

Reader Reviews

for *The Methuselah Man*

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Thanks for the great entertainment!

Jim Jacobson (December 8, 2012, Onalaska, WI)

Wow, this was so good, I had to give it to my relatives for Christmas. The excitement kept building and the mystery - simply one of the best books I have read in awhile. I enjoyed "Sacrament of Fear" and "The Methuselah Man" has gone the next step - couldn't put it down. I loved it.



A mix of genetics, politics, and hatred!!

Peggy A. Dozier (December 6, 2012, Mountain View, CA)

Will Dresser in his second book, "The Methuselah Man", weaves an intricate tale of deception, political intrigue, and murder. Secrets unfold and the urgency of Wes Franklin to get to the bottom of the plot before it's too late is riveting!

A genetically enhanced man, Cain, somehow is involved. Who is he, and what is his role in this spellbinding, fast moving..."I have to turn the page," kind of book? You won't put it down until you find out!!



Great Read!

Michael "NRT Often" (November 10, 2012, San Francisco, CA) -

The Methuselah Man is a great read. I started the novel on a recent business trip and it made for a quick flight, once you get started it's hard to put it down. Can't wait to start on Sacrament of Fear.



The Methuselah Man: A Fantastic Read!!!!

Marc Brendan Judson (October 31, 2012, Sunnyvale, CA)

As we are almost upon the time of year this novel takes place, I thought I would write a note about a great book I read a short while ago.

The Methuselah Man is a fantastic read!! It is extremely entertaining, providing the fast-paced action-packed thrill ride I have come to expect from any of the Wes Franklin international novels written by Will Dresser. The author has mastered the art of withholding just enough information to make me want to keep turning the pages at every point in the story. He provides vividly described scenes ranging from intimate seduction to action in exotic locations. He writes with skillful psychological asides between scenes that add tremendous depth to all his characters. Jared Kennan Cain, the central character, is unlike any other character, in any other book I have ever read!! Absolutely amazing!!!

The story itself directly addresses the current dangers of the proliferation and exposure of nuclear materials, but then expands this to explore the more universal concepts of life, love, death and how to spiritually heal

from actions taken that run contrary to "the fabric of the soul". Against a backdrop of political intrigue, the story provides a moral guide for people in positions of power and authority... or anyone else whose life feels like they are "riding a lightning bolt" of their own. The story also teaches many things in a variety of subject areas such as, fine wine, noted history from different eras, how to answer "your question" when it's YOUR time to answer!!...and what it truly means to be your brother's keeper!!

The author, in the writing of *The Methuselah Man*, has definitely done "his good deed for humanity" and has more than earned his "wings and stars"!!

As stated in the beginning, this is a Fantastic Read and I can't wait for the next Wes Franklin Novel to come out!!!!!!



Fantastic Novel!

Marcus Hill Shelz (June 5, 2012)

Will Dresser's *The Methuselah Man* is like a magic carpet that swoops down and carries one away on a grand journey, combining the everyday life of ordinary folks with that of some very special people. It takes a while to identify, disaggregate, and recombine the serpentine and multi-layered pathways involved in this action, mystery adventure. And as it turns out, that is exactly what all of the fun is about with this amazing piece. One part of the story unfolds through various characters found in a macabre dance of international intrigue on a cross-European continental railway. This 'keep you on the edge of your seat' depiction honors the great classic cinema railway scenes of the past, such as those found in *North By Northwest*, *From Russia with Love*, and *The Silver Streak*. The espionage on rails is then linked across the oceans to the greed, deception, and foul corruption festering at the highest level of our government. In the meantime, on the west coast, Wes Franklin and company are deep into their own unraveling of these and more interwoven plot lines. The ending reveals a grand epiphany when all of the aforementioned ingredients coalesce into one meaningful scene. I am sure that O'Henry himself would be proud to call this ironic and unexpected ending his own.



