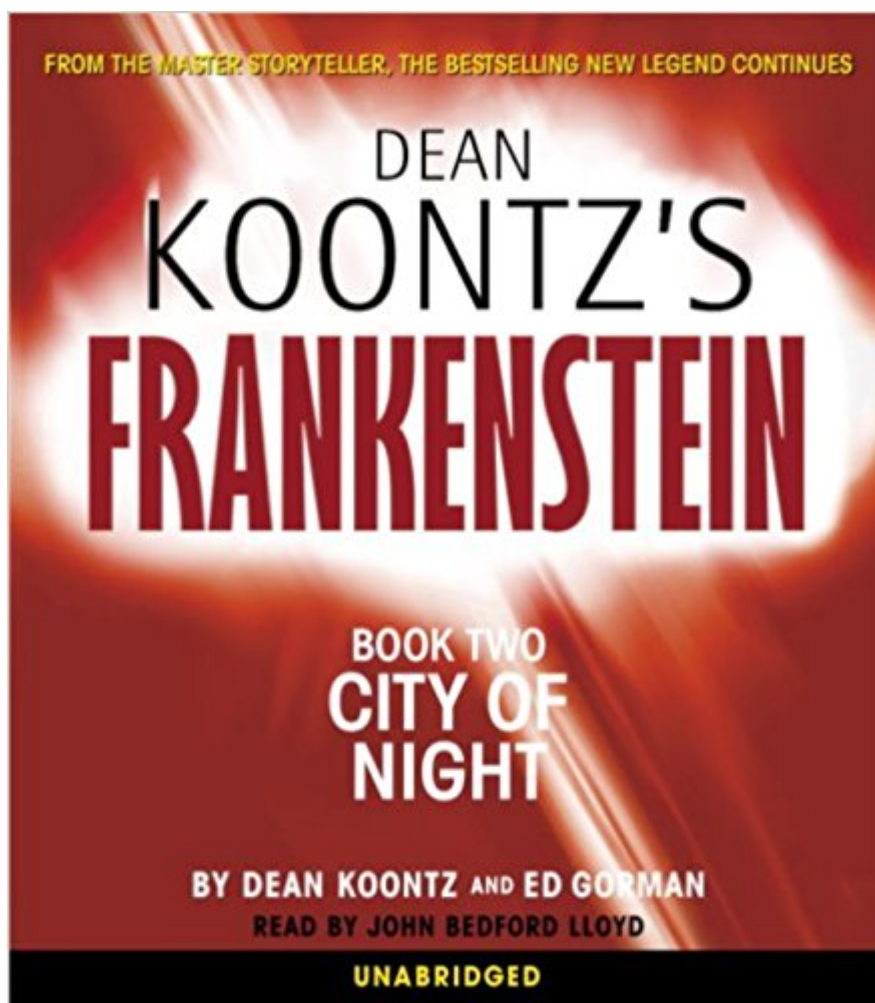




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City Of Night (Dean Koontz's Frankenstein, Book 2)



Synopsis

From the celebrated imagination of Dean Koontz comes a powerful reworking of one of the classic stories of all time. If you think you know the legend, you know only half the truth. Here is the mystery, the myth, the terror, and the magic of *DEAN KOONTZ'S CITY OF NIGHT*. They are stronger, heal better, and think faster than any humans ever created and they must be destroyed. But not even Victor Helios once Frankenstein can stop the engineered killers he's set loose on a reign of terror through modern-day New Orleans. Now the only hope rests in a one-time "monster" and his all-too-human partners, Detectives Carson O'Connor and Michael Maddison. Deucalion's centuries-old history began as Victor's first and failed attempt to build the perfect human and it is fated to end in the ultimate confrontation between a damned creature and his mad creator. But first Deucalion must destroy a monstrosity not even Victor's malignant mind could have imagined an indestructible entity that steps out of humankind's collective nightmare with one purpose: to replace us.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Starred Review Relax. Dean Koontz's *Frankenstein*, volume one of which, *Prodigal Son* (2005), was a pulse-pounder all the way, is going to be a trilogy. But don't expect to relax all that much. This book cooks, no second-volume doldrums anywhere in it. Its short, punchy chapters, 80 in all, seem to reflect the whole saga's TV miniseries origins in their jump-cutting between plot trajectories, but

that seeming also owes much to the visualizability, so to speak, of everything in the book. But enough about technique. The manufactured young man who went AWOL from 200-plus-year-old Victor Helios-ne-Frankenstein's labs in *Prodigal Son* turns out to be not the only improved Frankenstein monster who is behaving strangely. Since he was created autistic for experimental purposes, he may be the least strange of the lot. Some of his "normal" fellows are mutating a la Alien, none more spectacularly than Victor's body guard. Deucalion, the original monster, now greatly humanized, especially ethically and morally, realizes that the mutations portend a much larger wave of breakdowns among the so-called New Race. That bodes very ill for a New Orleans heavily salted with Victor's creations, all of them programmed to kill mere humans at Victor's command, which the mutants no longer obey. Meanwhile, NOPD detectives Carson O'Connor and Michael Maddison prepare to hunt Victor down, even as a couple of hit-person New Racers track them. And then there is Erica Five, Victor's brand-new "wife," learning to be a better spouse by exploring hubby's house. Smart dialogue and cutting-edge scientific notions (Deucalion has learned how to teleport) are the oh-so-sweet icing on this delectable thriller's irresistible, devourable cake.

