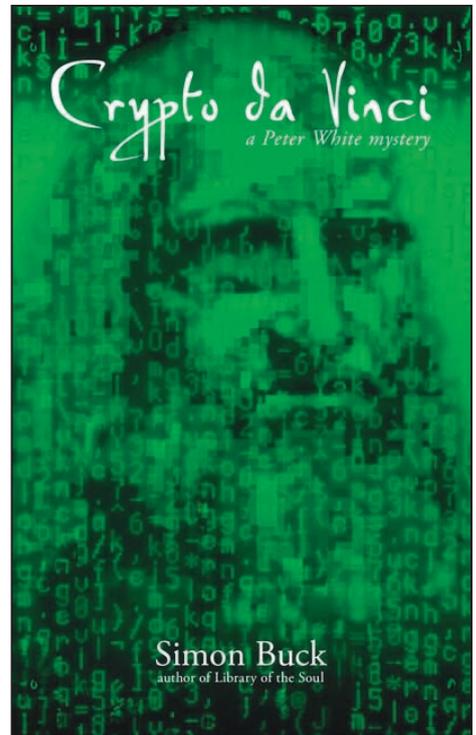


# Crypto da Vinci

a Peter White mystery



## Simon Buck

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One Queen, two Kings, a Cardinal, a genius and a misnamed Righteous Elector. Just another day in the life of Peter White!

Three people, from different times, with different motivation, but in a similar dilemma, united by a secret code.

**Passion:** Queen Anne, married after a fairytale romance, caught between a loveless marriage to her husband King James and the guilty secret of her brief affair with handsome seducer, Frederick the Righteous - unknowingly the father of her daughter Elizabeth. Years of repression come to a puissant climax when James announces his intention to marry Elizabeth to Frederick's son. Aghast, Anne has nowhere to turn but the religious leaders she was brought up to despise and who are hated by the rest of the English court.

**Obsession:** Leonardo is also caught between Church and State. The Cardinal of Aragon persuades the world-renowned genius to apply his talents in the 'service of God' to fulfil a dream of freeing the populace to spend their time in divine worship. The King of France, in awe of Leonardo's brilliance, but no intellectual lightweight himself, is dubious of the Cardinal's motivation and cautions Leonardo. Leonardo may have nowhere to turn but away from the religion with which he has only recently been reconciled.

**Truth:** Peter White's life suddenly becomes complicated when he discovers the key to a cipher system, invented by Leonardo, hidden in the illustrations of a 17th century book. Soon Peter and his closest friend Al discover that this cipher has been used to hide both Anne's confession and the journal of Leonardo's anguished journey through the Cardinal's project. But uncovering truth can be very dangerous, especially when it threatens the very legitimacy of the British monarchy.

**This is Simon Buck's second Peter White mystery, following on from the success of *Library of the Soul*.**

**Simon Buck** has been a consultant for many years to blue chip companies including banks, retailers and telecom service providers. He has been widely published in the fields of internet security, electronic commerce and data communications. This, his second novel, is one of a series of Peter White mysteries. He was born and brought up in Kent by an Italian mother and English father. He still lives in a village in the Garden of England with his wife and two adult children.

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