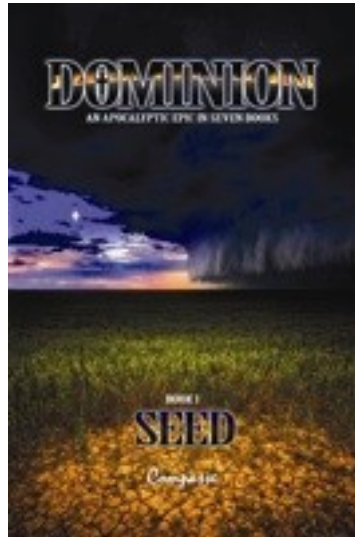


The Seed



by

Compassé

Reviewed by Tannia E. Ortiz-Lopes, publisher of "Time with Tannia"
(<http://timewithtannia.tripod.com/>)

The Seed is the first of seven books of the apocalyptic epic *Dominion* written and published by Compassé. The book cover shows prophetic symbols, such as the morning star symbol of kingship with dark stormy clouds moving fast toward the star to overshadow it. In addition, it shows a field where a battered and pregnant woman plants a seed representing an agreement of love and loyalty toward one of the children in her womb.

The book is divided in 23 short but intense chapters. Each chapter begins with a famous quote, an excerpt from classical work, or a news report segment preparing the reader for the events to unfold in the following pages.

The book begins with the sudden disappearance of Marisha, daughter of Alexandre Nesterov, senior lieutenant to Vlad Ivankov, the most powerful Russian Mafia figure in the southwest of the United States. Marisha, a free spirit and strong-willed child, blinded by love runs away without a trace to marry Jeffrey Chardin, an ambitious lawyer thirteen years her senior. This causes a lot of problems in the Nesterov's household, since the fact that her father is unable to find her makes him feel vulnerable and appears weak in front of his subordinates.

Mr. Nesterov is desperately and discreetly searching for Marisha's whereabouts with the help of Felix Amosov, his most loyal and trust-worthy companion.

Marisha, on the other hand, is starting to see the foolishness of her behavior and helpless situation. She finds herself married to an abuser, alcoholic, atheist and self-centered husband who constantly battered her. In desperation, she prays to God, but feels He is not answering her prayers. One night as she is kneeling in prayer, Jeffrey comes in accompanied by Father Luther who reprimands Jeffrey for her bloody beating. In the guise of his position as a religious leader, Father Luther requests to be left alone with Marisha. After Jeffrey leaves the room, Father Luther, in truth a wicked and vicious wolf in sheep's clothing, takes advantage of a barely conscious Marisha.

This night seals the destiny of Marisha and produces an inexplicable twin pregnancy dilemma; she is carrying twin boys by two different fathers. Marisha's sufferings and battering intensify as Jeffrey is unaware of Marisha's rape. She decides to contact her loyal sister, Vanya, to ask for help, but Vanya arrives too late. On the way to the hospital to visit Marisha, Vanya has a vision and a car accident. At that moment she realizes her sister is dead and has gone straight to Hell! Vanya prays for the redemption of Marisha's soul. She also prays for the well-being of her newborn nephews and comes up with a plan to be close to them.

During the rest of the story the readers will be taken into the world of the Brotherhood of the Coming Prince, a satanic sect disguised as a new form of religion with Father Luther playing a leading role. He is the most despicable and ruthless member of the Supreme Council. He is respected and feared by the other council members because rumors that he is one of the Illumini, mythical beings with dark power. The Brotherhood of the Coming Prince are governed by the laws of the Book of Shadows written, by the Grand Elder.

The reader will be engaged in a modern *Omen*-type of story with elements of faith, hope, dark rituals, Catholic traditions, preparations for a spiritual battle, a well orchestrated rescue operation by the Nesterov's family, and the sacrifice of an innocent child to culminate with the consecration ceremony of the Grand Elder, the Highest of the High Priests of the Brotherhood of the Coming Prince. The reader will be amazed at the mysterious ways that the true God intercedes for His servants and provides a new beginning to a condemned soul and a sexually abused child.

I found the writing style well balanced and the author's approach to the Book of Revelation quite fascinating. It is obvious that the author did some research in areas of the occult and incorporated his findings accordingly through out the story.

Although this is not my preferred genre, after reading the book's summary, I was curious about the author's approach to an apocalyptic tale based on the most profound, controversial, and misunderstood book of the Holy Bible, the *Book of Revelation*, and the devastating era of the Anti-Christ. The author did not disappoint me. He incorporated in the story elements from religion, prophecies, social and political issues that reflect our present time and which allow the reader to identify with the characters and get immediately engage in the story's suspense and intrigue.

I highly recommend this book to adults who are looking for an apocalyptic story that bring together forces of good and evil in their eternal fight to take Dominion. Personally, I would not recommend this book to young adults or children, since some of the scenes and situations are not suitable for a young audience.

The unexpected and shocking end of this book is still vivid in my mind!



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