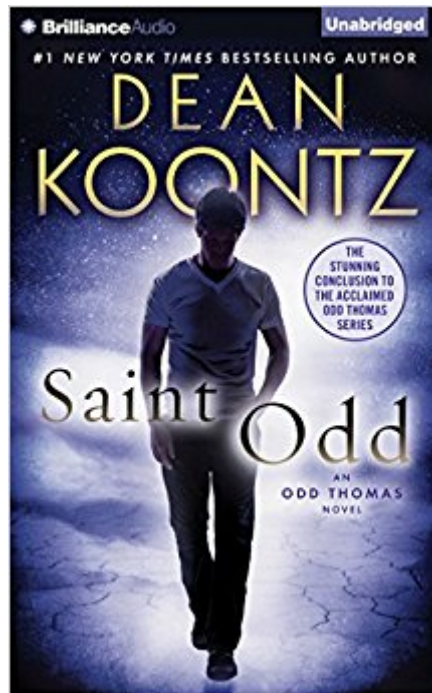




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Saint Odd (Odd Thomas Series)



Synopsis

From *“one of the master storytellers of this or any age”* (The Tampa Tribune) comes the stunning final adventure of *“one of the most remarkable and appealing characters in current fiction”* (The Virginian-Pilot) as #1 New York Times bestselling author Dean Koontz brings the unforgettable odyssey of Odd Thomas to its dazzling conclusion. Odd Thomas is back where it all started because the time has come to finish it. Since he left his simple life in the small town of Pico Mundo, California, his journey has taken him to places strange and wonderful, mysterious and terrifying. Across the land, in the company of mortals and spirits alike, he has known kindness and cruelty, felt love and loss, saved lives and taken them as he’s borne witness to humanity’s greatest good and darkest evil. Again and again, he has gone where he must and done what he had to do for better or worse with his courage and devotion sorely tested, and his soul forever changed. Every triumph has been hard won. Each sacrifice has taken its toll. Now, whatever destiny drives him has finally steered his steps home, where those he cares for most surround him, the memory of his tragically lost true love haunts him, and one last challenge vast and dreadful awaits him. For Odd Thomas, born to serve a purpose far greater than himself, the wandering is done. Only the reckoning remains.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Praise for Saint Odd *“Equal parts supernatural thriller, cultural satire, character study,*

bildungsroman, offbeat love story, road trip, spiritual meditation, and apocalyptic adventure, the Odd Thomas books . . . are more than irresistible page-turners. They are intimate, haunting, often heartrending, exhilarating, and beautifully composed. —•Biography.com —• “Odd Thomas is such an endearing and likable character and, more than anything else, has been the reason for the success of the series. . . . For readers who have been with Odd all along, Saint Odd will satisfy. —•Bookreporter Acclaim for Dean Koontz and his Odd Thomas novels —• “Odd’s strange gifts, coupled with his intelligence and self-effacing humor, make him one of the most quietly authoritative characters in recent popular fiction. —•Publishers Weekly —• “Koontz gives his character wit, good humor, a familiarity with the dark side of humanity —•and moral outrage. —•USA Today —• “The ultimate Everyman . . . an avatar of hope and honor and courage for all of us —•the linchpin of a rollicking good tale . . . Odd evokes the homespun wisdom of Forrest Gump amid the mind-spinning adventures of a Jack Bauer. —•BookPage —• “There’s never anything predictable about an Odd Thomas adventure. —•Booklist —• “The nice young fry cook with the occult powers is [Koontz’s] most likable creation . . . candid, upright, amusing and sometimes withering. —•The New York Times —• “An inventive . . . mix of suspense, whimsy and uplift. —•The Washington Post —• “Heartfelt and provocative . . . a wonderfully rich and entertaining story. —•Chicago Sun-Times --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

Dean Koontz, the author of many #1 New York Times bestsellers, lives in Southern California with his wife, Gerda, their golden retriever, Anna, and the enduring spirit of their golden, Trixie.

I am afraid I am going to have to disagree with most of the reviews about this book. First let me qualify this by saying Mr. Koontz is one of my favorite writers and while I don’t often read most books more than once, I have read *Seize the Night* and *Fear Nothing* multiple times as they are two of my favorites. I think that with this book Mr. Koontz did a disservice to Odd and he rested on his laurels rather than making this the amazing final tribute it should have been. I think one of his greatest talents is character building and nowhere in this book was that apparent. The villains were established in a previous book and there was no suspense as to who they were and what they were going to do. In all the previous books we were introduced to characters we either loved or hated, and he always built on the character of Odd, giving us just a little bit more insight into who he was. I

