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## Dekker's "The 49th mystic (Beyond the Circle, Book 1)" (book review)

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# Book Reviews

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Dekker, T. (2018) *The 49<sup>th</sup> mystic* (Beyond the Circle, Book 1). Ada, MI: Revell Publishing. 409 pp. \$12.99. ISBN 9780800729783

This is a series of two books. I will write reviews for both books but this series is one book so you will need to read both the *49<sup>th</sup> mystic* and *Rise of the mystics* to get the whole story (both are available). It is a story of a young mystic and her quest for finding the five seals of spiritual truth before everything in her worlds destroy themselves. It is recommended to take notes especially if it is hard to keep going back and forth to keep up with the story. The first book especially has a lot twist and turns which the author likens to a roller coaster ride. What the reader believes is happening may not be happening and this will happen repeatedly in the books. This story has two story lines running simultaneously with the heroine Rachelle (also the name of his daughter) being in both in both realities. Both realities are connected and one can affect the other. There are also a lot of characters to keep up with. In one reality you have a more primitive time with different groups, each with their own main characters. They do not get along with each other though all want to kill the heroine due to a prophecy all the groups know. On the other stream you have a non-earthly villain trying to make sure the prophecy on the other world does not happen. On this reality, she lives in the 20<sup>th</sup> century in a small commune that has no contact with the outside world except through television and radio. It is important to know that Dekker studied philosophy and religion. His philosophic and theological beliefs are heavily infused into both books. Even though he says in the book that it is not gnostic or New Age, it is definitely not evangelical or conservative in nature. He does not take a literal translation of the Bible and many within those denominations may take issue with his interpretations of scripture. This said, this book can enter the mainstream due to how he has written the book focusing more on fear and love. Some of those who rejected Christianity may see for the first time that there is still relevancy to the Bible and it's form of spirituality. He will talk about a spiritual concept and footnote it with a Bible verse. He also set up a web site so that readers who are interested in pursuing the spirituality taught in the books can pursue it further.

## Reviewer

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