Ready for the Sequel

Snow Diz (Wisconsin, June 3, 2012)

When I first read *Sacrament of Fear* by Will Dresser, I was immediately drawn into the action and couldn't bring myself to put down the book. The non-stop suspense and careful development of the main characters of Wes Franklin, Aryana, and AJ left me longing for more. I was delighted, therefore, to get to know them even better in the sequel, *The Methuselah Man*. (It is important to note, however, that it is not necessary to read *Sacrament of Fear* prior to becoming thoroughly engrossed in this novel.) Once again, Will Dresser has proved himself as a master of descriptors. His careful research is obvious, and the reader has no trouble accepting and celebrating the intriguing twists and turns of the cleverly designed plot focusing on Jared Cain, a man who proves that possession of eternal life is not necessarily an enviable quality. I have personally visited many of the locations utilized in the plot development and could easily visualize the scenes with the details which make this novel a natural for a screen play. Trust me, you'll never watch the fountains at the Bellagio again without flashing on this novel! I'm hooked on Wes Franklin---another sequel cannot be published too quickly for me!



Get Your Work Done!!!

Gail Shoenthal (June 2, 2012, Green Bay, WI)

Before you begin to read "*The Methuselah Man*", be sure the kids are fed and the house work is finished, because once you pick up this book and start to read, it will become very difficult to put it down, for even a

moment!! The suspense and energy put forth from the skillfully interwoven story lines will have you carrying this book with you until you have finished the story.

Book groups...get this book!!! You will find a plethora of topics to discuss and debate, including politics, religion, loyalty, love, genetic research, nuclear disarmament, the truth about immortality.

"The Methuselah Man" is a beautifully written story that will cause you to stop and consider some of the real and serious issues facing us today...issues we wish would, but which sadly refuse to, go away.

"The Methuselah Man" would make an amazing movie that would, without a doubt, fill the theaters from the first showings.



Thinking person's beach book. Loved it!

Lakelady (June 2, 2012, Lake Geneva, WI)

This is one of those novels that is tough to put down. Lots of twists and turns right up to the end. Intrigue and thought provoking ideas. Wes Franklin is a great lead character and I can't wait to meet him again.



This book will make you think!

Mary Robertson (May 31, 2012, Chicago, IL)

"Truth never happens in real time," maintains author Will Dresser. And he skillfully demonstrates his premise in *The Methuselah Man*, his second installation in the Wes Franklin series. This is a really smart and engaging international thriller taking Wes, his sidekicks Aryana and AJ, and the reader on an unforgettable journey through time and place. As thriller fiction goes, the book does it all, embracing a variety of worlds including politics, espionage, corruption, medicine, science, and religion, while adding a rich play on ethical and moral dilemmas.

What sets this storyline apart is that its protagonist, Jared Cain, is not your typical hero, nor is his antagonist anyone with a name or a place on the map. And as every good thriller thrives on harrowing life and death situations, this one takes the topic well beyond the obvious and adds a clever twist. The author ingeniously uses the implausible, immortality, to demonstrate the very real moral and ethical issues we face as a society. It causes one to ask what we are really after as human beings, living fragile and impermanent lives. To make his point, Mr. Dresser skillfully uses irony to demonstrate the random nature of life and death. See the arrogant doctor who can't fathom a medical phenomenon beyond his expertise and then dies by a hit and run a few hours later. Also see the dark scheming nature of the very scientists seeking to enhance human life and will kill to do it. The pace is good, and along with the timing and execution of subplots, it kept me on my toes but comfortable following the changing scenes and characters.

I really like this author's ability to write in big screen Technicolor. Every scene is so well detailed with sights, sounds and character descriptions I feel as though I am watching a movie. In fact, it would make a great movie. One of my favorites is the murky train out of Kiev scene, with its swarthy underworld characters conducting a dirty deal over what ultimately becomes a "life saver" for our hero Cain.

