

Tesseract: Book Two of the Millennial Teleport Trilogy**Doug Joseph**

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Doug Joseph's sequel to *New Immortal* is an inventive representation of Pentecostal theology that will delight young adult readers. Combining other-worldly time travel with divine revelation, *Tesseract* shows that great rewards await those who serve God. This book caters to both faith and the imagination, taking salvation into the future and into the stars.

Author Doug Joseph believes that "pride can use intelligence as a ploy," luring the gifted to sin. When Tess, who begins college at fourteen, loses her parents in a car accident, her beloved childhood friend, Daniel, guides her to faith. Rightly recognizing "her fallen nature" and "the sin curse within her," she makes the "right choice" to serve God. After marrying Daniel, she earns her Masters of Science degree, but leaves school upon realizing that "neo-darwinism" is "a godless theory of abiogenesis" that undermines the doctrine of Intelligent Design.

The Corlan, who live on a planet called Sset, are a race rewarded with immortality for never committing original sin. Parents pass genetically encoded memories to their newborns through touch. Straf, the smartest Corlan of all time, succumbs to willful pride and is driven mad by his arrogance. Unlike Tess, who uses her gifts to serve God, Straf rejects God's will and becomes the Ettosedondi of ancient prophecy who is fated to introduce sin and death on Sset.

When Straf's son is born, he decides to withhold the memories from his newborn child and abducts him. Deprived of both his mother's milk and the parental touch he needs to gain his memories, the child becomes the first Corlan ever to die. His father, horrified at what he has done, compounds his sin by committing suicide.

Meanwhile, Daniel and Tess struggle to solve the mystery of sin within their religious community, as God "sifts" the congregation to retain only the truly faithful. When the New Millennium arrives, Daniel and Tess become immortal. God reveals to Tess that she and Daniel will help to save the Corlan from their downward spiral into depravity and cannibalism.

This novel integrates prophecy, miracles, and "meaningful coincidences" to demonstrate God's enduring presence in the hearts of the faithful. Tess and Straf represent two routes that are available to all conscious beings: to use their abilities to serve God or to deny Him.

Doug Joseph has also written *The Life and Ministry of Billy and Shirley Cole* and *The Book of Salvation*.

ELIZABETH BREAU (March 8, 2011)

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