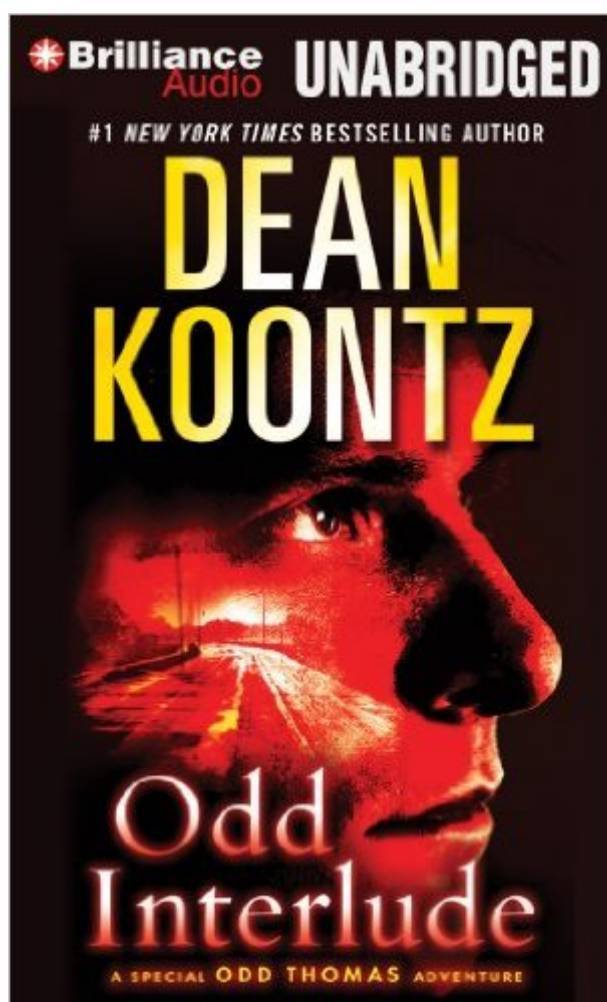


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Odd Interlude (Odd Thomas Series)



Synopsis

• [Odd Thomas is] one of the most remarkable and appealing characters in current fiction. •
• The Virginian-Pilot There's room at the inn. But you might not get out. Nestled on a lonely stretch along the Pacific coast, quaint roadside outpost Harmony Corner offers everything a weary traveler needs • a cozy diner, a handy service station, a cluster of motel rooms • and the Harmony family homestead presiding over it all. But when Odd Thomas and company stop to spend the night, they discover that there's more to this secluded haven than meets the eye • and that between life and death, there is something more frightening than either. • Koontz gives [Odd Thomas] wit, good humor, a familiarity with the dark side of humanity • and moral outrage. • • USA Today • Supernatural thrills with a side of laughs. • • The Denver Post

Book Information

Series: Odd Thomas Series

Audio CD

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Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars • See all reviews • (1,039 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

Despite it being short, it is probably the most wildest and crazy installment in the Odd Thomas series yet. It was a good read, I read it in less than 24 hours, but thankful it wasn't an actually installment of the main series. It doesn't offer much to Odd's character or background. I feel like this was just more of random side adventure that Koontz just wrote for fun, thus why it's called "Odd Interlude." So don't pick up this book expecting it to deepen the Odd Thomas series, but rather just enjoy the wild wide it offers the reader.

Annamaria is barely an afterthought in this volume. While I thought that was attributable to the

interlude nature of the installment, she doesn't have much of a role in later books either. While her place in those books seems limited to that of a plot device, however, she's just sort of irrelevant here. Jolie "the girl who helps Odd" is a great new character, and I enjoyed getting to experience part of the narrative from her perspective. Given that narrative change, however, I would have expected her to become an ongoing member of the cast of characters, which she does not. There aren't as many great side characters as in the first three books, but definitely more than in book four. Odd Interlude isn't as beautifully quotable as the first two books in the series, but it pulled me in much quicker than books three and four. (It didn't tug on my emotions enough to have the teary tidbits from the first two books, but it was still quite good.) The tension and pacing were enjoyable, and the details of the plot had enough complexity and interest to them to drag me along quite readily. The genre change was executed skillfully, such that I didn't feel wrenched out of the immersion. While Odd Interlude isn't the hilarious, whimsical, beautiful thrill ride of the earliest books (Odd Thomas and Forever Odd), it's absolutely a return to better plotting from Odd Hours. It's about equal to Brother Odd in plot depth, but better in terms of pacing and tension.

Now that I've finished reading, listening to, listening AND reading, or simply watching 64 of Dean Koontz' books, stories and adaptations of same, I thought I might comment on one. Don't get me wrong; I like "Odd Interlude", but I don't believe it started out as an Odd Thomas story. I'm guessing that the intent was to have a new Chris Snow novel, but the story took a life of its own, and well... sometimes stories write themselves despite our initial intentions. I'm not merely basing this conjecture on the fact that it takes place in Chris' neighborhood, or that the same government complex gave rise to yet more bad guys from the same cloth, but even some of the setting (for instance, the interpolation of a wide-spread smoke-cover) seems to have been designed for Chris' movements. In fact, some of the most intriguing elements of the read (for me, at least) involved speculating as to what Chris Snow would do, and whether he would show up soon. Ultimately, the book turned out to be a great vehicle for Odd, but given the timeline from Book One through the most current book, "Deeply Odd", I'm glad I'm not him. I would rather get some more rest between outings. Oh, and like I said in the title, don't get into a car with Odd Thomas. The experience can be harrowing.

I have read all of Mr Koontz books. I am particularly fond of the Odd Thomas series. Fans of these books will be particularly disappointed by this book. Despite the title, this is NOT an Odd Thomas

book. All of the charm and characteristics of Odd Thomas are totally missing in this work. Mr. Koontz has taken a really bad book and merely given the central character the name Odd Thomas. I am all for recycling, but not when it comes to writing. There is nothing new, or fresh, or even remotely unique in this entire book.

While I must admit that this is not among the best Odd Thomas tales, it is still a very enjoyable tale. I read the original three parts in their digital form and am very pleased to add this to my collection as a complete paperpack edition. The preview of the next Odd Thomas novel, *Deeply Odd*, is what pushed this rating from 4 to 5 stars!

What was Koontz thinking?? I gave part 1+2 of the kindle version 2 stars each, not sure why, maybe because it was the beginning and middle of the story and had the opportunity to really go an awesome route; but sadly, it never did. Remember the X-Files? How the overall mythology of the series was the most interesting aspect, occasionally halted by a monster-of-the-week episode, that could be either really lame or really disturbing? Well, *Odd Interlude* is like a really lame monster-of-the-week episode, with a plot that could easily have been based off of an X-Files episode. Even in this short story, Koontz rambles on about flowers and houses and delivers long-winding and far-fetched descriptions of the aliens - yes, ALIENS! (Koontz has written some older, great alien stories, but they don't belong in the Odd Thomas universe) - that he's up against. All of this would be okay, if there at some point was any sense of danger, but there isn't. All is so safe and tidy as to become downright annoying. Ultimately, it seems like a teen wrote it, what with the alien-snake-human-thingie with six(!!) arms and the (over)use of the word s**thead in one of the first chapters of part one. I have nothing against curse words at all, but this just seemed juvenile. Skip this and jump directly to *Odd Apocalypse*.

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