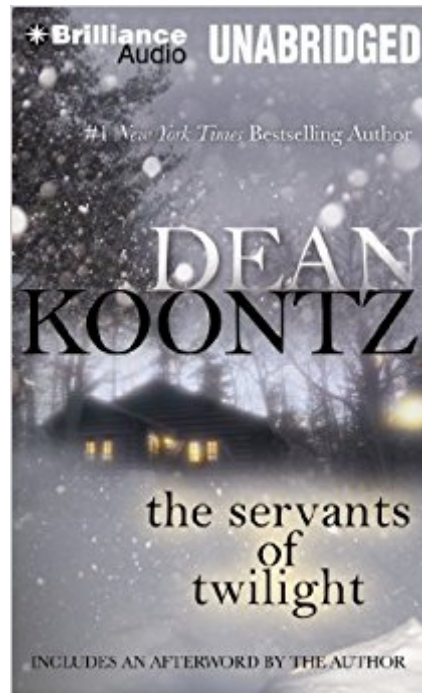




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The Servants Of Twilight



Synopsis

“A great storyteller.” — New York Daily News
An ordinary parking lot in southern California. Christine Scavello and her six-year-old son are accosted by a strange old woman. “I know who you are,” the woman snaps at the boy. “I know what you are.” A scream, a threat—and then a grotesque act of violence. Suddenly Christine’s pride and joy, her only son, is targeted by a group of religious fanatics. They’ve branded him the Antichrist. They want to kill him. And they are everywhere.... A master storyteller, sometimes humorous, sometimes shocking, but always riveting.” — The San Diego Union-Tribune
“Koontz is brilliant.” — Chicago Sun-Times
“One of the finest and most versatile suspense writers.” — The Macon Telegraph & News

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Customer Reviews

Previously issued as a paperback original under the pseudonym Leigh Nichols, this is one of Koontz’s better thrillers. Single parent Christine Scavello and her young son Joey find themselves confronted by a madwoman, Grace Spivey, who fancies she discerns the Antichrist in Joey’s cherubic visage. Spivey is the charismatic leader of a religious cult whose fanatic members do her every bidding, including murdering the little boy, and everyone who stands in their way. After the police fail to provide adequate protection, Christine turns to private detective Charlie Harrison, whose business and home are soon firebombed by the cultists, and two of his men murdered, even as he finds that he is falling in love with Christine. The narrative moves along briskly until the last third, at which point a frantic chase sequence goes on too long. Nevertheless, this is a better than

average adventure with supernatural overtones. The possibility of Joey's actually being the Antichrist is a deftly handled (and unresolved) tease. Copyright 1988 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Praise for Dean Koontzâ œDean Koontz is a prose stylist whose lyricism heightens malevolence and tension. [He creates] characters of unusual richness and depth.â •â "The Seattle Timesâ œTumbling, hallucinogenic prose....â ^Seriousâ ™ writers...might do well to examine his technique.â •â "The New York Times Book Reviewâ œLyrical writing and compelling characters...Koontz stands alone.â •â "Associated Pressâ œIn every industry there exist â ^artistsâ ™ that are not only unforgettable, but know their craft better than the rest. Dean Koontz...is among these artisans.â •â "Suspense Magazineâ œ[Koontz] has always had near-Dickensian powers of description, and an ability to yank us from one page to the next that few novelists can match.â •â "Los Angeles Timesâ œPerhaps more than any other author, Koontz writes fiction perfectly suited to the mood of America...novels that acknowledge the reality and tenacity of evil but also the power of good...[and that] entertain vastly as they uplift.â •â "Publishers Weekly --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

As a Dean Koontz fan I read many of his books. This one I only discovered it this year(2013) even though it was one of his earlier ones. I just had to have it!It's an average size read as far as Koontz books go, but entertaining and thought-provoking to the end. It was actually released under one of Koontz' then many aliases "Leigh Nichols", and re-released in 2011 under his real name and an afterword from him.THE STORYThis novel is a good social experiment as to the possibilities of "what might happen" in a situation like this.A mother and her young son about to go home after a shopping run are confronted by an elderly woman in the parking lot. Seemingly innocent at first, it becomes clear that this older "crone" is crazy. She believes the boy is the heralded Antichrist, and in no uncertain terms tells Christine, Joey's mother that he must die to prevent hell on earth for 1000 years. Crazy old crone....or is she? Christine goes home with her son and it becomes apparent that this crone will not let them go this easily.Christine gets no help from the police when things escalate out of control from events that unfold, she seeks help from Charlie, a PI of repute (and a possible love interest, perhaps?). The roots run deep as the reader finds out just how far The Servant's of Twilight are really willing to go for their (Christian?) faith.MY THOUGHTSIt's a chilling insight into the world of religious zealots and how they can become all-powerful to their followers. It delves into the heart of humanity and questions the very actions one believes to be the right ones. This is taken

