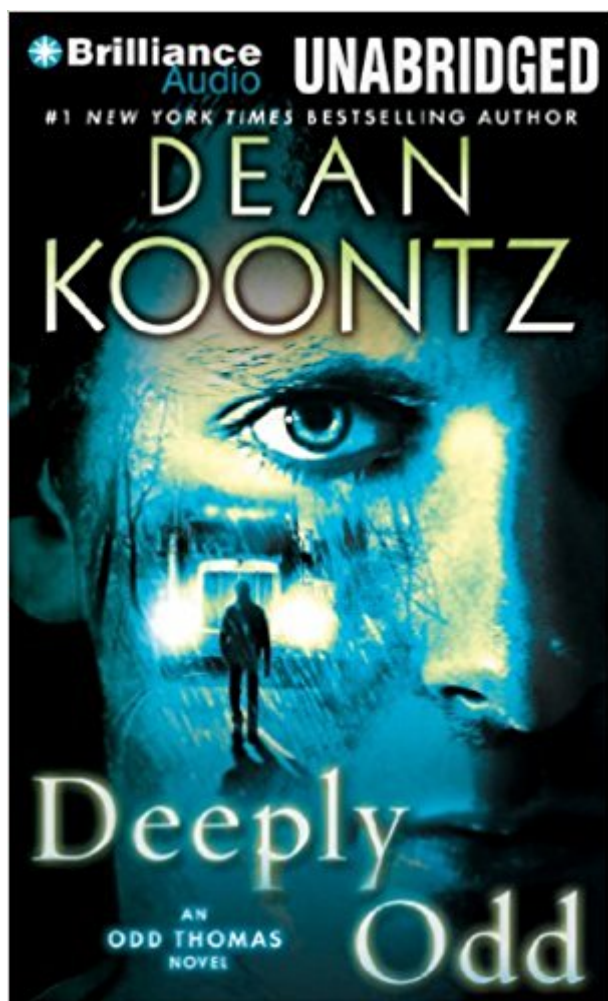


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Deeply Odd (Odd Thomas Series)



Synopsis

The pistol appeared in his hand the way a dove appears in the hand of a good magician, as if it materialized out of thin air. "You think I won't do it right here in the open. But you'd be surprised." "You'll drop before you get the breath to scream." The truck driver is decked out like a rhinestone cowboy, only instead of a guitar he's slinging a gun—and Odd Thomas is on the wrong end of the barrel. Though he narrowly dodges a bullet, Odd can't outrun the shocking vision burned into his mind or the destiny that will drive him into a harrowing showdown with absolute evil. How do you make sure a crime that hasn't happened yet, never does? That's the critical question facing Odd Thomas, the young man with a unique ability to commune with restless spirits and help them find justice and peace. But this time, it's the living who desperately need Odd on their side. Three helpless innocents will be brutally executed unless Odd can intervene in time. Who the potential victims are and where they can be found remain a mystery. The only thing Odd knows for sure is who the killer will be: the homicidal stranger who tried to shoot him dead in a small-town parking lot. With the ghost of Alfred Hitchcock riding shotgun and a network of unlikely allies providing help along the way, Odd embarks on an interstate game of cat and mouse with his sinister quarry. He will soon learn that his adversary possesses abilities that may surpass his own and operates in service to infinitely more formidable foes, with murder a mere prelude to much deeper designs. Traveling across a landscape haunted by portents of impending catastrophe, Odd will do what he must and go where his path leads him, drawing ever closer to the dark heart of his long journey—and, perhaps, to the bright light beyond. "Koontz gives his character wit, good humor, a familiarity with the dark side of humanity—and moral outrage." —USA Today

