

## ACT ONE

## Scene 1

*Paris, France. Present Day. Central, a slide reads: "Robert Langdon—Professor of Religious Symbolology."*

**RECORDED INTRODUCTION.** *(In French, then in English.)*  
Please welcome to the stage: Professor of Religious Symbolology from Harvard University, Robert Langdon.

*Robert Langdon appears.*

**LANGDON.** They're brushed into our paintings, chiseled into our architecture. Symbols. Our history revolves around them. Our worship depends upon them. On the stamp of our coins, in the weave of our clothes. And whether consciously or subconsciously, we imbibe these symbols from the day we're born.

Take an apple. The apple has been used from fairy tales to ancient myths.

Now picture the symbol of an apple...with a bite out of it.

*Langdon holds out his iPhone. Smiles. Waves it around.*

You see this symbol every day.

The bite symbolizes Adam and Eve eating from the Tree of Knowledge. The forbidden apple that brought about the fall of man. So, perhaps these devices...

*He waves the phone, shrugs, smiles knowingly. Langdon uses the phone to activate a slide show. We see a familiar symbol. The sign of the cross.*

## LANGDON MONOLOG E

Look at this. The simplest of symbols. Just two intersecting lines, but they carry an ocean of meaning.

I've no need to tell you who the symbol belongs to. But...turn it on its head and you get...

*The crucifix rotates; now it's the upside-down crucifix.*

The inverted crucifix. For anti-Christ's, it belongs to the guy with the pitchfork and the cloven hooves!

It's all about perspective. The same symbol from a different view.

*Langdon clicks the clicker. We see the swastika.*

You all know what this one, means, right?

But the swastika is actually an ancient symbol of divinity and spirituality in both Hinduism and Buddhism.

You see, symbols are alive! They can evolve, beyond their original meaning.

*He presses the clicker.*

What about this one?

*He realizes that the image hasn't changed.*

Oh...

*He clicks repeatedly. Nothing.*

Perhaps I shouldn't have blamed Apple for the fall of man!

*He clicks again. We see the symbol of the Vitruvian Man.*

Ah! There we go.

*Music. We see lots of different symbols. An array of symbols surrounds us as Langdon gets into his stride.*

You see, in any of these symbols, there are multiple meanings.

It's not just a symbol, it's a meaning, there's a message, there's a voice. And it's desperate to be heard.

*Focus switches. We see Jacques Saunière. He is desperate.*

**SAUNIÈRE.** Sophie.

Sophie!