gives it a complete makeover.

Read full review in the 2017 October issue of InD'tale Magazine.

Dale says

A Review of the Audiobook

Published in June of 2017 by Dancing Lemur Press LLC

Read by Michael Burnette

Duration: 9 hours, 19 minutes

Unabridged

In a future America, religion is nearly a thing of the past. A man-made super-flu not re-wrote the genetic code of its victims, nullifying the combination of genes that allow human beings to express religious belief. The government actively hunts down anyone who was immune to the changes through a combination of an elaborate spy network and implants installed in people's brains at birth that allow the government to track people.

Colton Pierce is a pompous, clueless "extractor" who works for the Center for Theological Control. He apprehends religious people and sends them to an island where they live out the rest of their lives in quarantine. That is until now - the government plans to kill them all off, a move that Colton supports until his son gets caught up in a raid and will soon be sent off to the island...

I had 2 serious issues with this book:

Read more at: <http://dwdsreviews.blogspot.com/2017/...>

Susan Gourley says

Is there a science behind spiritual belief? The Remnant teases us with the idea that belief in a higher power can simplified as a tiny segment of humanity's genetic code. And would peace on Earth finally be a reality if all religions ceased to exist? The idea of the book is certainly timely in today's world. The central character, Colton Pierce, is introduced as a self-centered, ambitious man who is also a terrible, single father. His job is to hunt down and capture anyone who dares to believe in anything resembling religion. He seemed like an irredeemable man through the first part of the book.

The action picks up quickly, and the futuristic world is a scary, judgmental place. It might give you a few 'big brother' nightmares with the technical intrusion into everyone's lives. Colton has so few social and parenting skills, you almost fell sorry for him. Did the society make him this way? That was never really answered.

Colton Pierce is forced into a decision, and finally I had some hope for him. He has to save his son when the boy finds friends and comfort in outlawed beliefs. All the talents Colton used to hunt down people like his son now go into saving him. The story moves at light speed from there to the really, cool twist at the end. I didn't see it coming but lots of things fell into place when the truth was revealed.

I only have two complaints about the book. Colton's turnaround and acceptance into the underground group seemed to happen too quickly. And I would have liked a little more introspection on Colton's part on how difficult it would be to forgive himself for all he'd done. It would have added some depth to his character. Overall, the book moved fast with lots of action and adventure. The peripheral characters were interesting and added to the understanding of the wider world. Colton Pierce might have been difficult to like at the beginning of the book but you'll be cheering for him before the end.

Patricia Kaniasty says

Not only was this a great story but it was VERY thought provoking. I loved the character Colton and his attitude toward everything. I know people like him. LOL. The story pulled a huge range of emotions out of me and not all of them I am proud of. Read this book in 2 days. Time flew by with this book. A must read for people who like Sci-fi/dystopia that makes you think.

Beverly McClure says

Have you ever read a novel that made you wonder if the events in the story could happen in real life? If so, did it give you the chills? As I read THE REMNANT by Author William Michael Davidson it sure made me think. What if? I know this is a novel. I know it's science fiction. But there is that question.

In the novel, when someone breaks the law they are sent to the island, which is a death sentence. The story opens with a man named Josh Mosley confessing his sin. What is the sin that sends him to death? Praying. Yes, praying. He tried to run away, but the people have a neurochip in their skull which makes it impossible for them to escape. Found guilty of his crime, he knew his fate.

Colton Pierce is the number one extractor for the Center for Theological Control (CTC), which deals with those who break the law. He's in line for promotion to the top man. Sometimes life does not go as one plans, however. And Pierce's life soon takes a dramatic turn. He has to make a choice: save his twelve-year-old

son's life from capture and death by the CTC or cling to his job he's really good at and help the CTC capture him.

William Michael Davidson has written a novel that will make you think, at least it did me. Is it possible that such a thing could happen? Look at our world today and answer that question. The author did a nice job of keeping me guessing how things would turn out. Let's just hope that this story does not come true.
Recommended.