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The seventh Odd Thomas novel takes place a mere 19 months after the events of the first book, which shows just how tightly knit this story is — more of a serial, really, than a series. An unplanned encounter with a hateful trucker leads Thomas to put his own life on the line to save the lives of the three children who will otherwise die at the hands of the man. Thomas, you see, has a special gift that allows him to see not just the spirits of the dead (the ghost of Alfred Hitchcock is a supporting character in the book) but also events that have not yet happened but certainly will, unless he intervenes. Odd Thomas is an engaging narrator, a young man who's still coming to terms with the rather staggering recent changes in his life, and, although the setup of the story would normally suggest a fairly predictable conclusion — "This very bad guy isn't really going to get away with it, is he?" — there's never anything predictable about an Odd Thomas adventure. Another satisfying entry in this wildly popular series. HIGH-DEMAND BACKSTORY: It's Koontz, and it's Odd. Class dismissed. --David Pitt --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Praise for Deeply Odd and Dean Koontz's Odd Thomas series — "Not since Watchers has Dean Koontz created such an endearing and enduring character as Odd Thomas. . . . One of our contemporary masters." —San Antonio Express-News — "[A] popular series . . . Koontz asks real questions about the nature of good and evil." —The New York Times Book Review — "Odd evokes the homespun wisdom of Forrest Gump amid the mind-spinning adventures of a Jack Bauer. . . . The ultimate Everyman . . . an avatar of hope and honor and courage for all of us" —the linchpin of a rollicking good tale." —BookPage — "There's never anything predictable about an Odd Thomas adventure. Another satisfying entry in this wildly popular series. It's Koontz, and it's Odd. Class dismissed." —Booklist From the Hardcover edition. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I've been a fan of Dean Koontz's Odd Thomas books since the first one was released, many years ago. While I find most of Mr. Koontz's other fiction very hit or miss (mostly miss this past decade), the Odd Thomas books are consistently interesting, witty and captivating. Odd Thomas (someone left the T off of Todd on his birth certificate), or Oddie, as he is known to his friends and fans, is an ex-fry cook. He makes the world's best, fluffiest pancakes. He also sees ghosts. They do not speak,

but gesture to him and pantomime, to get their points across almost always that something bad is coming, and trying to help out. In the first few books his ex-vivo silent companion was Elvis, followed for a bit by Frank Sinatra. Currently he is haunted by Alfred Hitchcock. Oddie also has a kind of psychic magnetism that draws him inexorably towards places that he needs to be. These always have to do with stopping a person or persons from committing acts that could or will result in mass death and/or destruction. It seems that Oddie's mission in life is to prevent as much of this mayhem as he can, until a stray bullet, explosion or knife in the back catches him and reunites him with his ("You are destined to be together forever") beloved Stormy Llewellyn . There's a lot more more to Oddie's back story, but you can glean much of it from this novel, that refers back to many or most of the previous books. "Deeply Odd", like all of the Odd Thomas books, can be read as a stand-alone, but I recommend going back at some point and reading them all. All of them are little gems and the references to previous events will be clearer and the enjoyment of this newest entry, "Deeply Odd", that much the greater. Near the beginning of the novel, Odd runs into a white-haired nasty cowboy driving a ProStar+ rig, both of which emanate terrible evil. A waking daydream or vision convinces Odd that trucker intends or is somehow linked to the mass death by fire of a large number of young children. Fleeing from the trucker's threat to de-man him with a gun, Oddie meets up with octogenarian, Edie Fisher, who is driving a black Mercedes stretch limo. Seems her long-time driver has just died and Edie is in need of a replacement that she instantly identifies as Oddie. ("I'm a fry cook, Mrs. Fisher, not a chauffeur.") But Mrs. Fisher ("Call me Edie. Yes Ma'am".) is much more than she seems to be, and "hires" Oddie (over his protestations) as her driver (while still driving the limo herself). Mrs. Fisher becomes Oddie's' partner in his mission to find and stop the evil cowboy to stop him before he kills the children. Along the way things become way strange, venturing into a parallel universe (or is it?) and Odd finds, for the first time, someone with abilities similar to his own. In Deeply Odd, Oddie takes center stage sans all of his friends and companions from previous novels (having left Annamaria back at the ranch when he went for a short trip into town to buy some jeans whereupon all of this adventure started). But Mrs. Fisher is a great new character, and a fine foil for the witty banter that Odd Thomans fans have come to love expect. We meet a few of Edie's friends (she seems to know just about everyone all over the place) who are uniformly extremely helpful and all of whom love her very much. Odd's internal commentary (all of the books are purported to be his memoirs, not to be published until he is dead) is also funny, with many of his similes and metaphors apt to make the reader laugh out loud. The ending (actually I think it would have worked better as a Coda or an Epilogue) is a little too fantastic, incomprehensible and happily ever after, but that is a rather small quibble. Finally, at the end, this reader was left feeling that Odd

