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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

I love the Odd Thomas books. When Dean originally announced this character's adventures, he said it would be a closed-ending series of books--probably ending at book seven. This is book six in the series, and while I love the Odd Thomas character I am also looking forward to the series ending in the next book if he follows through with his promise. This novel, "Deeply Odd", is a great story for the most part. Odd Thomas is here using his psychic magnetism to track down the "rhinestone cowboy trucker" who has powers of his own. That was a nice twist, as we saw that Odd wasn't the only person in the world with a touch of the supernatural on their lives. Unfortunately, the things that made the first book so interesting have slowly begun to fade away in the last two or three novels in the series. I am all for character growth, but it seems as if Dean has almost lost his original idea of what made Odd so special and has been moving him into a new character. For one thing, in this novel the inner monologues become incredibly chatty, sometimes meandering so long you forget what Odd was doing at that point. Annamarie is another problem. I can fully appreciate the enigmatic angle Dean is going for with her, but she is so otherworldly now (appearing out of nowhere in a thrift store hundreds of miles away from where Odd left her, only to find she isn't really there but is still at home but WAS there hours ago...with no transportation of any kind) she's almost ridiculous. But the thing I miss most in the Odd stories is the loss of the spirits of the lingering dead he used to encounter and help often. Alfred Hitchcock is along for the ride now and he's definitely the most fun companion Odd has had in the series because he genuinely seems to love being a ghost.

Odd Thomas is back in Dean Koontz's next edition of his episodic series as Deeply Odd. Odd is now "almost" twenty-two and it's been 19 months since his love and soul-mate Stormy Llewellyn has been mowed down in the shopping center mayhem. He now lives platonically with still pregnant Annamaria and is searching for the meaning of life. On a trip to town Odd has an encounter with a flamboyantly dressed trucker whom he refers to as the Rhinestone Cowboy. He has a vision of him burning three children on stage with a flamethrower and follows the trucker to a market where he disappears. Odd knows his next quest has begun. He meets Edie Fischer, an 86 year old pixyish FBI Agent Dana Scully look alike, who is in need of a chauffeur. Odd reluctantly accepts this roll as he needs a vehicle in which to follow the Rhinestone Cowboy to a truck stop. Here we meet the

Koontz obligatory "Celeb du Libra" Alfred Hitchcock. The reader begins to suspect that the Rhinestone Cowboy might have as many paranormal talents as Odd making him a formidable adversary. Odd, who believes that intuition is the highest form of knowledge knows he must play out this drama to save the three children as he continues the pursuit and follows the monster along the highways and byways of California and into his hellish chimeras. This is a rather formulate novel but for those who are lovers of this character it's one of the better ones. I personally like Koontz's ability to play with words and phrases and often get a smile from the most innocuous of expressions. In describing this villain Dean says "He had Nordic features and a melanoma-doesn't-scare-me tanning-booth glow". When Mrs.

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