

The Book of God and Physics: A Novel of the Voynich Mystery

In his search for truth, a young Jesuit joins a group that has for centuries been trying to decipher the secrets of a mysterious book known as the Voynich Manuscript. This manuscript has developed a global cult following of cryptographers, none of whom has been able to crack its code. Written in an unknown language and illustrated with enigmatic drawings that no one has been able to interpret, the work first surfaced in the court of Rudolf II of Bohemia.

This same Bohemian court also gave refuge to two of the greatest, and most controversial, scientific minds of all time: famed Dane Tycho Brahe and German Johannes Kepler. These two astronomers—together with their contemporaries Nicolaus Copernicus and Galileo Galilei—were engaged in the most formidable dialogue in the history of science and laid the groundwork for nearly all of contemporary astronomy and physics. Is there a connection between Voynich and the brilliant scientists who frequented the court? Could the manuscript perhaps be the codified findings of either Brahe or Kepler, written in a special language to conceal their scientific discoveries from the Church and its brutal Inquisition?

When a key to unlocking Voynich is discovered in the church where the young Jesuit teaches, powerful forces conspire to keep the contents of the manuscript from being decoded. It is then up to the young Jesuit to unlock these secrets hidden in plain sight for centuries.

Enrique Joven

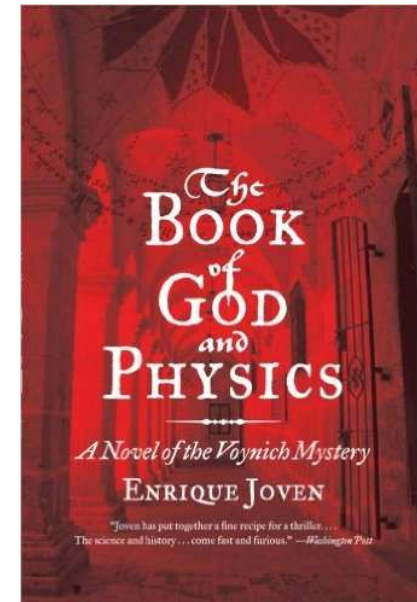
Enrique Joven was born in Zaragoza, Spain, in 1964. He has a doctorate in physics, but he considers himself also a writer (*The Book of God and Physics* is his second novel). He currently works in the Canary Islands at the Institute of Astrophysics. Joven, who works with large telescopes as a senior engineer, has said to the media that “a mathematical equation has as much poetry as any verse or poem” and that perhaps for this reason he began writing novels.

After only a first experimental novel published in Spain and focusing on technical and professional papers, Joven was surprised by the advance buzz among European publishers that *The Book of God and Physics* has generated. Joven is far from classical historical-intrigue novel writers, and his astronomical training allows him to help the reader to understand the world of the scientific history. With *The Book of God and Physics*, Joven adds his name to the privileged list of bestselling Spanish authors in the United States, such as Matilde Asensi, Javier Sierra, and Julia Navarro, among others.

In addition, he is sometimes serve as a commentator on science on TV (as an author of scripts for such astronomy series as *Un Programa Estelar*—Spanish National Broadcast, TVE, 2004—and he is currently involved in two more projects), as well as in papers and magazines. His “formal” position as physicist/engineer has produced over 30 technical papers in different international journals.

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The Book of God and Physics by Enrique Joven September the 23th at 6:30 pm

Hosted by Ruth Cory



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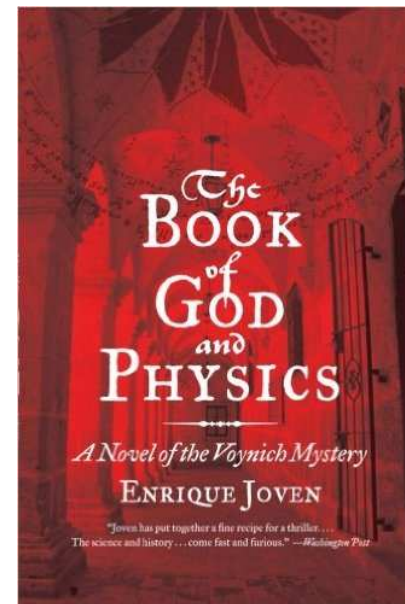
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