



Ishmael: An Adventure of the Mind and Spirit

By Daniel Quinn

Download now

Read Online →

Ishmael: An Adventure of the Mind and Spirit By Daniel Quinn

One of the most beloved and bestselling novels of spiritual adventure ever published, *Ishmael* has earned a passionate following among readers and critics alike. This special twenty-fifth anniversary edition features a new foreword and afterword by the author, as well as an excerpt from *My Ishmael*.

TEACHER SEEKS PUPIL.

Must have an earnest desire to save the world. Apply in person.

It was just a three-line ad in the personals section, but it launched the adventure of a lifetime.

So begins an utterly unique and captivating novel. In *Ishmael*, which received the Turner Tomorrow Fellowship for the best work of fiction offering positive solutions to global problems, Daniel Quinn parses humanity's origins and its relationship with nature, in search of an answer to this challenging question: How can we save the world from ourselves?

Praise for *Ishmael*

“As suspenseful, inventive, and socially urgent as any fiction or nonfiction you are likely to read this or any other year.”—*The Austin Chronicle*

“Before we’re halfway through this slim book . . . we’re in [Daniel Quinn’s] grip, we want *Ishmael* to teach us how to save the planet from ourselves. We want to change our lives.”—*The Washington Post*

“Arthur Koestler, in an essay in which he wondered whether mankind would go the way of the dinosaur, formulated what he called the Dinosaur’s Prayer: ‘Lord, a little more time!’ *Ishmael* does its bit to answer that prayer and may just possibly have bought us all a little more time.”—*Los Angeles Times*

↓ [Download Ishmael: An Adventure of the Mind and Spirit ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Ishmael: An Adventure of the Mind and Spirit ...pdf](#)

Ishmael: An Adventure of the Mind and Spirit

By Daniel Quinn

Ishmael: An Adventure of the Mind and Spirit By Daniel Quinn

One of the most beloved and bestselling novels of spiritual adventure ever published, *Ishmael* has earned a passionate following among readers and critics alike. This special twenty-fifth anniversary edition features a new foreword and afterword by the author, as well as an excerpt from *My Ishmael*.

TEACHER SEEKS PUPIL.

Must have an earnest desire to save the world. Apply in person.

It was just a three-line ad in the personals section, but it launched the adventure of a lifetime.

So begins an utterly unique and captivating novel. In *Ishmael*, which received the Turner Tomorrow Fellowship for the best work of fiction offering positive solutions to global problems, Daniel Quinn parses humanity's origins and its relationship with nature, in search of an answer to this challenging question: How can we save the world from ourselves?

Praise for *Ishmael*

"As suspenseful, inventive, and socially urgent as any fiction or nonfiction you are likely to read this or any other year."—*The Austin Chronicle*

"Before we're halfway through this slim book . . . we're in [Daniel Quinn's] grip, we want *Ishmael* to teach us how to save the planet from ourselves. We want to change our lives."—*The Washington Post*

"Arthur Koestler, in an essay in which he wondered whether mankind would go the way of the dinosaur, formulated what he called the Dinosaur's Prayer: 'Lord, a little more time!' *Ishmael* does its bit to answer that prayer and may just possibly have bought us all a little more time."—*Los Angeles Times*

Ishmael: An Adventure of the Mind and Spirit By Daniel Quinn Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #3847 in Books
- Brand: Quinn, Daniel
- Published on: 1995-05-01
- Released on: 1995-05-01
- Ingredients: Example Ingredients
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.00" h x .90" w x 5.20" l,
- Binding: Paperback
- 263 pages

 [Download Ishmael: An Adventure of the Mind and Spirit ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Ishmael: An Adventure of the Mind and Spirit ...pdf](#)

Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Quinn (*Dreamer*) won the Turner Tomorrow Award's half-million-dollar first prize for this fascinating and odd book--not a novel by any conventional definition--which was written 13 years ago but could not find a publisher. The unnamed narrator is a disillusioned modern writer who answers a personal ad ("Teacher seeks pupil. . . . Apply in person.") and thereby meets a wise, learned gorilla named Ishmael that can communicate telepathically. The bulk of the book consists entirely of philosophical dialogues between gorilla and man, on the model of Plato's *Republic*. Through Ishmael, Quinn offers a wide-ranging if highly general examination of the history of our civilization, illuminating the assumptions and philosophies at the heart of many global problems. Despite some gross oversimplifications, Quinn's ideas are fairly convincing; it's hard not to agree that unrestrained population growth and an obsession with conquest and control of the environment are among the key issues of our times. Quinn also traces these problems back to the agricultural revolution and offers a provocative rereading of the biblical stories of Genesis. Though hardly any plot to speak of lies behind this long dialogue, Quinn's smooth style and his intriguing proposals should hold the attention of readers interested in the daunting dilemmas that beset our planet. 50,000 first printing; major ad/promo. Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From Library Journal

