



## The Servants of Twilight

*Leigh Nichols (Pseudonym) , Dean Koontz*

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To his mother, Joey seems an ordinary six-year-old boy - special to her, but to no one else. To the Servants of Twilight, however, he is an evil presence who must be destroyed - an Anti-Christ who must die.

The terrifying ordeal for Joey and his mother begins in the supermarket car park where an old woman accosts them and pursues them with her terrible threats. Christine's world is turned into a nightmare of terror. Only her love for her child, and the support of the one man who believes her, gives her the chance to survive the Servants of Twilight...

This book was originally published under the pseudonym Leigh Nichols.

## The Servants of Twilight Details

Date : Published May 16th 1991 by Headline Feature (first published 1984)

ISBN : 9780747236382

Author : Leigh Nichols (Pseudonym) , Dean Koontz

Format : Paperback 499 pages

Genre : Horror, Fiction, Thriller

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## From Reader Review The Servants of Twilight for online ebook

### Julia Bridges says

This is the first Dean Koontz book I ever read. I've been hooked ever since. Great read!

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### Dustin Crazy little brown owl says

"We're all just actors in a cosmic horror film in God's private movie theater."

- The Servants of Twilight, end of Chapter 32

*Everything that deceives also enchants.* - Plato

This book certainly has a lot of action in it and it does start out rather intriguing, but in the end, it is far from being included among my favorite Dean Koontz stories.

The Servants of Twilight is one of five novels which Dean previously published under the female pen name, Leigh Nichols. My favorite among these fake woman works is The House of Thunder.

Favorite Passages:

*For that one shining moment, it seemed as if all was right with the world. It seemed there was no such thing as death. And for the first time, Charlie had the feeling that the three of them somehow belonged together, that their destinies were linked, that they had more of a future together than just their investigator-client relationship. It was a nice, warm feeling. Too bad it couldn't last.*

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*"There are mysteries in here" - he tapped his head with one thick finger - "that we may never understand."*

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*"There Is No Justice in a Jackass Universe."*

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### Melissa (Mel's Bookshelf) says

Silly Me didn't quite realise when I borrowed this audio book from the library that it was originally written in 1984. It's almost as old as I am! I was wondering why nobody was using mobile phones and why the police and investigators were not exactly using the most advanced technology, when it suddenly hit me. DUR MEL! Anyway it was still a really great book. I was expecting more a horror story, instead it was an action packed suspenseful thriller!

Single mum Christine is living a quiet existence with her son Joey, until one day they are confronted by a ragged old woman in the car park of a shopping centre. Appearing harmless at first, the old woman makes small talk with the boy, and then things suddenly change when the hag becomes aggressive and announces that Joey has "GOT TO DIE!". Unfortunately for Christine and Joey, this batty old woman is the head of a cult who now believes that her son is the Antichrist and will bring about the end of the world. And most of the members of the cult are shady characters with lots of murderous skills and are all absolutely OBSESSED

with killing him. Suddenly they find themselves running for their lives. Like a cat and mouse! Christine enlists the help of Charlie, a private detective, as they attempt to escape death. And Joey couldn't possibly be the Antichrist... Could he??

Talk about ACTION PACKED!!! After the scene is set, BOOM!! Its action scene after action scene, dodging bullets, running for their lives. Never a dull moment! Fabulous!

Loved the characters. Christine, Charlie and Joey were all written really well and I loved all the dialogue between them, especially 6 year old Joey. I even loved the dogs and the bad guys! Especially Grace.

I wasn't expecting there to be much romance in this book so I LOVED that aspect of it, and one of the scenes was quite raunchy. I like that he managed to squeeze the romance in amongst all the thrills, and I always find the best romances (in books obviously, I doubt in real life) are the ones that spawn from a bit of action and suspense.

I probably would have rated this book higher if it wasn't for the ending. I was really disappointed with the ending. I can't really go into it more or I will spoil the story. It also dragged on a bit in the middle. I think the audio version made it a bit more exciting than if I had read it.

However, it was still a fabulous book to listen to! I loved the 80's feel (once I realised what it was) and the action and suspense was all very exciting!

The audio version: Ok the ladies voice annoyed me a lot at first. A little too animated at times, and I really didn't like her portrayal of the male characters. However, as for all other audio books, I soon became used to her voice and didn't have a problem with it by the end.

Would I recommend it?

Absolutely! I think most thriller fans will enjoy this one!

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### **Matt Ready says**

Great read, great pacing, and subtle and reserved descriptive passages that blend better than most of DK's descriptions. Just a very clean and satisfying book with all the characteristics of a great action thriller with hints of the right kind of supernatural - foreshadowed, assumed, and never completely revealed.

