

## Slow Ecclesiastes

An American Novel of the Late Twentieth Century  
by David J. Keffer

"I turned me to another thing, and I saw that under the sun, the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, nor bread to the wise, nor riches to the learned, nor favour to the skilful: but time and chance in all." (Eccl. 9:11)

The similarity between the novel "Slow Ecclesiastes" and the Biblical book, "Ecclesiastes", is summarized in the above quote. That the novel expands what is so wonderfully and succinctly stated in a single sentence into an entire book is perhaps not necessary but may appeal, all the same, to readers who find that this quote resonates within them.

The Poison Pie Publishing House presents "Slow Ecclesiastes", a sprawling novel of America at the end of the twentieth century. Written from 1997-1999, "Slow Ecclesiastes" is unapologetically a monstrous psychological drama in the grand tradition of Fyodor Dostoyevsky. An extended cast of characters—mothers, sons, convicts, homosexuals, aesthetes, uncles, nieces, housekeepers—are embroiled in a skein of interwoven stories that knot together in a tangled mass, from which something other than heroism is required to escape.

If the existentialist Albert Camus had been asked to contribute a book to the Old Testament, one can imagine it might have turned out something like "Slow Ecclesiastes".



### About the Author

David Keffer is a professor at the University of Tennessee and an autodidact in the realm of world literature. He has currently published 8 novels and 3 illustrated stories at the Poison Pie Publishing House.

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