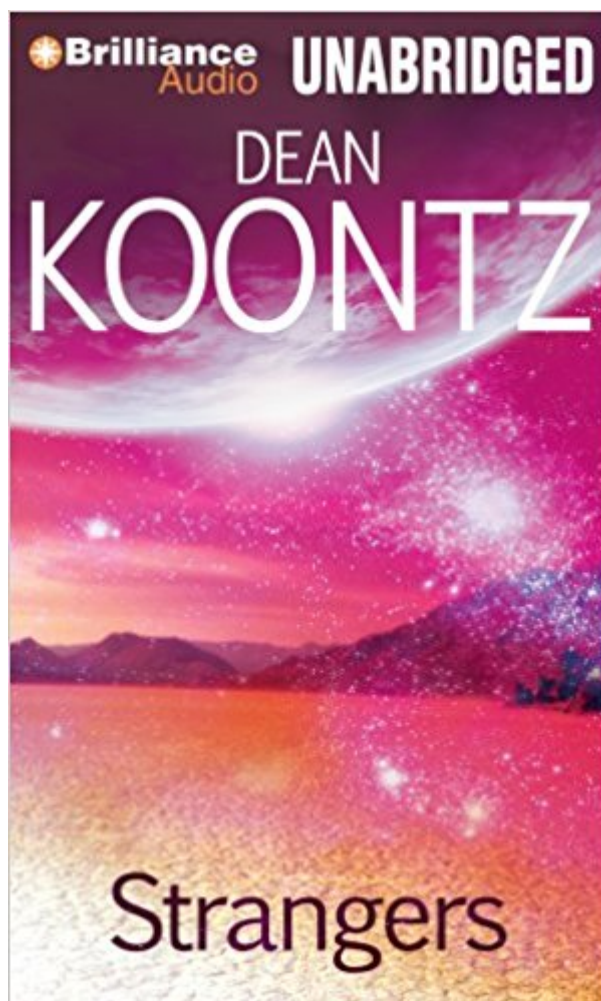


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# Strangers



## Synopsis

They were strangers. A handful of people. From different backgrounds, living in different towns and cities across America, they had nothing in commonâexcept fear. They were victims. Cold and stark, an unknown terror gripped their dreams and turned their days into living nightmares. They were chosen. And they could not escape. Deep in the heart of a sprawling desert, a dark memory called out to them drawing them to the Tranquility Motelâwhere the terrifying truth was waitingâ|.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The author of *Phantoms*, *Whispers* and other thrillers takes an unconscionable time to tell his latest story. The "strangers" are thousands of miles apart when they begin to suffer inexplicable terrors. In California, Dom Corvaisis sleepwalks, fleeing from an unseen menace. In Massachusetts, gifted young Dr. Ginger Weiss's panic attacks threaten her career. A priest in the Midwest loses his faith suddenly, then finds he can heal fatally injured people. And, in Elko, Nevada, the owner of a motels tough ex-Marine becomes paralyzed by fears of the dark. Mysterious clues bring these characters and others, similarly afflicted, to the motel, where apparently they had met long before. As they compare experiences, the victims realize they've been brainwashed and determine to find out why. That means facing death at the hands of a maniac in a scene that finally induces frissons of terror in the reader. But it's too late; Koontz has vitiated suspense throughout the narrative with numbing repetitions and long explanations of such matters as Jewish cooking, the baldachin over the altar at St. Patrick's Cathedral, a weaver's tools, etc. 75,000 first printing; \$75,000 ad/promo; Literary Guild dual selection. Copyright 1986 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or

unavailable edition of this title.

Six strangers are unaccountably seized by nightmares, attacks of fear, and bouts of uncharacteristic behavior. The six begin to seek each other out as puzzling photographs and messages arrive, indicating that the cause may lie in a forgotten weekend stay at an isolated Nevada motel. Koontz has topped a fine roster of horror and suspense novels with an almost unbearably suspenseful page-turner. His ability to maintain the mystery through several plot twists is impressive, as is his array of believable and sympathetic characters. With its masterful blend of elements of espionage, terror, and even some science fiction, *Strangers* may be the suspense novel of the year.

