



## **Adultery**

*Paulo Coelho , Margaret Jull Costa (Translator) , Zoë Perry (Translator)*

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**Adultery** Paulo Coelho , Margaret Jull Costa (Translator) , Zoë Perry (Translator)  
*I want to change. I need to change. I'm gradually losing touch with myself.*

*Adultery*, the provocative new novel by Paulo Coelho, best-selling author of *The Alchemist* and *Eleven Minutes*, explores the question of what it means to live life fully and happily, finding the balance between life's routine and the desire for something new.

## Adultery Details

Date : Published August 19th 2014 by Vintage (first published 2012)

ISBN :

Author : Paulo Coelho , Margaret Jull Costa (Translator) , Zoë Perry (Translator)

Format : Kindle Edition 274 pages

Genre : Fiction, Romance, Novels, Contemporary

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## From Reader Review Adultery for online ebook

### Rebecca says

I can't believe this is written by the same man who wrote one of my favorite novels. Utterly shocking and incredibly disappointing. I read the entire book, because I was waiting for it to get good, but it never happened. Don't waste time, or money on this sell out.

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### Taghreed Jamal el deen says

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### Cris says

The story of an existential crisis peppered with porn and religious preaching and ending with a trite conclusion. Not what I expected from Coelho.

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### Agi says

Waste of time.

SPOILERS AHEAD!

It is not a story about love. It's a story about adrenaline rush and how bit of excitement and doing something different and new with your husband can save your marriage.

Spoiler alert!

Its a story of egoistic and bored woman who has everything- money, lovely kids, bit dull but understanding and loving husband, respectable job. But she is not happy... Kinda depressed, or maybe not really, she is not sure herself. So she goes off and give this ex boyfriend of hers a blowjob on a whim, after interviewing him (oh, he is respectable politician). This was first moment I thought "WTF?" I would believe her behavior, if there would be dinner and bit of wine involved, spark or something. But just like that, ah, just unzip it and there you go!

And then another weird sex fantasy of mister Coelho- she meets him again in some hotel, dreaming about great sex and all she gets is animal anal sex. Worse- she doesn't like it, feels bad after, and yet she has those romantic ideas in her head, that she is falling in love with him! So, while humiliated, treated like free ride, she goes crazy, texting him, stalking and plotting this absolutely ridiculous plan to get rid of his wife, so she could have him all for herself.

Yeah, but then, she loves her husband. Oh wait, she loves this other guy. Oh wait, she doesn't love this guy, she just want him, it's lust. Oh no, wait, she loves him... And so on.

And then she jump off the cliff on parachute with her hubby, gets this adrenaline rush, catharsis, all good again. Blah...

So- book is very uneven. Nice start, thought it will be a nice journey of bored and unhappy woman to find her inner happiness and purpose of life, with some cheating and sex involved. Very wrong. Coelho is

mentioning vaguely something about God, but I'm not even sure why. Then he is mentioning stories for kids, but the way he did it is like our happiness should be delivered by this prince we are waiting for, who never shows up. Like our happiness is depended on someone else, like someone else should make us happy. My thoughts? This woman needs a good slap in the head, a hobby, or voluntary work for poor, a purpose. And adrenaline rush- bungee jumping, mountain climbing, some activity (well, she even felt better after a simple run around a lake:).

This book was a huge let down. Pointless book about nothing really. Cos sure as hell it's not about love.

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### **Bea says**

If you have negative IQ, this is the book for you.

Full review available on **Bozhidara's Book Corner**

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### **Flavia Viotti says**

This book is very different from Paulo's previous work. As a woman I feel like he got us! Even though the title is Adultery I think this is a book about love!!

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### **Cindy says**

Addition 4/20/2015 To authors or publishers looking for a review - I don't consider Adultery to be erotica. Although the book has a few graphic sexual situations in it, it's not, in my opinion, written with the intent to be erotica or written explicitly to excite sexual natures through reading. Although I'd be glad to give an honest review, I'm not an avid reader of erotica, so I may not be the best person to ask.

Addition 2/2015: This book is a lesson in feminism! A lesson that great books can be written about an ungracious and unpleasant woman. Although I can't say I'm amazed by all the negative comments that this book has taken, I wholeheartedly loved it. I believe many people were upset that the main character was devastatingly shallow and unlikable. Many people may react to this and take it out on the book. Don't make that mistake. She was shallow and unlikable in some ways, and this is what truly makes the book a gem. There are so few great books about REAL women with real flaws. The main character is not a simplistic, nice wife, as so many people expect married woman to be. Married women are expected to be wholesome, kind and wonderfully faithful. Realistically, they're just people, and that's what had so many people claiming the book is shallow. It's not, it's not!

Original review 9/2014:

I will guess that a person who has not withstood and lived through a life-altering event, will never understand this book and will probably not like it. Although I am a happy person, and have never suffered with significant depression, this book did touch the occasionally depressed person in me, and also a bit of my adventurous spirit. Don't misunderstand me, this book is not at all in the adventure genre, but it does invoke lots of soul-searching. I also suspect that my own age has something to do with my liking this book. I definitely would not have liked this book in my 20's and possibly not in my 30's, because at that point, I hadn't experienced hardships in the same way I have now. I am not a person who would describe herself as spiritual, but I enjoyed the spiritual components of the story. A person who hasn't experienced intense soul-

searching at some point would most likely not enjoy this type of writing. In fact, I will recommend that if you haven't had a life-altering experience, don't read this book until you do.