The author has done his research, no doubt about it. I guarantee you will come away smarter after reading this book. The rich and often subtle details in history, people, places and things will educate you, for sure. Think you knew what your favorite playground sing-song meant? Read and find out -- you will be surprised! Beyond sing-songs, some of the education is in-your-face grim. Want to know what it's like to die by radiation exposure? Maybe not, but we should all read it and know to be afraid -- very afraid. You will surely question the paradoxical nature of man, too. Why is it that we seek to heal, rejuvenate, live longer and at the same time proliferate weapons that threaten to destroy us all? Why do we tinker with things perhaps left well enough alone? Well, as Bob Dylan says, the answer is "blowin' in the wind", and Will Dresser leaves the answers out there too. He will surely cause you to ask, and that's what makes this book so worth the read. I encourage you

to check out his first book in the series too, *Sacrament of Fear*, also on Amazon. And then look forward to the next Wes Franklin installment to see, once again, how "Truth never happens in real time."



A Real Page Turner

Ron Edwin (May 26, 2012, Las Vegas, NV)

Since I was a kid I have always loved a good adventure (my favorite book was Jules Vern's *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under The Sea*.) And as I've gotten older, I still love a good yarn. These days, though, I demand an inventive story with an intelligent protagonist - much like Daniel Silva's *Gabriel Allon* or Preston & Child's *Agent Pendergast*. Will Dresser's *Wes Franklin* does the job quite nicely. And his sidekicks *Aryana* and *AJ* are pretty cool, too.

If an opening line like "God, I never knew a man who wanted so much to be dead...or deserved it more" doesn't grab you, nothing will. And from that point on, it's an incredible ride from the Big Sur in California, Washington DC and a Russian train to a unique climax in Las Vegas. This book gives the term "international thriller" a whole new standard of measurement.

The story is not only entertaining on multiple levels, but timely as well. I don't want to give too much away, but the central character - *The Methuselah Man* - has a perfect genetic structure that gives him the ability to "heal." Finding out how long he has been able to do this, and why he's the lynch pin in a plot that will have global impact makes for one heck of a good read.

If you're a fan of Clive Cussler, Ken Follett, Jack Higgins or the two authors I mentioned above, you're gonna love this book. I predict that, in very short order, Will Dresser's name will fit in with this group very nicely.



Awesome

BetaOri (May 29, 2012, Germany)

Suspenseful, thrilling, catches you right from the start- loved it, loved it. I have barely any free time for reading or hobbies, and the fact that I couldn't put this down speaks volumes. Crazy thing is my father recommended it, which is why I'm writing this- we have opposite reading tastes, but when a book is good, it's good. Pick it up immediately, you won't regret it!!



You Will Not Be Able To Put This One Down

Kathleen Wagner (May 26, 2012, SWPA)

I enjoy a good thriller. I particularly enjoy *Shenanigans at the Vatican* or *The White House*. Heaven only knows that there is enough in both places to draw from.

Wes Franklin is a quiet American Hero. He and his associates have more training and higher IQ's than the average person. Even more than the average hero.

The beginning would lead you to believe that *Joe Rosenfeld* and *Liz Charles* are miscreants of the worst kind. You meet them while they are doing everything in their power to make sure that remains will be disposed of in such a way that any friend, family or for that matter, enemy, will never locate what they have turned over to a man whose job it is to bury the dead. A little hush money changes hands and they leave the cemetery assured that their request will be honored.

This is not, the beginning of the story, but a point much closer to the end. We are soon taken to a point that paints the picture of what led *Rosenfeld* and *Charles* to this point, doing this deed. It is a typical day in their offices. *Rosenfeld* seeing his patients, and *Charles*, his long time friend and secretary, going about their

business. A new patient comes into the office, he has no appointment but has been referred in a way that Liz perceives as urgent. Since there is time, Dr Rosenfeld agrees to see him. The man is Jared Cain. One look at him and it is apparent that he is in a bad way. He is ill. Very ill. Which is the reason he sought out Dr. Rosenfeld, who has made a name for himself as a writer. His books include one detailing what happens during a near death experience. Once he discloses this to the doctor, hold on to your seat, you are about to take off on an adventure the likes of which you have never experienced before.

This is a fast moving story with many twists and turns. Nearly all of the characters are compelling and likable. The politics and dark undertone of life in DC seems to ring true. Each character has a story behind them and each and every one is, or at least borders on, extraordinary.