not from only the "good-guys" perspective, but also the antagonists. You can really see why they are doing this and feel a certain amount of pity for "Mother Grace", but not enough to lose sight of who you're really cheering for in this book. The characters are well-rounded, not too many like in his failed "77 Shadow St" (my opinion only) and each adds to the story in their own way. Koontz even has us believing at times, "Who is really right?" and I think that's one of the charms with this book. Although the storyline is at times a little predictable, it always keeps nagging at the back of your mind, "Who is really on the right team?" The book had me from the first few pages and from there it became a rollercoaster ride to its gripping conclusion. I recommend picking up a copy and checking it out. It shows Koontz' writing style from yore ago, which I much prefer to his recent books. Yes, there's a Golden Retriever in the book. He almost ALWAYS sneaks one into his novels somewhere! I gave this 4 1/2 stars.

This book is fast-paced and hard to put down. It's another take on good versus evil, lots of religious undertone (is the little boy the AntiChrist??) , and the author certainly becomes "preachy" at times, especially at the beginning and the ending. There were many surprises and twists, yet also some very predictable parts. You feel empathy for the 3 "hero" characters who are very likable, and you love to hate the "witch" and her fanatic cronies. But there are times it's like watching a scary movie where you want to scream "don't do that!" because it's so obvious they (heroes) are making dumb decisions. When the hero & heroine and her son are literally running for their lives, they start off stealing a car and paying cash. But then they switch to driving his car, (I believe it was a gold BMW), and staying at places that belong to either him or his associates -- Despite the fact they are aware there is a mole in his detective agency(?). And every time the bad guys kill associates, bomb or burn their hiding place, they run for a little while then stop to buy new clothes and essentials. I would be running non-stop instead of shopping!! I know Koontz wrote this in 1984 under another pen-name. Even in the 1980's (long before cell phones or GPS in every car), it was still possible to track cars and credit cards. Yet still I found this book entertaining enough that I kept wanting to know what happened next.

I read this book maybe 20 years ago!! I just wanted to re- read it and it doesn't disappoint! I am STILL intrigued by the story!

While this is not Koontz at his best this is nevertheless a well crafted story with strong character development. Koontz builds the intensity of being harangued by a group of cultists led by Mother

Grace intent on killing an innocent boy from the first page. As the story unfolds you can sense the despair, frustration and helplessness of Joey's mum as she strives to protect the boy she loves from people in the grip of religious fervour and mania that drives them to carry out their "mission from God" at all costs. Some interesting and believable twists at the end that ultimately leads to an unexpected resolution. There is a good lesson here in the inherent danger of allowing someone else to do our thinking for us and how insidiously this can affect the most resolute of minds.

I love Dean Koontz, but hadn't really read much past his Odd Thomas Series and By The Light Of The Moon (which are both favorites of mine). This had the right energy that I like in a book of this genre. It had plenty of interesting moments, and I felt it went really fast. It even leaves you with questions in whether the "bad guys" were right or wrong. I like how it made me think about things I wouldn't have normally thought about. Very good read!

Dean Koontz is in my top ten most loved author's list. This book is another reason for keeping him there. There are plenty of reviews detailing the story, so I'll not try to tell it again. Mr Koontz did a tremendous job the first time, and no one really should be telling it again. I encourage all of his fans to give this book a read. It's well worth the time and investment. I've just finished my second read and the book holds up to my two reads test of literature. I read a book for the first time, looking for a story line and characters that will grab and hold my attention. Then I read the book a second time, checking to see if the book contains enough engaging details to keep me as interested as the first read. I've found that a lot of novels do not live up to this process. But a lot of novels do, and I rate the ones that pass this test as the best. This is definately a must read for fans of Mr Koontz. His wit, writing style and ability to spin a yarn are all very evident in The Servants Of Twilight. I definately recommend this book!

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