Winner of the Turner Tomorrow Fellowship, a literary competition intended to foster works of fiction that present positive solutions to global problems, this book offers proof that good ideas do not necessarily equal good literature. Ishmael, a gorilla rescued from a traveling show who has learned to reason and communicate, uses these skills to educate himself in human history and culture. Through a series of philosophical conversations with the unnamed narrator, a disillusioned Sixties idealist, Ishmael lays out a theory of what has gone wrong with human civilization and how to correct it, a theory based on the tenet that humanity belongs to the planet rather than vice versa. While the message is an important one, Quinn rarely goes beyond a didactic exposition of his argument, never quite succeeding in transforming idea into art. Despite this, heavy publicity should create demand. Previewed in *Prepub Alert*, LJ 10/15/91.
- *Lawrence Rungren, Bedford Free P.L., Mass.*
Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From Kirkus Reviews

Here's the novel that, out of 2500 submissions, won the ecological-minded Turner Tomorrow Award--and caused a mutiny among the judges when it was awarded the \$500,000 first prize. Is it that good--or bad? No, but it's certainly unusual, even eccentric, enough to place Quinn (the paperback *Dreamer*, 1988) on the cult literary map.

What's most unusual is that this novel scarcely is one: beneath a thin narrative glaze, it's really a series of Socratic dialogues between man and ape, with the ape as Socrates. The nameless man, who narrates, answers a newspaper ad ("TEACHER seeks pupil...") that takes him to a shabby office tenanted by a giant gorilla; lo! the ape begins to talk to him telepathically (Quinn's failure to explain this ability is typical of his approach: idea supersedes story). Over several days, the ape, Ishmael, as gruff as his Greek model, drags the man into a new understanding of humanity's place in the world. In a nutshell, Ishmael argues that humanity has evolved two ways of living: There are the "Leavers," or hunter-gatherers (e.g., Bushmen), who live in harmony with the rest of life; and there are the "Takers" (our civilization), who arose with the agricultural revolution, aim to conquer the rest of life, and are destroying it in the process. Takers, Ishmael says, have woven a "story" to rationalize their conquest; central to this story is the idea that humanity is flawed--e.g., as told in the Bible.

But not so, Ishmael proclaims; only the Taker way is flawed: Leavers offer a method for living well in the world ... A washout as a story, with zero emotional punch; but of substantial intellectual appeal as the extensive Q&A passages (despite their wild generalities and smug self-assurance) invariably challenge and provoke: both Socrates and King Kong might be pleased. -- *Copyright ©1991, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Thomas Carroll:

Typically the book *Ishmael: An Adventure of the Mind and Spirit* has a lot of knowledge on it. So when you make sure to read this book you can get a lot of help. The book was written by the very famous author. The author makes some research just before write this book. This book very easy to read you can get the point easily after perusing this book.

Lorenzo Lowe:

Ishmael: An Adventure of the Mind and Spirit can be one of your beginning books that are good idea. We recommend that straight away because this book has good vocabulary that may increase your knowledge in vocabulary, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nonetheless delivering the information. The article writer giving his/her effort to set every word into pleasure arrangement in writing *Ishmael: An Adventure of the Mind and Spirit* however doesn't forget the main position, giving the reader the hottest and based confirm resource information that maybe you can be considered one of it. This great information may drawn you into new stage of crucial pondering.

Mathew Casillas:

Are you kind of stressful person, only have 10 as well as 15 minute in your day to upgrading your mind expertise or thinking skill perhaps analytical thinking? Then you are having problem with the book in comparison with can satisfy your short time to read it because all this time you only find book that need more time to be go through. *Ishmael: An Adventure of the Mind and Spirit* can be your answer mainly because it can be read by you who have those short spare time problems.

Pamela Stanley:

That e-book can make you to feel relax. This particular book *Ishmael: An Adventure of the Mind and Spirit* was multi-colored and of course has pictures around. As we know that book *Ishmael: An Adventure of the Mind and Spirit* has many kinds or type. Start from kids until teenagers. For example *Naruto* or *Private eye Conan* you can read and think that you are the character on there. Therefore , not at all of book tend to be make you bored, any it makes you feel happy, fun and rest. Try to choose the best book for you personally and try to like reading this.

**Download and Read Online Ishmael: An Adventure of the Mind
and Spirit By Daniel Quinn #MIGW5FTCU79**

Read Ishmael: An Adventure of the Mind and Spirit By Daniel Quinn for online ebook

Ishmael: An Adventure of the Mind and Spirit By Daniel Quinn Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Ishmael: An Adventure of the Mind and Spirit By Daniel Quinn books to read online.

Online Ishmael: An Adventure of the Mind and Spirit By Daniel Quinn ebook PDF download

Ishmael: An Adventure of the Mind and Spirit By Daniel Quinn Doc

Ishmael: An Adventure of the Mind and Spirit By Daniel Quinn Mobipocket

Ishmael: An Adventure of the Mind and Spirit By Daniel Quinn EPub