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Based almost entirely on primary sources in Arabic-including ancient religious texts and secret al-Qaeda and Islamic State letters that few have seen - William McCants' The ISIS Apocalypse explores how religious fervor, strategic calculation, and doomsday prophecy shaped the Islamic State's past and foreshadow its dark future.

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The ISIS Apocalypse: The History, Strategy, and Doomsday Vision of the Islamic State: Publication Type: Book: Year of Publication: 2015: Authors: McCants W: Publisher: St. Martin's Press: City: New York: ISBN: 9781250080905: Abstract: William F. McCants, Ph.D. 2006.

## [The ISIS Apocalypse: The History, Strategy, and Doomsday ...](#)

The ISIS Apocalypse: The History, Strategy, and Doomsday Vision of the Islamic State. The so-called Islamic State, or ISIS, has inspired young men and women all over the world to commit horrible atrocities in its name. By the thousands, they have flooded into the Islamic State's stronghold in Syria and Iraq and carried out attacks under its black banner in nearly every continent.

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The ISIS Apocalypse (Hardcover) The History, Strategy, and Doomsday Vision of the Islamic State. By William McCants. St. Martin's Press, 9781250080905, 256pp. Publication Date: September 22, 2015. Other Editions of This Title: Digital Audiobook (9/21/2015) Paperback (8/9/2016) CD-Audio (1/10/2017)

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1Review. The Islamic State is one of the most lethal and successful jihadist groups in modern history, surpassing even al-Qaeda. Thousands of its followers have marched across Syria and Iraq, subjugating millions, enslaving women, beheading captives, and daring anyone to stop them. Thousands more have spread terror beyond the Middle East under the Islamic State's black flag.

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"The so-called Islamic State, or ISIS, has inspired young men and women around the world to commit heinous acts in its name. By the thousands, they have flooded into the Islamic State's vast stronghold in Syria and Iraq, and in nearly every continent they have carried out attacks under its black banner.

## The ISIS apocalypse : the history, strategy, and doomsday ...

The rise of al-Qaeda through the late 1980s and early 1990s, 9/11, invasion of Iraq, deepening sectarian chasm between the Shias and Sunnis, the failed State-building efforts of ISIS during 2007- 2008, the cynicism and brutality of Bashar al-Assad to the present "caliphate" and ISIS' apparently increasing circle of influence - the book takes it all in its grand sweep.

## The ISIS Apocalypse: The History, Strategy, and Doomsday ...

The ISIS Apocalypse, The History, Strategy, and Doomsday Vision of The Islamic State by William McCants published in 2015 is one such case. The author had three main points. One was that he tried to explain the differences between Al Qaeda and the Islamic State (IS).

## MUSINGS ON IRAQ: Review The ISIS Apocalypse. The History ...

The ISIS Apocalypse: The History, Strategy, and Doomsday Vision of the Islamic State (2015) The Islamic State's brutality and its insistence on apocalypse now and caliphate now set it apart from al-Qaeda, of which it was a part until 2014.

## Review of William McCants's The ISIS Apocalypse: The ...

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## The ISIS Apocalypse | William McCants | Macmillan

The ISIS Apocalypse: The History, Strategy, and Doomsday Vision of the Islamic State. By William McCants. St. Martin's Press; 256 pages; \$26.99.

The so-called Islamic State, or ISIS, has inspired young men and women all over the world to commit horrible atrocities in its name. How has the Islamic State surpassed al-Qaeda to become the most popular jihadist group on the planet? Its goal is not only to revive the Islamic empire but also usher in the End of Times - a final battle that will restore the Muslim community to its medieval glory days. And they will not stop until they achieve their mission.

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How the political violence of modern jihad echoes the crises of western liberalism In this authoritative, accessible study, historian Suzanne Schneider examines the politics and ideology of the Islamic State (better known as ISIS). Schneider argues that today's jihad is not the residue from a less enlightened time, nor does it have much in common with its classical or medieval form, but it does bear a striking resemblance to the reactionary political formations and acts of spectacular violence that are upending life in Western democracies. From authoritarian populism to mass shootings, xenophobic nationalism, and the allure of conspiratorial thinking, Schneider argues that modern jihad is not the antithesis to western neoliberalism, but rather a dark reflection of its inner logic. Written with the sensibility of a political theorist and based on extensive research into a wide range of sources, from Islamic jurisprudence to popular recruitment videos, contemporary apocalyptic literature and the Islamic State's Arabic-language publications, the book explores modern jihad as an image of a potential dark future

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already heralded by neoliberal modes of life. Surveying ideas of the state, violence, identity, and political community, Schneider argues that modern jihad and neoliberalism are two versions of a politics of failure: the inability to imagine a better life here on earth.

Explores the belief in Muslim countries that the end of the world is at hand, uncovers the role of apocalypse in Islam, and examines the widespread fear of Christian Zionist domination as an impetus to jihad.

