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## Dekker's "Rise of the mystics" (book review)

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# Book Reviews

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Dekker, T. (2018) *Rise of the mystics* (Beyond the Circle, Book 2). Ada, MI: Revell Publishing, 416 pp. \$24.99. ISBN 9780800729790

This is the second book in a series of two books. You cannot understand this book if you had not read the first book. This book is the continuing story of a young mystic and her quest for finding the five seals of spiritual truth before the two worlds are left in state of chaos and devastation and the spiritual truths are lost forever. There are still two worlds as in the first book but now the heroine, Rachele, has left the commune but still isolated from society. The villain is still trying to destroy her before she finds all five seals. The other world is also doing that as well. Unlike the world where the villain is the only one that understands the power of the Rachele, many know that if this mystic gets all five seals then the world as they know it would end. This leads to what this book is all about which is that most people are comfortable in a world of fear and other negative emotions because they have not felt the real love. Rachele gets a lot more training in this book on the way of the mystic, now she has three of the five seals, by her teachers Talya and Justin and so does the reader. This teaching is about love and letting go of fear. The book has a lot of examples of both love and fear and how it creeps into our life. Both worlds do not come together at the end but have different paths to follow though she is part of both of these paths. Ted Dekker is an established author in the area of Christian thrillers and Christian science fiction. He also has a degree in philosophy and psychology. This knowledge is used in such small details as choosing the names of characters such as Talya which is translated by the Jews as dew of heaven. This philosophy that Dekker promotes is not literal in nature and his interpretation of verses may seem too much part of societal norms rather than Biblical norms for those of an evangelical or fundamental faith to accept this philosophy. The books still have a message that I believe will resonate some of the readers and may bring them back to the Bible and Christianity.

## Reviewer

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