Attention: The comments below may have vague spoilers in them.

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### **Damaskcat says**

To say this is a book about a woman committing adultery is to miss the whole point of the story I feel. Linda lives in Switzerland with her husband and two children - none of whom are ever named. She has a good life, and an interesting job as a journalist and as a family they are financially secure with domestic staff to look after the children and do the housework. Who could want anything more from life?

But Linda is restless and bored. It would be all too easy to dismiss Linda as shallow but she is far more than that. I'm sure many readers will put the book down in disgust saying she should count her blessings and no one could want more in life. Things are not as simple as that. Linda feels she is plodding along from day to day with nothing exciting in her life - everything is just dull. She wonders if she is depressed but she doesn't think she is. She wonders whether she needs to see a psychiatrist but doesn't think that will work either.

It must be difficult to empathise with Linda unless you yourself have felt that sort of restlessness. I have felt it and it resulted in me turning my life upside down and doing some things which maybe were not a good idea though they seemed the only right thing to do at the time. What lesson you take from this strangely absorbing book - because there are lessons to be learned from it even if your life in no way resembles Linda's - are always going to be personal. But what I think is important is to not let yourself slip into a rut because if you get in too deep then the only way out is going to be to upend your life and those of the people you love.

This is a book which needs the reader to do some hard thinking about their own lives and to be aware that restlessness and boredom can lead to constructive change or it can lead to destruction. Everyone has their own agenda and if you're using them they may equally be using you. Thoughtful and thought provoking - this book may well repay a second or third reading. I received a free copy of this book from NetGalley for review purposes.

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### **Zulma Mayor says**

Ok so, if you are going to write a review about a book... At least know how to spell!

I don't appreciate the fact that some people take it up to themselves to write a review about a book and give away what the story is about and how it ends.

I think instead, it would be better if you just say it wasn't what you expected and that's it!

Don't ruin it for others please!!!

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### **Bijay says**

Ughh! platitudes, platitudes everywhere...nor very original thing to read (sorry Mr. Coleridge ! but hey there are many good lines for seemingly deep and feel-good but very out-of-context platitudes deduced from scriptures and evolutionary science and whatnots for sharing in facebook; just superimpose them over beautiful pictures that can be easily obtained from google images and voila!). Anyways, the book reads like a

diary collection of author's one-liners and, philosophical and quotable views on love, marriage, depression, passion and romantic ideals, on which he later plastered a plot-less story of bored, egoistical and self-absorbed woman with mid-life and existential crisis (?). The book is chockfull of wallowing internal monologues, some utterly (I like this word) un-erotic porn, some preachy clichés, unrealistic conversations but without the author's usual lyrical and eloquent prose. What a disappointment from the author of "Veronika decides to die", "Eleven minutes" and "The alchemist".

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### **Ecaterina Leonte says**

I would have rated it ZERO stars if that were possible. Don't waste your time reading this crap, it's not worth it. Glad I didn't waste my money as well, if you're curious just borrow it from someone.

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### **Faouzia says**

i did not like at all!! i am disappointed at him!!

Spoiler: I really wanted her to commit suicide at the end, or at least take an overdose of the drugs she bought!!

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### **Ebony says**

I did not like Adultery. I thought I would. I read Paul Coelho. I write about adultery. How could this go awry? Well, it started with the main character. I didn't like her. I didn't get her. I didn't know her. In all of my interviews with women about infidelity, in all my years being a woman, in all my years of having woman friends, I simply did not understand her. It was part nationality, part class, part life circumstance, but mostly it was a woman having an affair as told through the perspective of a man. And I'm not saying that Coelho cannot or should not write about women's experiences. The Witch of Portobello was one of my favorite books. But Linda was so much of a mess in his eyes. She was a stereotypical, "I found myself obsessing about this asshole and I cannot distinguish love from lust because I cannot distinguish anything in my life because I am a hapless woman in need of antidepressants and one partner who fulfills all my needs because I don't have friends or my own interests or the ability to imagine life outside of society's prescriptions." Seriously. I don't know any women like this. The religious moralizing was so heavy handed and out of nowhere because the protagonist admits to not being religious. And the random shaman's evolutionary biology perspective on infidelity removes all agency for women who have affairs and absolves men who are just doing what biology determines when they have affairs. The part of the book that isn't about adultery, the part of the book that's about life malaise was also unconvincing but that might be because I'm not rich and I've never been in a position to be unhappy about having everything I've ever wanted. Maybe this is one of those the grass is always greener when there's a fence, but I was hoping for something nuanced, something that made me want to rethink my thoughts about life like many of Coelho's other books have done for me. This book failed to offer me anything new or interesting. I was disappointed. I've love to get my money back.

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### **Andrea says**



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