



# A Canticle for Leibowitz

By Walter M. Miller Jr.

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Winner of the 1961 Hugo Award for Best Novel and widely considered one of the most accomplished, powerful, and enduring classics of modern speculative fiction, Walter M. Miller, Jr.'s *A Canticle for Leibowitz* is a true landmark of twentieth-century literature -- a chilling and still-provocative look at a post-apocalyptic future.

In a nightmarish ruined world slowly awakening to the light after sleeping in darkness, the infant rediscoveries of science are secretly nourished by cloistered monks dedicated to the study and preservation of the relics and writings of the blessed Saint Isaac Leibowitz. From here the story spans centuries of ignorance, violence, and barbarism, viewing through a sharp, satirical eye the relentless progression of a human race damned by its inherent humanness to recelbrate its grand foibles and repeat its grievous mistakes. Seriously funny, stunning, and tragic, eternally fresh, imaginative, and altogether remarkable, *A Canticle for Leibowitz* retains its ability to enthrall and amaze. It is now, as it always has been, a masterpiece.

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## A Canticle for Leibowitz By Walter M. Miller Jr. Bibliography

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## **Editorial Review**

### Amazon.com Review

Walter M. Miller's acclaimed SF classic *A Canticle for Leibowitz* opens with the accidental excavation of a holy artifact: a creased, brittle memo scrawled by the hand of the blessed Saint Leibowitz, that reads: "Pound pastrami, can kraut, six bagels--bring home for Emma." To the Brothers of Saint Leibowitz, this sacred shopping list penned by an obscure, 20th-century engineer is a symbol of hope from the distant past, from before the Simplification, the fiery atomic holocaust that plunged the earth into darkness and ignorance. As *1984* cautioned against Stalinism, so 1959's *A Canticle for Leibowitz* warns of the threat and implications of nuclear annihilation. Following a cloister of monks in their Utah abbey over some six or seven hundred years, the funny but bleak *Canticle* tackles the sociological and religious implications of the cyclical rise and fall of civilization, questioning whether humanity can hope for more than repeating its own history. Divided into three sections--*Fiat Homo* (Let There Be Man), *Fiat Lux* (Let There Be Light), and *Fiat Voluntas Tua* (Thy Will Be Done)--*Canticle* is steeped in Catholicism and Latin, exploring the fascinating, seemingly capricious process of how and why a person is canonized. --*Paul Hughes*

### Review

"Extraordinary ... chillingly effective."— *Time*

"Angry, eloquent ... a terrific story."— *The New York Times*

"An extraordinary novel ... Prodigiously imaginative, richly comic, terrifyingly grim, profound both intellectually and morally, and, above all ... simply such a memorable story as to stay with the reader for years."— *Chicago Tribune*

"An exciting and imaginative story ... Unconditionally recommended."— *Library Journal*

*From the Trade Paperback edition.*

### From the Publisher

Down the long centuries after the Flame Deluge scoured the earth clean, the monks of the order of St. Leibovitz the Engineer kept alive the ancient knowledge. In their monastery in the Utah desert, they preserved the precious relics of their founder: the blessed blueprint, the sacred shopping list and the holy shrine of fallout shelter.

Watched over by an immortal wanderer, they witnessed humanity's rebirth from ashes, and saw reenacted the eternal drama of the struggle between light and darkness, life and death.

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Belen Riedel:**

The reason why? Because this *A Canticle for Leibowitz* is an unordinary book that the inside of the reserve waiting for you to snap that but latter it will surprise you with the secret it inside. Reading this book close to

it was fantastic author who all write the book in such remarkable way makes the content within easier to understand, entertaining way but still convey the meaning thoroughly. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this any more or you going to regret it. This phenomenal book will give you a lot of advantages than the other book get such as help improving your talent and your critical thinking means. So , still want to delay having that book? If I have been you I will go to the publication store hurriedly.

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#### **Maria Peterson:**

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