There is a back story here as well. It is a low throbbing hum, upon which the rest of the book flows. I found myself literally holding my breath at the end. I was both gratified to see how it all came together, and sorry that this grand ride was over. At least for now. I know that I am hoping for a sequel!

Recommended with enthusiasm!



What an amazing story of intrigue, deception and honor

William D. Curnutt "Pastor Dan" (May 24, 2012, Wichita, KS, United States)

Will Dresser is a new author that I have just read for the first time. His book *The Methuselah Man* is amazing. I will disclaim that Mr. Dresser sent me a copy of the book in exchange for a review. Boy am I glad that I accepted his offer. This book is fascinating.

The story starts out with Joe Rosenfeld and Liz Charles present at the burial of an extraordinary man. He has lead an amazing life that has brought him in contact with countless numbers of people, both simple and complex, poor and rich, weak and powerful. Yet Joe and Liz are the only two people to attend the burial, except for the grave digger. Why is that? Why does no one else come to this funeral? If this man was so amazing and so important why are there not others there? Well, that's the point of the story.

From the opening scene we are transported back in time to a couple of weeks before when Jared Kennan Cain, the Methuselah Man, shows up at the psychiatric office of Joe Rosenfeld to seek counsel and to `tell' his story. Liz Charles is Joe's secretary and confidant, so she gets to meet Cain, but not sit in on the sessions.

On the other side of the country our hero, Wes Franklin, is having a friendly get together with an old friend, who just happens to be the Secretary of State, Crandall Forsyth. Crandall is asking Wes to help him discover some information regarding the Vice-President of the United States, George S. Austin. It seems as though Austin and President Treem don't see eye to eye on Nuclear disarmament. There is a summit coming up and the Vice-President is put in charge of security and Forsyth wants Wes to have a hand in that.

Then there is another sub-plot, some Russian mobsters are trying to sell weapons grade Plutonium to some Arab businessmen. The CIA and others are trying to stop that and dismantle the threat of nuclear material getting into the hands of terrorists.

So, how do all these stories come together? Oh, and did I forget to tell you about the Genetic Discovery Corp, and Dr. Bridger who are a CIA front for developing chemical and biological weapons? Yeah, they are going to play a big part in this story.

But the main plot of the story is *The Methuselah Man*. Cain has come to Rosenfeld because he is dying of cancer and wants to talk about the afterlife. The problem is this, Rosenfeld feels his client is in denial and doesn't want to come to terms with dying. But Cain wants to talk with Rosenfeld about his book on near death experiences.

Why? Because Cain can't die! That's the bottom line. He can't die. He is living forever. He gets sick, but then he gets better. His body has a genetic make-up that is "the fountain of youth." He wants help from Rosenfeld to come to terms with God, heaven, the afterlife, and why he can't die, etc.

Dr. Bridger and the Genetic Discovery Corp want Cain back because they are studying him to see why he can't die. The Vice-President wants Cain back because he has a special project for him to do for him.

Wes Franklin comes in to play because well, just because, you will have to read the book to find out.

Wes, Joe, Liz and Wes's friends, Aryana and AJ all come together to try and save Cain from the clutches of Dr. Bridger and the Genetic Discovery Corp. But Cain has some other ideas as well as to what he needs to do.

All along Rosenfeld and Franklin discover the truth of the Methuselah Man, he has extraordinary powers of healing. He doesn't seem able to die, even when he is shot he heals. Oh, and how long has he been alive anyway.

For Cain, all he wants is to die. He wants to be freed from immortality and to be brought back into the good graces of God. He is tired of being 'punished by God' for a sin that he committed 1,000's of years before. But does God really punish people? Not according to my Theology. But Cain thinks so and makes a very good argument for his belief.

This book has more twists and turns than Lombard Street in San Francisco. You will be kept on the edge of your seat while reading. You won't want to stop. I lost sleep because of this book.

Will Dresser does a wonderful job of developing his main plot, weaving in his sub-plots and bringing them all together in a fast paced thrill ride ending that will leave you wanting more.

Then he will take a couple of more chapters to tie it all up nice and pretty and deliver to you the ultimate reality of how power and greed, but mostly power will corrupt even the best of men.

