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James A. Michener was one of the world's most popular writers, author of more than forty fiction and nonfiction books, including Pulitzer Prize-winning *Tales of the South Pacific*, bestselling novels *The Source*, *Hawaii*, *Alaska*, *Chesapeake*, *Centennial*, *Texas*, *Caribbean* and *Caravans*, and memoir *The World Is My Home*. Michener served on the advisory board of NASA and the International Broadcast Board, which oversees *Voice of America*. Among dozens of awards and honors, he received America's highest civilian award, the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1977, and a presidential committee on arts and humanities award in 1983 for his commitment to art in America. Michener died in 1997 at the age of 90. James A. Michener was one of the world's most popular writers, author of more than forty fiction and nonfiction books, including Pulitzer Prize-winning *Tales of the South Pacific*, bestselling novels *The Source*, *Hawaii*, *Alaska*, *Chesapeake*, *Centennial*, *Texas*, *Caribbean* and *Caravans*, and memoir *The World Is My Home*. Michener served on the advisory board of NASA and the International Broadcast Board, which oversees *Voice of America*. Among dozens of awards and honors, he received America's highest civilian award, the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1977, and a presidential committee on arts and humanities award in 1983 for his commitment to art in America. Michener died in 1997 at the age of 90. The Source First editionAuthorJames A. MichenerIllustratorJean-Paul TremblayCover artist Guy Fleming[1]CountryUnited StatesLanguageEnglishGenreHistorical novelPublisherRandom HousePublication data1965Media typePrint (Hardback & Paperback) The Source is a historical novel by James A. Michener published in 1965. It is a survey of the history of the Jewish people and the land of Israel from the pre-monotheistic days to the birth of the modern state of Israel. The Source uses, for its central device, a fictional narrative in northern Israel called Makor (Hebrew: source). Prosaically, the name comes from a freshwater well north of Makor, but symbolically represents much more, historically and spiritually. Unlike most of Michener's novels, this book is not in strict chronological order. A parallel history of paintings set in Israel in the 1960s supports the historical timeline. Archaeologists digging into the account in Makor discover artifacts from each layer, which then serve as the basis for a chapter exploring the lives of the people involved with this artifact. The book follows the story of his Stone Age family whose wife begins to believe that there is a supernatural force, which slowly leads us to the beginning of monotheism. Descendants are not aware of the ancient antecedents revealed to the reader by the conscious writer as the story progresses through Davidic Davidic Hellenistic times, Roman times, etc. The site is continually inhabited until the end of the Crusades, when it is destroyed by the victorious Mameluks (as happened with many royal cities after 1291) and is not rebuilt by the Ottomans. List of chapters The Tell – 1963, three archaeologists, a Jew, a Catholic and a Muslim, are in a modern archaeological dig. The story moves back and forth between the historical chapters and the modern excavation on the hill in Makor. The Bee-Eater (Level XV, 9831 a.C.) – Introduction to his family in the times of the Stone Age and his first move to an agricultural society. From Death and Life (Level XIV, 2202 to C.) – From 2000 to C., the concept of being supreme is rooted with the introduction of the Cult of El, as well as some barbaric and mystical practices, such as child sacrifice and prostitution of temples. An Old Man and His God – Bronze Age, an early view of the Hebrews when they moved from life in the desert to Canaan and brought the first teachings of El Shaddai. Makor was squealed by the Hebrews in 1491. C. Hoopoe Bird Psalm – Occurs from 1040 C. during the last years of King David. The Voice of Gomer - Happens 605 a.C. - 562 a.C. After the Egyptian defeat at the Battle of Carchemish, Nebuchadnezzar II marches to the Levant and deported the Jews to Babylon. In the Gymnasium – 222-187 a.C., Jewish life under the Seleucid Empire. King of the Jews – 74 a.C. – 4 Ce: this chapter is counted in an epistolary manner and describes the rise of the ambitious Herod the Great and his eventual descent into madness. Yigal and His Three Generals – 12-70 D.C.: this chapter begins with the government of the mad caligula and his attempt to force idolatry upon the Jews. After his death, he was replaced by the craziest Nero, who ordered Vespasian to repress Josephus and the First Jewish-Roman War. The Law – This chapter takes place after The Empress Helena's pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Christianity is being forced into Galilee as churches are mass-produced. This chapter is about two Jews who convert to Christianity due to the rigidity of the Talmud (during this time the Gemara is being written), but are soon underprivileged by the Christian cyst. This chapter is also the fictional origin of St. Mark. A Day in the Life of a Desert Knight – This chapter begins with the introduction of Islam to the Holy Land by Muslim conquests. Volkmar – This chapter focuses on the three rabbis who are in Safed as they escape the Spanish Inquisition and Europeans, Europeans, it's culture conflicts between the Sephardé, Ashkenazim and Kabbalistic traditions. Twilight of an Empire – In the 1880s, the Ottoman Empire is crumbling and this chapter plunges into deep corruption in public administration and sultan Abdul Hamid II's reaction to reform. Rebbe Itzik and the Sabra – 1948 – The new state of Israel begins to emerge. This chapter deals with the origins of two characters in the current narrative – Ilan Eliav and Vered Bar El. The Tell – culmination of the novel and rediscovery of the well built and described in the previous chapter Psalm of the Hoopoe Bird. Recurring fertility/phallic symbols and themes In primitive civilizations, the concept of fertility springs from agriculture and the desire for a fruitful harvest. During the oldest layer in history, the giant stone idol called El is created to please the earth and bring good cultures. As society moves away from a rural and agricultural existence, fertility is increasingly important. Phallic has been present since the Stone Age (The Bee Eater), until 606 a.C.