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### **Rebecca McNutt says**

This isn't your average mother-and-son story. *The Servants of Twilight* is like *Rosemary's Baby* combined with *The Shining*, the frightening and intensely tilling story of a woman whose child is in danger of being harmed or even killed by a secretive group - who believe he is the antichrist.

### **Tom Nittoli says**

This one stole a star sliding into home at the last second leaving the ending ambiguous and a little creepy. However, most of the book is the same rhetoric spewed in the same formula with little variation to warrant anyone picking this particular Koontz book up over any of the others. The highlight of the book is the use of both sides fighting under the elk of presumably the same God. A concept not explored enough in any medium. The theme of two sides of the coin, but in the same pocket allows the reader to wonder, and second guess his way through most of the novel. Hesitantly we stick with the good guys, but we continue to wonder if we're rooting for the right team.

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### **Shaunda says**

This book was good, and very suspenseful. I picked it up to read, and I thought I wouldn't like it (though I'll give every book a fighting chance), and I was surprised when I couldn't put it down. My main problem with this book is that the ending was somewhat vague, and not nearly as gripping as the beginning of the story...

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### **Corey says**

One of Koontz's earlier works, written originally under his pseudonym Leigh Nichols.

On a normal regular day, Christine Scavello and her 6-year old son Joey are leaving a shopping mall, and are approached by a strange woman, who suddenly starts screaming at Joey, believing him to be the Antichrist. Now Christine and Joey have been targeted by a group of religious fanatics calling themselves the Servants of Twilight, being led by Grace Spivey, the same woman who approached Christine and Joey in the parking lot.

Now with no-one else to turn to, including the Police, Christine approaches Private Investigator Charlie Harrison, who takes it upon himself to protect them and becomes romantically involved with Christine.

A great storyline, and great characters, Grace Spivey in an interesting Charles Manson-type villainess, and I loved Chewbacca, Joey's Golden Retriever and companion, and their friendship!

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### **Bridget Kennedy says**

I have to admit that I thought this was a complete flop. I LOVED this book up until the last chapters. It completely fell through. These people spend the entire book running running running from the crazed cult people who are trying to kill a little boy because the cult leader, mother grace, thinks he is the anti Christ. They burn down their houses, kill their dog, and all the people around them as well.

Finally once they think they have found a safe place atop a mountain in the freezing cold amongst blizzards,

they still somehow find them and end up shooting their body guard they hired when the police wouldn't help them that has also fallen in love with the boys mother. He doesn't die though, and as they're running through the woods and wilderness in said blizzards the bad guys are some how always close by. They just about die and freeze to death before they make it some caves, the boys mom spends a ridiculous amount of time looking through the caves and even takes notice of the rock formations and Indian art work, all while her son, new dog and boyfriend set outside freezing to death. They finally makes camp inside a perfect enough cave. After a light snooze the crazy people find them yet again and there's a small battle in which the mom is also shot in the leg and can do nothing from almost have her kid killed.

The giant brute at the end seemingly kills their new dog as well by bashing him on the head with his gun and it looks like no matter what they will all die in this cave, but ol Kyle the ugly giant finally finds his heart and decides that he's through with killing. Once mother Grace realizes she will have to act alone she lets off a few pathetic shots from the gun only to be attacked by a cloud of bats and killed. Kyle goes for help and it seems that the little boy Joey can also heal people. The adults take notice that dog jumps up without even being dizzy even though he had blood caked to his ears and once the little boy comes to see if their body guard is ok, he passes out and comes to feeling so much better then he did, even though by now he must have dame near bled to death. They're rescued, but all the events in the cave cast doubt in the mothers and body guards minds... Even after all this time of running for their lives to save a boy they know to not be the anti Christ they suddenly get so much doubt in their heads that they have to go and dig up the old dead dog to see if the look a like new dog isn't the dead one brought back from the dead! Once he digs it up he figures the Irish setter that's in the grave of the dead golden retriever is just a mistake by the pet undertaker guys and lets it go without another thought.

The books ends with the happy couple getting married and moving on, not making any mention of how they got off the hook of killing 8 people or what happened with the rest of the cult.

I'm sorry, but it lost me.

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## Mo says

This is the 22nd Koontz book I've read and while reading it, it dawned on me how often he includes a golden retriever. And too often the story revolves around a single/divorced/unwed mother of a young child and the guy who helps her out of whatever predicament she's in ends up falling for her and she for him and it all ends up happily ever after. My favorite Koontz novels are the ones that avoid that typical outline.

I was intrigued by the 'is this child the Anti-Christ?' mystery yet was disappointed how this story ended without delving further and playing more with that concept. It should have followed along as he gradually got older and encountered various other questionable experiences. The last 100 pages or so (when they're wandering in the blizzard trying to escape the villains) could have been whittled way down.