didn't feel there was any of that in this book... !!WARNING: Major spoilers ahead!!... I wanted to feel like Odd had finally received his just reward for all the good he had done by being reunited with Stormy and I felt like that scene was a let down. Another thing I love about his books is the pacing is usually excellent. He gives me just enough to make me want to read the next chapter rather than put the book down. As a matter-of-fact, I usually don't put his books down until I have finished them. I did not have any problem putting this book down and it took me three days to read it. The suspense scenes seemed to be thrown in at random because he needed to speed up the pacing and the book just didn't have the flow his books normally have. I didn't feel the sense of urgency that I usually feel with Mr. Koontz books. Finally, I want to talk about the final scene. Lou was one of those characters I think you could have done an amazing job getting us to care about. Odd has met someone like him with psychic abilities and I also wanted to learn a bit more about him, it might have made his death mean a little bit more. Additionally, you took so much time with all of the other scenes of Odd in peril I felt like the final scene was a little abrupt. Maybe because it is obvious you are very invested in this character, as we all are, and it brought you a lot of pain to do what you did. However, this major traumatic event deserved better, Odd deserved better. I wanted to be in tears when this finally happened and I didn't really feel much of anything. Mr. Koontz, I love your writing, I want to make that very clear, but I do not think you did Odd justice with this ending. I'm very sorry to see this character go, as next to Christopher Snow, I think he is the best you have ever done. Please give us a follow up somewhere, sometime, with Odd and Stormy to let us know he is ok.

This was the last in the series of Odd books. As such, the ending was exactly as I expected it would be. No surprises at any point in the book. I was neither impressed nor disappointed. It was entertaining and utterly forgettable. Certainly not one of Koontz's masterworks by any stretch of the imagination. The only surprise in SAINT ODD was that so many plot strings were left untied. That works fine for a series that still has life, but for the finale readers want answers, and the answers that were given were about as satisfying as a revelation from a Delphi oracle. Koontz's ending left a huge plot hole lamely covered with a crayon-colored bed sheet. And yes, I'm not too thrilled with the title either. In the book itself, Koontz had suggested FOREVER ODD. That would have been a far better choice. I cannot give this uninspired and final Odd offering more than three stars considering the caliber of the author.

I received a copy of this book early for another website I belong to, so I have had the chance to read

this during the past few weeks, so hopefully this review will help you make a decision on if you want to purchase this book or not. The best way I can think of writing this review is to compose it with two thoughtful sections. One is my overall enjoyment and thoughts about the book, with the second being more specifics about the book itself without giving away any critical information or giving spoilers. Hopefully this will be helpful. So to start, I will go over the book itself. Please note there are a tremendous amount of references to the books that have come earlier in this series. I would find this to be a very hard book to read as a stand-alone and I recommend reading the earlier books in the series first. This book is the last of the Odd Thomas series. In this installment, we find a familiar undertone; good vs evil. The story starts with us finding ourselves in Pico Mundo, which has become a haven for evil that is seeking to bring the downfall of humanity. These evil doers will begin this task with violence geared towards the town's population. The first place we are taken is back to the carnival in Pico Mundo, where we revisit gypsy mommy for another card. Upon receiving the card, we are pulled in deeper with an unexpected message. From here, our journey takes us through revisiting more than just gypsy mommy. We begin to find ourselves back with all kinds of previous characters. I will not spoil the surprises. The situations and path that follows is all but predictable. We encounter all kinds of "odd" situations. The kind of situations that have Thomas reminding us that he is "just a fry cook", and us reminding him, that he is anything but "just anything, since he has all kinds of supernatural powers, including seeing the spirits of the recently deceased. Overall, this is a fitting end to a series and will leave you both satisfied, and a bit upset that the series has come to a conclusion. Now for my impressions on the book, and overall feedback. This book is like a great meal. It needs to be savored and enjoyed. Not just taken down quickly. It may honestly be the greatest in the series, and potentially one of the highlights from the portfolio of work from Koontz. Also, get ready to stretch your use of the English language. Koontz puts his skills as a former English teacher to good use here. I would guess about one in every 5-10 pages I am struck with a word I have to find the definition for (and I like to think I have a good vocabulary). However, through the expansion of the words used in this book, we also find ourselves having a deeper level of detail. More information is transferred in a shorter amount of space, which is a rarer treat. Overall, I honestly loved this book. I am a bit disappointed I finished it so quickly, and truly wish I was able to go back in time and read it again much slower for the first time. Any fan of the series will certainly find this both a satisfying conclusion to the series, as well as a masterful work on its own. I certainly hope this review was helpful to anyone taking the time to read it. For any further in depth questions, please feel free to

contact me or post a comment, as I will check them periodically until the beginning of February. Thank you for reading my review and enjoy the book!

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