Looking to the future in confronting the Islamic State The Islamic State (best known in the West as ISIS or ISIL) has been active for less than a decade, but it has already been the subject of numerous histories and academic studies—all focus primarily on the past. The Future of ISIS is the first major study to look ahead: what are the prospects for the Islamic State in the near term, and what can the global community, including the United States, do to counter it? Edited by two distinguished scholars at Indiana University, the book examines how ISIS will affect not only the Middle East but the global order. Specific chapters deal with such questions as whether and how ISIS benefitted from intelligence failures, and what can be done to correct any such failures; how to confront the alarmingly broad appeal of Islamic State ideology; the role of local and regional actors in confronting ISIS; and determining U.S. interests in preventing ISIS from gaining influence and controlling territory. Given the urgency of the topic, The Future of ISIS is of interest to policymakers, analysts, and students of international affairs and public policy.

"When he succeeded his father in 1999, King Abdullah of Jordan released a batch of political prisoners in the hopes of smoothing his transition to power. Little did he know that among those released was Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, a man who would go on to become a terrorist mastermind too dangerous even for al-Qaeda and give rise to an Islamist movement bent on dominating the Middle East. Zarqawi began by directing hotel bombings and assassinations in Jordan from a base in northern Iraq, but it was the American invasion of that country in 2003 that catapulted him to the head of a vast insurgency. By identifying him as the link between Saddam and bin Laden, the CIA inadvertently created a monster. Like-minded radicals saw him as a hero resisting the infidel occupiers and rallied to his cause. Their wave of brutal beheadings and suicide bombings continued for years until Jordanian intelligence provided the Americans with the crucial intelligence needed to eliminate Zarqawi in a 2006 airstrike. But his movement endured, first called al-Qaeda in Iraq, then renamed Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, or ISIS, seeking refuge in unstable, ungoverned pockets on the Iraq-Syria border. And as the Syrian civil war broke out in 2011, ISIS seized its chance to pursue Zarqawi's dream of a sweeping, ultra-conservative Islamic caliphate. Drawing on unique access to CIA and Jordanian sources, Joby Warrick weaves together heart-pounding, moment-by-moment operational details with overarching historical perspectives to reveal the long trajectory of today's most dangerous Islamic extremist threat"--

Introduction: the Islamic State -- Caliphate -- Administration -- Revenue -- Religion -- Women, and children too -- Christians and Jews and ... -- Apocalypse now -- Conclusion

What does ISIS really want? This is the definitive account of the strategy,

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psychology, and fundamentalism driving the Islamic State. NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY FOREIGN AFFAIRS □ "Worthy of Joseph Conrad . . . gripping, sobering and revelatory."—Tom Holland, *New Statesman* The Islamic State inspired a wave of true believers to travel to Syria from Europe, America, and the Middle East, in numbers not seen since the Crusades. What compelled tens of thousands of men and women to leave comfortable, privileged lives to join a death cult in the desert? Steven Pinker called Graeme Wood's analysis of this phenomenon in *The Atlantic* "fascinating, terrifying, occasionally blackly humorous." In *The Way of the Strangers*, Wood uses character study, analysis, and original reporting to take us further into the Islamic State's apocalyptic vision. Though the Islamic State has lost territory, it threatens to rise again, and its followers are plotting on every continent. From the streets of Cairo to the mosques of London, Wood meets with supporters, recruiters, and scholars and asks them why they believe that killing and dying for this cause is the only path to Paradise. With a new afterword, *The Way of the Strangers* uncovers the theology and emotional appeal of this resilient group and explores its idiosyncratic, coherent approach to Islam. Just as Lawrence Wright's *The Looming Tower* explained the rise of Al Qaida, this book will shape our understanding of a new and deadlier generation of terrorists. Praise for *The Way of the Strangers* "The Way of the Strangers represents journalism at its best: vivid writing, indefatigable legwork, and fearless analysis."—Robert D. Kaplan, author of *The Return of Marco Polo's World* "Wood is a brilliant analyst and storyteller, and his firsthand reporting and language abilities make him the most reliable commentator on the Islamic State that I have read. His wit matches his intelligence ('Well-behaved Salafis seldom make history')—you don't get through any two pages in his book without a good laugh."—Peter Theroux, author of *Sandstorms: Days and Nights in Arabia* "Excruciatingly well observed and devastatingly honest . . . This is the first and only book about the Islamic State to expose, explain, and ultimately undermine its ideology with the relentless irony that comes from blending deep knowledge with hands-on experience. Wood makes it impossible not to laugh, despite the horrors."—Elisabeth Kendall, senior research fellow in Arabic and Islamic studies, University of Oxford

Several "pieces first published in *The New Yorker* recall the path terror in the Middle East has taken from the rise of al-Qaeda in the 1990s to the recent beheadings of reporters and aid workers by ISIS ... They include an ... impression of Saudi Arabia, a kingdom of silence under the control of the religious police; the Syrian film industry, then compliant at the edges but already exuding a feeling of the barely masked fury that erupted into civil war; [and] the 2006-11 Israeli-Palestinian conflict in Gaza, a study in disparate values of human lives. Others continue to look into al-Qaeda as it forms a master plan for its future, experiences a rebellion from within the organization, and spins off a growing web of terror in the world"--

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