Even though this story was apparently written back in the '80s (and originally just titled Twilight), it was amusing that the followers of the cult were called Twiligheters.

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## Maggie Cats says

I'm a sucker for Dean Koontz, I admit it. He is one of the most prolific authors out there and whether he is writing a thriller, fantasy, sci-fi, or straight-up horror novel, it won't disappoint.

Servants of Twilight is one of his earlier books and was first written under a pseudonym. It's a straight up thriller and even though I have read it before (though probably 20 years ago), I couldn't put it down and it

kept me busy on the bus ride to and from New York City this past weekend.

The plot is easy to sum up: single Mom Christine and her six year old son Joey become the target of a cult when the cult's leader becomes convinced Joey is the antichrist. The entire novel is essentially a cat and mouse tale, with Christine and Joey constantly on the run.

Sure, it's not perfect. Early Koontz had a tendency to tell rather than show when it comes to characterization, and the plot kind of drags on by the end. You reach a point about 2/3 of the way through when you want to scream, "just have the show-down already!" but there's no doubt it's a gripping and exciting story.

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### **Karl says**

This hardcover is numbered 233 of 450 copies produced and is signed by author Dean Koontz and illustrator Phil Parks on limitation page.

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### **Patrick Gibson says**

There was a time when I thought Dean Koontz wrote circles around Stephen King. He wasn't famous. He had a cult following and he made you feel like you just discovered someone cool. He was the anti-King you could keep to yourself or share with a selected few. Koontz, of course, went the way of all flesh and began cranking them out and repeating himself. Fame? Well, if 'Family Guy' rips on you, fame has become your enemy. I haven't read a Koontz novel since Odd Thomas became a regular character. The early books were dynamic, rip-snorting fast and most of all—interesting. This is one of his best. I am not writing a commentary, I just want this on my bookshelf.

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### **Fred says**

#### **Koontz - February 2017 Group Read**

My second read shows Charlie Harrison PI & Christine Scavello(mom) have a larger romantic attraction to each other discussing their own past childhood hardships than the first read.

Charlie is more of Joey's "Magnum PI" hero.

Mother Grace Spivey has "paranoid schizophrenia" that Joey is the coming of the world's "Twilight, Doomsday and the Antichrist (followers of Jesus)".

The bible will ruled, mankind suffering begin, battle of Armageddom will transpire (save end of the world) & God will destroy Satan forever.????

Joey must be killed - to stop the Antichrist evil that will rule the earth for 1000s of years - it's Devils & Demons.

At the end, while in the cave would Grace Spivey's shots kill Joey or did they scare the bats as expected?

### **Original 2015 Summary**

*Mother Grace Spivey, "The Witch", is a religious fanatic chasing/hunting Joey Scavello (6) believing Joey is "AntiChrist" to be killed. Private Investigator, Charlie Harrison, protects Christine Scavello(mom - 30) and Joey from "The Witch" (and her believers, e.g. Kyle Barlowe a major character). The book is enjoyable with a simple chase and escape plot with Christine and Charlie growing together with love. The ending has a twist of "bats" not expected.*

### **IMDb Movie Review & Character/Actor List**

#### **The Servants of Twilight - Theatrical Trailer (1977)**

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### **Erin \*Proud Book Hoarder\* says**

As a bit of a back story, I grew up watching this movie. I mainly watched VHS tapes as a teenager in my room as I didn't have cable in there, and always loved this movie, which was a made for TV special. So of course I have wanted to read the book for years, thinking the story was awesome, and if the movie was good, the book is usually even better right?

Well, the book was basically just as good as the movie in this case. The first half of the book seriously follows the movie, down to dialogue and step by step action. There was little difference for quite awhile. The second half was the big changer and many things were altered. It works well in both versions, I think.

I always like anti-christ children plots. Of course everyone will instantly think of The Omen. Maybe because there's only so much you can do with this kind of story, but I haven't encountered that many anti-christ children stories. This one was intriguing because the leader of a cult has targeted a small child and claims he is the antichrist, and his mother is frantically trying to save her child and hide him from the crazy lady's followers by hiring a private investigator.

There's tons of tension during many of these chases, and you never know who can be trusted as being a secret member of the cult. On at least one of the occasions, someone the PI trusted and knew for years was a secret member and convert. There's much violence as well, especially with the poor dog, and slowly learning the back story is about as fascinating as the story going on.

Koontz sometimes skips points of views too much for my tastes; here, he has a limited character circle and focuses on the same main people. They are convincing, likeable, and it was easy to latch on to their situation as realistic and life threatening. Kudos for that. To me this is one of his better books.

The biggest flaw was the story started dragging on a little at the end and lost a little steam. Still, it's effective and this chilling book will stay with you for awhile.

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