Thomas's adventures that began only 19 months (and 6 novels) ago in Pico Mundo, CA, may be drawing to a close, and he may be coming closer to his reunion with Stormy. This is only a impression, but it is one that has lasted for the week since I finished the novel. Another must read for all Odd Thomas fans, but also a reasonable place to start if you like interesting characters, horror leavened with humor, and light fantasy of a unique sort. Highly recommended. J.M. Tepper

As with the other Odd Thomas books this one includes a of potpourri of elements including the occult, supernatural, mystery and even humor. Odd is one of the great fictional characters who is driven by his commitment to justice and goodness in the face of unimaginable evil. Faced with the task of saving a group of children from horrible deaths, Odd is accompanied by a fascinating group of allies from the mysterious Edie to a ghostly Alfred Hitchcock. At times that narrative becomes convoluted and confusing but the reader is rewarded with a heart warming story.

In the first books, Odd was unusual. Now he's the least unusual character in sight. Odd started out being a regular guy with an odd quality who got in situations with regular people with odd tendencies, desires, or goals. In this book, the oddest thing about Odd is that, compared to everyone else, he isn't odd. And that was his charm; he was odd in the regular world. In this book, he is not deeply odd, he is deeply unbelievable in the sense that one cannot suspend disbelief. Plus there are so many unsatisfied trails. Annamaria. WTF. The Odd doppelgänger suddenly gets six eyes. Must have missed something. Saw no point in Elsewhere. The Limo lady. WTF? Hitch.... too easy. I understand the end of Odd is near in the next book. One book too late. And it is just that I love the original Odd so much that I will buy it.

This series is not, perhaps, great literature, but it is interesting. The writing style is not obtrusive, save for the the occasional and very amusing turn of phrase. As to genre... It is a blend of ghost stories, mysticism, detective story, thriller and science fiction.

This is hands down my favorite of all the novels. It introduces some new concepts to the world Odd lives in. We are also introduced to an old lady, who's smoothed out and fully blue!, who apparently has some involvement in a group of people fighting against the evil of the world. The moments of tension in this book are nerve-racking, but just right. This is a pivotal story in the grand scheme of the whole series, and should absolutely not be missed.

Odd Thomas was my first Dean Koontz novel. Since then I've read everything he's ever published that I can possibly get my hands on. Nobody can make you cry, shiver, and laugh like he can. This latest installment in the Odd Thomas series was darker and more disturbing than the others. I actually had to put it down at one point for a few weeks. This latest novel was an engrossing tale of the forces of good vrs the forces of evil. Odd, still faithful to his girl Stormy, is no longer alone on his journey which is good thing as it appears the stakes have gone up. If you read no other Dean Koontz books, you should read this series. Okay and read Watchers, that's my favorite one.

I've always been a Steven Koontz fan. The humor woven into the horror creates, for me, an enjoyable reading experience. I've read the entire Odd Thomas series, and found the common thread running throughout the series made it feel familiar throughout the series, but the variation interlaced within the story kept me from getting bored with repetition. Who'd have ever thought the adventures of a fry cook from Pico Mundo California would be so entertaining.

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