



Epic Study Guide

John Eldredge, Craig McConnell

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Experience the Story that God is telling!

In *Epic*, a retelling of the gospel in four acts, John Eldredge invites us to revisit the drama of life, viewing God not only as the author but also as the lead actor, exploring His motives and His heart. In *Epic Study Guide*, Eldredge examines the power of story, the universal longing for a "plot" that makes sense deep inside us, our desire for a meaningful role to play, our love of books and movies, and how all of this points us to the gospel itself.

Epic Study Guide Details

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Craig says

I liked this book, yet I felt like Eldredge relied too much on quotes from the Bible or other Christian writers. The overall message is good...but I'd like to have heard more of how the EPIC relates to his personal life. The book was also over before it got going. The epilogue was what I found most interesting.

Amarta Adi says

luka terdalam dari semua orang adalah ketika kedudukan sebagai 'yang dicintai' berubah menjadi 'tidak lagi dicintai'.

Christy Bower says

Epic, by John Eldredge, has an important message: We long to be part of something epic, which leads us to God. The author explains how every story has the same essential components and those are the same components originally found in the story of God—everything is beautiful, an Adversary interferes, an epic battle ensues, and good prevails. He compares it to a four-act play.

The short book isn't as epic as I'd hoped. I couldn't help but feel I'd read it all before—verbatim. I thumbed through a couple of Eldredge's other books, but couldn't easily pick out a single chapter to say, "That's it." But the endless movie references, theological quotes, and personal experiences from his life all sounded too familiar.

This review, along with additional book quotes, first appeared on my blog, ChristyBower.com.

Candice says

If I had to choose one word to describe this little book it would be "encouraging." Eldredge used famous epics (Star Wars, The Chronicles of Narnia, The Lord of the Rings, The Matrix, etc.) to reflect the epic that God has written for our own lives. I highly recommend this short book to anyone who needs encouragement. Although, do NOT read this unless you have read "The Lord of the Rings," "The Chronicles of Narnia," and "The Tempest" and are familiar with "Star Wars," "The Matrix," and "The Titanic."

The following are two passages that I particularly enjoyed:

"Every story has a villain because yours does.

Though most of you do not live like it.

Most people do not live as though the Story has a Villain, and that makes life very confusing. How have we missed this?" - p. 29

"The dilemma of the Story is this: we don't know if we want to be rescued. We are so enamored with our small stories and our false gods, we are so bound up in our addictions and our self-centeredness and take-it-for-granted unbelief that we don't even know how to cry out for help. And the Evil One has no intention of letting his captives walk away scot-free. He seduces us, deceives us, assaults us - whatever it takes to keep us in the darkness." - p. 63

Jewell Moore says

There is PLOT and we are in it! Where are you in the story God has already written?

Aneta Jackowska-Musiol says

It would do no harm if this book hadn't been written.

Jill Oliver says

God blesses us with what we need at just the right time. This book was assigned reading for members of the Vision Committee at our church. It was assigned a month ago and I needed to read by May 15. So you can tell, my reading was last minute. It turned out to be perfect timing. Thought provoking, inspiring, uplifting, quick read! I look forward to reading it again.

Patrick Miller says

Much like many of Eldredge's books, there are some serious theological miscommunications (especially at the end, where he contorts the gospel story into his normal three-fold gospel of enemy-to-beat/beauty-to-rescue/adventure-to-have).

That said, he actually does a rather good job of laying out the Biblical story, using lots of contemporary cultural references. It's a simple book, and I think it's simplicity makes it a great place for people who want the basic story of the gospel to find it. Moreover, it's simplicity prevents Eldredge's questionable theology from becoming too prominent.

Andrew Hall says

Was disappointed...