The character development is wonderful. I thought that each person who was important to the story was well developed and you received all the information you needed to know them well.

If you kept track of the players and the plots you could come up with the solution to the story, or could you? Towards the end of the story there is one more surprise that Dresser gives you regarding President Treem. I won't tell you what it is, you will just have to read the story to find out.

After you finish the book go back and re-read the opening chapter and you will be left smiling at the way this story all came together.

If you love political spy thrillers you will love this novel. If you love Romance novels you will even find that in here. If you love Military hero's there is a great sub-plot for that with real life Medal of Honor winners who are good men, brave men, dedicated men, and men who realize they were just skillful and lucky.

If you can't tell, I loved this book.

Enjoy!



A very good and entertaining book

Larry Rifken (April 15, 2012, Lake Forest, CA United States)

I enjoy this genre of story and this particular book was an excellent example and fun to read. It had a little bit of everything: excitement, love, mystery and purpose. Several characters and scenes were rather unforgettable (Like the train scene and the initial meeting of Jared Cain and the Doctor.) The character of Jared Cain could command a series unto himself and I hope the author brings him back in any subsequent books he may write. Highly recommended!



A Great Read

NickP (May 28, 2012, Tucson, AZ)

What would you do if you couldn't die? Would you save the world? Work for world peace? Amass riches beyond belief? All to what end? In the Methuselah Man we have a wonderfully masterminded tale of a man who has been faced with that very question and has made his choices - his name is Jared Kennan Cain. Now the object of an ongoing manhunt, Mr. Cain gets assistance from Wes Franklin, member of a global secret order, ably assisted by a pair of trusty and capable associates. The story takes us around the world, and as all good novels do, interleaves the single-minded machinations of high ranking political brokers against those wanting to do 'the right thing' for mankind. Immortality and nuclear irresponsibility - quite a combination that leads us on chases and, at last, culminates in an extremely satisfying ending (or is it really the end??). A great read for anyone interested in thrillers. I'll definitely be re-reading it again when I work thru my backlog of reading materials. Mr. Dresser has also written a previous novel - Sacrament of Fear, that is also well worth your while.



This author has a line on the human senses

Kathryn Kliesch (May 27, 2012, Ingram, TX)

This is one book that once I picked it up I did not want to put it down. I took this book to my son's football practices and on all of my errands so that I could read it whenever possible. This book sent my imagination reeling and all I wanted when I finished this book was more. I have never before or since read a book that had such a story line that grabbed me from the beginning and just kept it coming with great story telling adventures and enthusiasm in what and how the author wrote this book. It's clear to see that this author has a line on the human senses that left me wanting to read the next book he writes. Thank you Will Dresser, I can't wait for the next book using Jared Cain's character or your other books; a movie on this would be fantastic!



A terrific, entertaining book

Teresa Probst (Oct 6, 2012, Las Vegas, NV)

Will Dresser is an incredibly gifted writer, and the book is a great read! An intricate, descriptive story, with unexpected twists & turns...I even loved the way it ended & can't wait to read the first book in the Wes Franklin series. (Word to Las Vegans - you'll enjoy the local references!)



Hard to stop reading

Ed Creethbottom (Oct 5, 2012, Sunnyvale, CA)

I've read both books by Mr. Dresser. I found them way too interesting and exciting with totally unexpected endings. The Cloister is a superb vehicle for the protagonist. I eagerly look forward to Will's third novel.



A fantastic read

Sal @ Merrill (Aug 30, 2012, Merrill, WI)

I have to admit that mystery and intrigue are not my usual genre but this book is excellent! Will Dresser has done a fantastic job in creating a plot with twists and turns that will hold your interest from beginning to end. Dresser keeps you guessing right until the last chapter and the ending, although very surprising, is also very

satisfying. Besides being a good read, it would make an excellent movie!



Fast Paced Novel

Mark K (June 29, 2012, Sunnyvale, CA)

I love reading a good book, whether it's action, political thriller, mystery, or science fiction. But when an author manages to combine multiple genres into one, I know I'm in for a good read. Such is the case with "The Methuselah Man".

