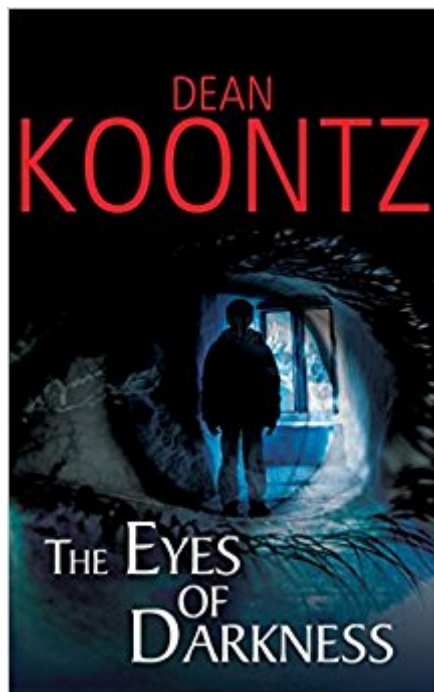


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# The Eyes Of Darkness



## Synopsis

A year had passed since little Danny's death—a year since his mother began the painful process of acceptance. But Tina Evans could have sworn she just saw her Danny in a stranger's car—then she dreamed that Danny was alive. And when she awoke, she found a message waiting for her in Danny's bedroom—two disturbing words scrawled on his chalkboard: NOT DEAD. Was this someone's grim joke? Her mind playing tricks on her? Or something more? For Tina Evans, it was a mystery she couldn't escape. An obsession that would lead her from the bright lights of Las Vegas to the cold shadows of the High Sierras. A terrible secret seen only by *The Eyes of Darkness*

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 160 customer reviews

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## Customer Reviews

“Koontz puts his readers through the emotional wringer! Associated Press  
More Praise for Dean Koontz “Dean Koontz is a prose stylist whose lyricism heightens malevolence and tension. [He creates] characters of unusual richness and depth. The Seattle Times “Tumbling, hallucinogenic prose.... Serious writers...might do well to examine his technique. The New York Times Book Review “Lyrical writing and compelling characters...Koontz stands alone. Associated Press “In every industry there exist artists that are not only unforgettable, but know their craft better than the rest. Dean Koontz...is among these artisans. Suspense Magazine “[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. — Los Angeles Times — “Perhaps 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.” — Publishers Weekly --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

The books of Dean Koontz are published in 38 languages, and worldwide sales top 400 million copies. Eleven of his novels have risen to number one on the New York Times hardcover bestseller list, and several have been adapted into feature films and TV miniseries. Dean and Gerda Koontz live in southern California with their golden retriever, Anna, grand-niece of the famous and beloved Trixie.

The Eyes of Darkness (TEOD) is a revamped version of a much earlier book by Koontz, writing under the pseudonym Leigh Nichols, from 1981. I was still in high school and had never heard of the book, nor Leigh Nichols, nor Dean Koontz. It was 1987 when I discovered *Watchers* and scrambled to find anything he had written previously. Like many others, I also became a fan. According to TEOD's afterward, this is the last of five books he has reissued (writing under the Nichols' name) that has been updated and slightly edited to be more relevant in the 21st century. TEOD is an utter treat. While a few areas stumbled here and there, the narrative, protagonists, antagonists, the minor characters, settings, dialogue, were all interesting without being overly wordy. This was the Koontz I remembered from 1987 onward. Not the current dreck he seems to spit out about twice a year. I found paragraphs in TEOD that ranged from 2 sentences to a whole page, with descriptions of everything from the cold, short winter days to the smells of a small-town diner to the evergreens on a snow-capped mountaintop. You actually felt like you stepped into the world his imagination had created for you. And while TEOD's plot involved a cold war-era meme reminiscent of the '70s and passed on into the early '80s, he was able to update the book to make it seem more relevant for today's times. You could feel the mother's anguish, confusion, and eventual anger: She was the Ripley from *Aliens* before we had a Ripley from *Aliens*. But don't let the cold-war sub-plot put you off. Koontz ties up that theme where it's within one's reach of believability. Just imagine the feeling you get when you watch a 007 movie from the early '80s and giggle over how silly those plots were (compared to the recent Bond films with Daniel Craig). TEOD might give you that feeling of *d'fjvu*, sans the chuckling. Even though I know how his other book, *Strangers*, ends as well as the underlying plot, reading TEOD made me

want to go out and find a used version of that book, or maybe *Lightning*, or *The Bad Place*. That's the other *du* you get. Wow, what a great writer Koontz was. The last book I read by him before *TEOD* was *What the Night Knows: A Novel*. Though not reviewed yet by me, I'd give that one 2.5 stars. It's probably one of the few books in the last decade that I enjoyed, until it went off the rails and into the supernatural. The closest Koontz comes to the supernatural are his *Odd Thomas* books, a blatant knockoff of *The Sixth Sense* (Collector's Edition Series), in my humble opinion. I also just finished another re-issue of an earlier book, *The Voice of the Night*, he wrote under another pen name in 1979 that was pure simplicity and sheer joy. Like *TEOD*, there was no preaching, no wearing one's faith on one's sleeve, no pandering to the reader, no silly dialogue just for the sake of having dialogue. Everything had a purpose, every sentence had a meaning, every character relatable, and when not, their actions understandable. I give *TEOD* 4.5 stars but doesn't do half stars for some reason. I highly recommend this book. It's a classic Koontz thriller and you won't be disappointed.

I very much enjoy some of Koontz' work. This is not one of Koontz' best novels. Plot is simplistic and character development very one dimensional. While the premise is somewhat interesting, the execution disappoints. The "poltergeist" element and "evil government using children for science" messages explored in a very clichéd fashion. The relationship/chemistry between the two protagonists is stilted and cardboard like at best. Not up to some of Koontz' later work. There is a great deal of potential in Danny, the protagonist's son, but any opportunity to explore the intricacies of the treatment impact on Danny's brain and abilities is thwarted in favor of a limiting sci-fi/thriller/political commentary narrative.

GOOD read

Dean Koontz always manages to keep me keenly glued to his books. His stories are scary but he never fails to weave family values like faith, trust, strength of character and love through them. In the end, those qualities defeat the evil powers. You also have no doubt how much he loves dogs, especially golden retrievers, because there is usually at least one referred to in his stories. Love this author!

Very good and suspense is great. Unnerving to think anyone could do to Danny what they did!! It sure makes you wonder what is really happening that only the government knows about.

I loved this book. I like pretty much all of Dean Koontz books. I like that they are easy yet challenging to read. Fast drama and excitement. Knowable characters. As I said before, I like pretty much all of Dean Koontz books.

True to His talent, Mr Koontz has done it again. His wit, his plot twists, his character development is unsurpassed. I thoroughly enjoyed the book, and I am sure that any reader that likes a bit of fantasy bound with an excellent plot will enjoy this tale as much as I did.

I really loved this book, it keeps you from not wanting to put it down.

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