

Father John

Tales of the Unordained

Father John is the story of a journalism student who fills his days and nights with lectures, sports, drinking with friends, and sleep. On a dare, for a case of beer, John begins a risky adventure that takes him out of his mundane existence: he slips into a confessional in the local Catholic Church and takes confession for a few hours.

What starts as an innocent prank becomes a continuing weekly habit – fascinating, entertaining, and addictive. John's early nervousness gives way to reckless confidence. His long dormant compassion and humanity emerge in a manner that surprises him and is unexpectedly liberating for the trusting strangers he encounters.

He wonders if this obsession of his would sound bizarre if he were to share the details of his secret life with someone. How would people react to the news that the person they thought they knew as good old reliable John was in fact a charlatan? Not a charlatan in a negative sense but a spiritual life coach who was, in his own small way, helping others.

In the end, it turns out he hasn't fooled everyone. . .