In this fast paced novel, Wes Franklin, a member of THE CLOISTER OF AKHENATEN, an international clandestine, non-affiliated investigative group, is pulled into two mysteries, unaware that they will eventually collide. In Washington, his good friend and former mentor, Secretary of State Crandall Forsyth, recruits him to look into a high level official's sudden change in position over administration nuclear policy. And on the west coast, a friend, Dr. Joe Rosenfeld, asks Wes to investigate a patient, a man of mystery: Jared Kennan Cain. Who is this man whose body defies the laws of medicine and who is it that will stop at nothing to capture him?

When Cain and Franklin finally meet, Franklin begins to connect the dots between the two cases. Cain's plan is to travel to Las Vegas, Nevada. Once there, Cain finally reveals his true purpose to Franklin: to remind people of the horrors nuclear weapons can produce. How he will do this is as yet unclear to Franklin, but to do so will require his help. Franklin, for his part, must at times suspend what he knows is scientifically and medically true while trusting Cain as he uses his every available resource to protect Cain and keep all involved alive.

Not to be overlooked are the contributions from Ashley Jordan, aka A.J., a computer wiz, and Persian strongman, body guard and special investigator, Aryana. Whereas Franklin possesses a keen knowledge and intellect, A.J. proves every bit as smart and important with her electronics' skills. Indeed, it is A.J. who uncovers the key pieces of information from her computer sleuthing that sends this group to the west coast and that provides the connection to Cain. And whereas I wouldn't challenge Franklin to an intellectual one on one, I wouldn't tangle with Aryana. For that matter, I wouldn't dare tangle with A.J. either. Together, the three of them bring to the table skill sets that supplement and complement each other and their chemistry is such that they are never off the same page.

As an action novel, this book would definitely stand alone. But what sets it above the rest and makes it special are the behind the action covert political maneuverings played out by Administration officials in Washington to achieve their nuclear agenda. To discover what this story is truly about the reader must pay Wes Franklin-like attention to catch the clues that the author has cleverly sprinkled throughout the story to figure out who's playing whom. Reading this novel twice would be my recommendation.

Highly recommended reading! Clever, fun, smart and entertaining only begin to describe this book. And with the door open at the end for the possibility of a sequel, well, this can be nothing short of good news to the growing fan base of this up and coming series.



The Methuselah Man

BobD (October 25, 2012 Palo Alto, CA)

The Methuselah Man is an action-packed, can't-put-the-book-down thriller very much in keeping with the author's (Will Dresser) first book, "Sacrament of Fear." A must read for followers of action/adventure/murder/mystery-genre novelists.



Kept Me Guessing Until the End

Teressa Morris (Aug 17, 2012, Napa, CA)

Truth never happens in real time is one of the underlying themes of this gripping thrill ride. The Methuselah Man combines game theory, the Black Plague, human growth hormone, weapons grade plutonium, near death experiences and conspiracy theory for a book with more twists and turns than the Pacific Coast Highway (which also plays a part in the story). If James Patterson and David Baldacci had a baby (with Ian Fleming the proud grandpa), Will Dresser might have been that offspring. This book kept me guessing up until the very end.

The Methuselah Man is the second Wes Franklin book, with a third currently in the works. I can't wait to go back and read what I missed in book one, *Sacrament of Fear*. No matter what your opinion on nuclear build-down (or immortality, for that matter), Dresser's cast of eclectic characters (including strong women) will draw you in and make you care.

I received a complimentary copy of this book for the purposes of review. All opinions are my own.



Great summer read

T. Howard "LGIN" (July 10, 2012, IL)

Will Dresser's *Wes Franklin* was a delightful surprise. The genre is right down my alley: interesting characters, nicely woven story line, and I did not want to put it down once I got past the first few chapters. I will definitely go back and read his first book and look forward to the third. Thank you for *The Methuselah Man*!



A good read

Rabbi David (July 3, 2012)

An enjoyable read, if not particularly deep or thought provoking. The story is interesting for how it gets to the conclusion than what the conclusion will be: it's a character driver plot rather than plot driven characters, which I found refreshing. Made for some lovely escapist reading.