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“Of all bestselling authors, Koontz may be the most underestimated by the literary establishment. Book after book, year after year, this author climbs to the top of the charts. Why? His readers know: because he is a master storyteller and a daring writer, and because, in his novels, he gives readers bright hope in a dark world.” —Publishers Weekly, starred review

From the Paperback edition.

This book examines the ways that different people communicate love. Broken down into gifts, time, physical touch, words, and unexpected acts, love is communicated and understood differently by different people. The author argues that hurt feelings and emotional distance can be created by not understanding which love language is your child's primary language. This is applicable not only for children, but for understanding relationships with friends, your spouse and your own parents. I learned to recognize when my husband was expressing his love for me in his primary language. Contains guidance on how to determine which is your child's primary love language. Highly recommended.

The first book (*The Prodigal Son*) was Great and this one turned out to be even better. I'm talking

about, edge of your seat excitement. I'm loving the Frankenstein novels so far. I just ordered book 3, 4 and 5 and I can not wait to get in between them pages. This is exactly what a modern day Frankenstein novel should be like. I'm loving it!

OK, this is the book in between the third one, which I read first, and the first one, which I read second. I still say I should have read them in the proper order, but at least now I know the details behind things that were mentioned in passing in the third book, *Dead and Alive*. I found out why Deucalion chose the name he did: it is the name of son of Prometheus. I found out what happened to Arnie, Carson O'Connor's autistic younger brother. I learned a lot more about what was going on in the garbage dump where Victor Helios has his bodies buried, including Old Race people he has replaced and New Race people that didn't turn out quite right. The dump workers call them *Gone Wrongs*. But I also found out about characters and situations that were not mentioned in either book one or book three, such as Benny and Cindi, two New Race assassins sent out to kill Carson and Michael. Cindi is obsessed with having a child, even though she knows it's not physically possible, and believes voodoo can help her. Michael is just a simple guy who loves to dismember his victims while they are still alive. Cute couple. This book has sealed my fate: now I must get book four and book five.

These five books in the series are really good. I had the books on my bookshelf for a long time before I started to read them and then could not put them down.

This book is the second in a series of five. I did not realize that when I bought this book, and was able to easily pick up the story line despite not having read the first book. That said, I do recommend reading the series in order since characters are developed as time progresses, and characters are continued from one book to the next. Dean Koontz is a talented writer. His plot development, character development, story pacing is all excellent. I found myself caring about the characters, even some that were not the designated "good guys." There is a modicum of violence in these stories, but it not gratuitous, and it is not overly done. I would not recommend this book be read by people under 15 years old, at least.

In the second installment, the reader again deals with Victor Helios, the original Dr. Frankenstein. He's now in 21st Century New Orleans. We have two cops onto him & his creation of the New Race. Ordinary humans are killed, sent to a garbage dump, and their beings duplicated as one of Helios's

creations in his attempt to take over the world. Enter his first, less than perfect, creation Deucalion, who has arrived in New Orleans to save the world from this madman. Victor continues creating new replications of humans. He sorts them into various work & professional classes. They have two hearts & other biological anomalies, are difficult to kill, and serve only the master to the fullest. Unfortunately for Victor, at one time or other his replicated beings seem to have software problems & begin to go loopy. Victor believes Deucalion to be long dead, being his first primitive creation. He finds otherwise when confronted by his creation. The books need to be read in order. The first, "Prodigal Son", set the stage nicely & was enjoyable. This one builds on the first & is full of repetition. How many times, can we learn of the smells at the garbage dump? How many times do we need the description of a young boy's Autism? How many times do we need detailed description of Erica 5? How many times do we need to hear of the New Race Cindi wanting a baby? There are new characters, but many are from the 1st book. The biggest disappointment (Kindle Edition) is at 92% of the novel it abruptly stops. Yep, 92%. The reader expects a new chapter only to be dropped of a precipice to await the next installment. Instead the reader gets protracted upcoming novel previews as fill in fluff. The book is a disappointment, especially from Koontz

The series is mostly entertaining though it lacks depth and mystery. In particular, depth into Frankenstein's monster and Frankenstein himself. Those two characters had great potential! An entire book devoted to them is what was needed & how they came into being and why. And I don't mean Mary Shelley's book either. I mean Koontz's book. He put a very creative twist on the original and that is what was needed to be explored more. The books are too short; not enough development. Maybe the publisher insisted on this. If so, then Mr. Koontz should have sought after another. There is one more thing. Starting with book-2, there is far too much recap from the previous books distributed throughout the series. I found that very annoying. However, still and always shall be, a fan of Dean Koontz!

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