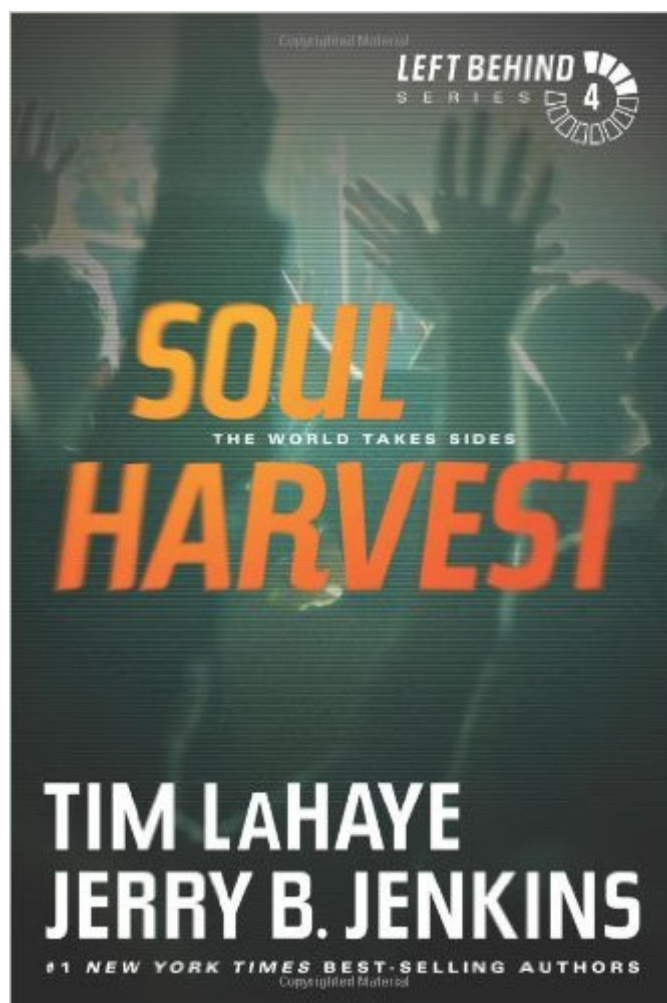


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Soul Harvest: The World Takes Sides (Left Behind #4)



Synopsis

The world is reeling from a great earthquake. As Nicolae Carpathia begins a worldwide rebuilding campaign, his rage is fueled by an evangelistic effort resulting in the greatest harvest of souls the world has ever seen. Meanwhile, Rayford Steele and Buck Williams search for their loved ones who haven't been seen since before the earthquake. A repackage of the fourth book in the New York Times best-selling Left Behind series.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

After putting my wife off for several months to read 'Left Behind,' I have quickly raced through the first four books in the series, ending recently with Soul Harvest. This book matches the intensity and excitement of the prior three installments, using the environment outlined in the Book of Revelations to tell the continuing story of Rayford Steele, Buck Williams and the rest of the Tribulation Force. Without giving anything away, this installment has enough twists and turns to keep the reader interested from start to finish. Oddly, being a Christian and knowing where all of this is going, does nothing to dull the excitement of following the story as it develops. The vivid writing of LaHaye and Jenkins makes it possible to visually put yourself into the scene and almost experience the subject matter firsthand. If you are a believer and have not read any of these books, you are not doing yourself justice. These are great writings and do a great job of bringing the Word of God to life in a new and vibrant manner.

I stopped reading this series after #4 (Soul Harvest). I kept reading Left Behind hoping it would get better. It didn't. I also read (actually started reading) We All Fall Down, but there the foul language was SO EXCESSIVE I couldn't keep going. Finally I read the books of The Christ Clone Trilogy (why do I feel like Goldilocks here?) and it was "just right!" Actually it was GREAT! So if you're tired of Buck and Rayford playing James Bond, and all the females in the LB world cooing, have a look at The Christ Clone Trilogy.

To all those criticizing the writing style, you're missing the point. For years, men have ignored the Book of all time. LaHaye and Jenkins have woven a story of intrigue that would reach all ages and levels of intelligence. But the bigger picture is that they're telling the story in modern-day terms because the days are short. This has made the book of Revelation live for me as never before and I was raised in the church. I'm sure it has gotten the attention of many who are re-thinking their values and getting their lives in order. A big thank you to the authors for making it so plain!

Now, you've heard from every other reviewer, that these books aren't very well written. Well, they're right. But you've heard enough from them about that, so I won't bore you with how bad the writing was. I really don't think these books are too bad. I only have one problem, well actually 2 problems: 1: I don't think these books need to be dragged out past 8 books. If the writers were good, then I'd say the heck with it, go ahead. But the fact is they aren't good writers. Look at the Harry Potter series. There will be seven of those, but the author is a great author. Also, there was a mistake in interpretations in this book. It was the first I've come across, but it's a big part in the story. If you're familiar with the story, you know that all believers get a mark on their forehead so they will be recognized as Christians. Well, in Revelation, chapter 7, It says that only the 144,000 witnesses will get that seal on their heads. Out of all the things that happen in Revelation, that has to be the most understandable. I don't see how the authors could have missed something like that. Anyway, these are just my opinions. Also, if you have questions about the "End Times," don't worry about it just yet. Every Christian should be more concerned about how to live their lives right now, than worrying about what is going to happen in the end times.

Before I read this book, I spent a good deal of time looking through the reviews--mainly the 3 stars and less, as I was interested in the downside of this novel. I'm glad I did, because I read it with a more critical eye than if I'd chosen to read the serie's cheerleaders' reviews. I must admit, I enjoyed this one as much as any of the others. If you read it for escapism, as is the intention of most series,

you don't really want a lot of details bogging down the flow of the story. The authors accomplish this feat. Their point, I'm sure, is to both entertain and inform. It is far more accessible and understandable to the layman than is The Revelation. It will also be an aid to those who actually sit down and read the biblical version. The authors, though at times in the previous books tend to make the main characters superhero-like, have done a good job with showing the vulnerability of the big three in this one. Poor Chloe has been beaten up pretty badly two books in a row! Doesn't matter how she looks, Buck loves her just the same. The books are addictive, and I'm probably going to have to run to Sam's Club and get the next one. I can't wait to decode Amanda's correspondences with Nicolae. I had a funny feeling about her in the previous book.

I did not find this story as believable as I think it should have been. Probably the best Rapture novels on the market right now, at least in my opinion, are "In His Image" (book one of the Christ Clone Trilogy) and "Conquest of Paradise", both of which I read several months ago. These books display the realism, intensity and suspense that make for incredibly exciting and unforgettable stories. The Left Behind Series, on the other hand, peaks the reader's interest, but doesn't seem the slightest bit realistic. If you liked "Nicolae," "Tribulation Force," and "Left Behind," you'll enjoy The Christ Clone Trilogy and "Conquest of Paradise" even more.

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