(The Voice of Gomer). Prayer Later, as modern Judaism begins to take shape, the theme of dedication and tenacity is brought forward repeatedly. The final words of many of the characters in the book are prayer; they are defending their religion with their life. As antisemitism becomes more prevalent, this theme is strengthened, as if it showed the strength of faith that the Jewish people have. References ^ First modern editions - a set on Flickr The Source, at Random House The Source, at Books on Tape Retrieved from Written to commemorate the Bicentennial in 1976, James A. Michener's magnificent Western saga is a captivating celebration of the frontier. Filled with the glory of America's past, Colorado's history - the Centennial State - manifests itself through its people: Lame Beaver, the arapaho chief and warrior, and his enemies Comanche and Pawnee; Levi Zendt, fleeing with his son bride from amish country; the cowboy, Jim Lloyd, who falls in love with a rich and cultured Englishwoman, Charlotte Seecombe. In the Centennial, hunters, merchants, settlers, gold seekers, farmers, and hunters are gathered in the dramatic conflicts that shape the fate of the legendary West—and the entire country. Praise to the Centenary A hell of a book ... While he fascinates and absorbs, Michener also educates. — Los Angeles Times A captivating book... imaginative and intricate. . . full of people and giving a wonderful sense of the earth. The Simple Drug Dealer Michener is the best writer in America, and he proves it once again in centennial... if you're a Fan of Michener, this book is a must. And if you're not a fan of Michener, centennial will you one. — The Pittsburgh Press An absorbing work ... Michener is an excellent storyteller. — BusinessWeekEdge of Eternity, Book Three of The Century TrilogyKen Follett's Century Trilogy follows the fortunes of five intertwined families—American, German, Russian, English and Welsh—as they traverse the 20th century. USA Today said: You really feel like you're there. Edge of Eternity, the end, covers one of the most tumultuous times of all: the 1960s through the 1990s, encompassing civil rights, assassinations, Vietnam, the Berlin Wall, the Cuban missile crisis, presidential impeachment, revolution—and rock and roll. East German teacher Rebecca Hoffman discovers she has been spied on by the Stasi for years and commits an impulsive act that will affect her family for generations... George Jakes, himself biracial, ignores corporate law to join Robert F. Kennedy's Justice Department and finds himself in the midst not only of the seminal events of the civil rights battle, but also of a much more personal battle... Cameron Dewar, grandson of a senator, jumps to the chance to do some espionage for a cause he believes in, only to find that the world is far more dangerous than he imagined... Dimka Dvorkin, a young aide to Khrushchev, becomes an agent for good and evil as the Soviet Union and the United States race to the brink of nuclear war, while her twin sister, Tania, carves a role that will take her from Moscow to Cuba to Prague to Warsaw—and to history. These characters and many others find their lives inextricably encased as they add their personal stories and insights to the most defining events of the 20th century. , this is really a drama for the eras. With the Trilogy of the Century, Follett guided readers throughout an era of history with a master touch. Their unique ability to tell fascinating and brilliantly researched stories that captivate readers and keep them turning pages is unmatched. In this final and climate saga, Follett brings us to a world we thought we knew, but now it will never be the same. In this ravishing novel, James A. Michener narrates eight tumultuous centuries while three Polish families live their destinies. The Lubonski Counts, the petty Nobles Bukowski, and the Buk peasants are at some times fiercely united, in others tragically divided. With an inspiring tradition of resistance to brutal invaders, from barbarians to Nazis, and an inheritance of that burns through times times Romantic passion and courageous solidarity, its common history reaches a breathtaking culmination in the historical confrontation between the ruthless communists and the rebellious farmers of the modern era. Like the heroic land that is its theme, Poland filled with vivid events, unforgettable characters and the unfolding drama of an entire nation. Praise for Captivating Poland ... a turnaround in the great Michener tradition. — The Washington Post Michener's epic is much more than a lullaby reader, it's an experience. Poland is a monumental effort, a magnificent guide to a better understanding of the country's tribulations. — Stunning Chicago Tribune ... an incomparable overview of Polish history. . . The families themselves earn a lot of life, and through them, Poland itself. — USA Today A titanic documentary novel. — The Wall Street Journal

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