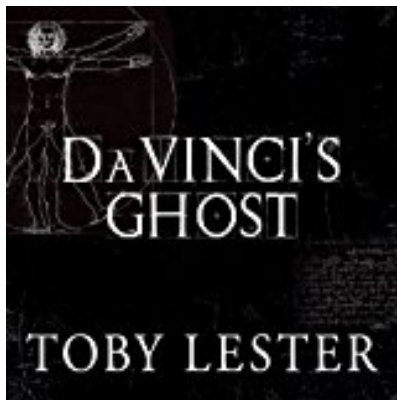


# [PDF] Da Vinci's Ghost: Genius, Obsession, And How Leonardo Created The World In His Own Image

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**Books Details:**

Title: Da Vinci's Ghost: Genius, Obs

Author:

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**Description:**

**Audie Award Nominee, History, 2013**

Toby Lester, author of the award-winning *The Fourth Part of the World*, masterfully crafts yet another century-spanning saga of people and ideas in this epic story of Vitruvian Man, Leonardo da Vinci's iconic drawing of a man inscribed in a circle and a square. Over time, the nearly 550-year-old ink-on-paper sketch has transformed into a collective symbol of the nature of genius, the beauty of the human form, and the universality of the human spirit; it has also been replicated ad nauseam on mass-produced coffee cups, T-shirts, book covers, and corporate logos. With narrative flair and great intellectual sweep, Lester revives the rich history of Vitruvian Man and endows the drawing with renewed authenticity.

Not only did Leonardo subscribe to the idea first conceived by the Roman architect Vitruvius—that the human body was a microcosm geometrically aligned with the divine circle and the earthly square, Lester reveals that by studying the body's proportions and anatomy, the artist also felt he could obtain a godlike perspective of the world's makeup. *Da Vinci's Ghost* captures a pivotal time in the history of Western thought, when the Middle Ages was giving way to the Renaissance, when art and science and philosophy all seemed to be converging as one, and when it seemed possible, at least to Leonardo da Vinci, that a single human being might embody—and even understand—the nature of everything.

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