

The Mystery of the Trinity

Richard Gid Powers

Pleasure Boat Studios (December 2014)

Softcover \$19.95 (352pp)

978-0-912887-01-2

Richard Gid Powers's *The Mystery of the Trinity* takes off *in medias res* and doesn't let up its relentless pace until the very end. Ann Grayce, heiress and one of America's most prominent Catholics, suddenly finds herself leading a movement to reform the soul of the Catholic Church after the movement's leader, Father Stan Klaves, is gunned down in the middle of mass. But uniting Greek Orthodoxy with Roman Catholicism is a dangerous task, and Ann's work is digging up long-buried secrets in America and El Salvador that high-ranking members of the church would prefer stay forgotten.

This religious thriller careens around the globe at breakneck speed. Powers makes smart use of subsections within chapters, with headings delineating date and place. Consequently, the story flits rapidly from character to character and back again without confusion. The predominant use of dialogue also propels the story along. Setting it apart from other religious thrillers are the *Sophie's World*-esque interludes of Ann's fiancé, Jack, attempting to marry science and religion.

ALLYCE AMIDON (Winter 2015)

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