

Third Generation depicts a mother's search (Leah) for her daughter (Joyce) and her two grandchildren who have suddenly disappeared from their affluent surroundings in Palm Beach, Florida. Leah discovers her family is in Dallas, Texas, and that they have joined a small, nomadic, international cult led by the charismatic leader, Zion, a former member of the *Children of God*. Zion demands of his followers the forsaking of all possessions and family bonds, as well as life organ donations and vasectomies for all the men. The group survives through "dumpster diving" and distributing Zion's literature. Joyce and her children are soon brainwashed into Zion's paranoid and sinister world. Joyce eventually becomes the leader of their Los Angeles base, when miraculously, she has an awakening. The story alternates between Leah's detective work and Joyce's and the children's hardships within the cult.