Recommended for popular collections. Literary Guild dual main selection. Eric W. Johnson, Univ. of Bridgeport Lib. , Conn. Copyright 1986 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I do not like all Koontz' books. He wrote some pretty bad ones. But this book held me spellbound. Like it often happens, both Koontz and King start out with an amazing speed, great ideas and likable, well-rounded characters, and then lose momentum and imagination towards the end. For me, this wasn't the case here. The suspense was such that I found it hard to put the book down. I kept wondering how he was going to keep all those strings (the many characters) together, and tie them up in the end, but he did. This is science fiction, which -- when good -- I love. I loved this one, with its hopeful ending. Koontz has a great talent for characterization and he writes better than many Nobel prize winners, but of course, in the world of "high literature" that will never be acknowledged!! His style flows effortlessly. And unlike some reviewers I did not find the book too long. Here and there I did think he went off on a tangent which should have been edited to be much shorter. I loved the wide range of character types he brought together cleverly. Eventually he leaves us -- and here I also disagree with one reviewer -- with the everlasting conundrum between religious belief and atheism. Is there a God greater than we can ever imagine? Or ... does the Universe run itself, sort of, and there's no Creator as such? This is definitely one of his best books. But that's just my opinion.

The reason I recently purchased this book (Kindle edition) was that I have purchased a Kindle within the last year and I'm replacing my favorite paper books with their Kindle edition. I like this book so much that I'm replacing my second paper copy of *Strangers*. I've tried to remember how many times I've read this book, but can't. At 587 pages (paper edition) there's always something that seems

new, even after so many readings. The plot is several unconnected people throughout the country who suddenly start having episodes of terror thoughts and/or dreams. The episodes are so strong they destroy the persons normal life. The people are subconsciously drawn to the source of the terror dreams. The terrors are created as sub-conscious mind control by the government breaks down and goes terribly wrong. The purpose; The group had witnessed an event surrounding a UFO and the governments reaction. The book is fairly long and starts out developing the recent background of each character in the book who starts developing terror episodes, and what those terrors are and how they try to deal with them. The first half of the book is very gripping and has the reader hanging onto every "page", waiting to see how the characters deal with their life destroying terrors. The second half of the book deals with the events surrounding each character as they are all subconsciously drawn together where this journey started, and what happens as they slowly piece together the circumstances of that event. The book is very good, one of Dean Koontz's better books.

I'll admit it - I am a total Koontz geek. I've never read one of his books that I didn't like. This is the second time I've read Strangers, but it's as if I read it for the first time. The characters are people I wish I knew. The story is about hope, love, friendship and facing together that which could never have been faced alone. Wonderful book!

Dean Koontz keeps you on the edge of your seat with the possibilities of what the future can hold for the public and left up to the powers that be. He captivates his audience by bringing his characters to life with such detail; he won't want to put this book down until it you learn what happens to each character I'm just journey of suspense!

I love Dean Koontz's books. I'm giving this 4 stars because he adds so many characters, it's hard to remember who's who. Although, it's interesting and I'm curious to see how it comes together in the end. Guess I should have waited until I was finished reading it before giving my review. But I usually finish his books within 2-3 days. This one hasn't completely captured my attention.

I would rate this 3.5 stars if I could. Ok. This is a nicely written and lengthy piece about the common bond that a group of strangers have. The story dishes out protagonists in a well-paced rhythm, cagily halting one while introducing another. Yet, as is the probability with numerous leads, I didn't care that much about most of the players. It's not that they weren't fleshed out appropriately, it's more that they were just average folk. this valiantly woven tapestry of character and plot, failed to produce

valiant characters except for one: Jack Twist. Now he was interesting. Full of flavor and long on attributes worthy of a lead in one of Dean's books. I also think it took far too long to bring me to the point I had already guessed more than 2/3 from the ending.

Dean Koontz is my favorite author, though a few others have come close but that is another review. I have read all of his books throughout the years and I know that each one will be exciting, suspenseful and mind blowing, with so much imagination that I won't be able to put it down. This novel was so fantastic that I'm still reeling from it. What a monumental endeavor! Dean Koontz is an incredibly gifted author who can put together a wild ride of terror, humor, real people and tantalizing glimpses of alternate realities. Thank you Dean for sharing your gift with us.

With typical Koontz cleverness, we are swept up into the lives of twelve people who have undergone a strange and mysterious experience. Well written and guaranteed to capture the reader for a long exciting ride.

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