

Dark Matter: A Novel

By Blake Crouch



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A mindbending, relentlessly surprising thriller from the author of the bestselling Wayward Pines trilogy

"Are you happy with your life?"

Those are the last words Jason Dessen hears before the masked abductor knocks him unconscious.

Before he awakens to find himself strapped to a gurney, surrounded by strangers in hazmat suits.

Before a man Jason's never met smiles down at him and says, "Welcome back, my friend."

In this world he's woken up to, Jason's life is not the one he knows. His wife is not his wife. His son was never born. And Jason is not an ordinary college physics professor, but a celebrated genius who has achieved something remarkable. Something impossible.

Is it this world or the other that's the dream? And even if the home he remembers is real, how can Jason possibly make it back to the family he loves? The answers lie in a journey more wondrous and horrifying than anything he could've imagined—one that will force him to confront the darkest parts of himself even as he battles a terrifying, seemingly unbeatable foe.

Dark Matter is a brilliantly plotted tale that is at once sweeping and intimate, mind-bendingly strange and profoundly human—a relentlessly surprising science-fiction thriller about choices, paths not taken, and how far we'll go to claim the lives we dream of.

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Dark Matter: A Novel By Blake Crouch Bibliography

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• 352 pages

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

An Amazon Best Book of July 2016: Blake Crouch is back with a science-fiction thriller that is fantastically terrifying. His story of Jason Dessen, an instantly relatable husband and father, quickly sucks you in as you follow him to an innocent evening at a local bar where circumstances abruptly shift and Jason begins a battle to make sense of a series of mind-bending realities that provoke past fears, both realized and unknown. *Dark Matter* will not just hold your attention cover to cover, but will continue to confront you far past the last sentence. --*Penny Mann, The Amazon Book Review*

From Publishers Weekly

Excellent characterization and well-crafted tension do much to redeem the outlandish plot of this SF thriller from Crouch (the Wayward Pines trilogy). Jason Dessen, a quantum physicist, once had a brilliant research career ahead of him. But after a girlfriend's unexpected pregnancy and the birth of a son, this future was derailed. Now Jason is a professor at a small Chicago college, content with his warm and loving family life until he's abducted into a world in which his quantum many-worlds theory has become a fully realized technology for inter-dimensional transfer. In this world, Jason didn't marry his girlfriend and never had a son. Jason is determined to get back to his family and his own world, but nefarious powers in the alternate reality conspire to stop him from revealing the criminal lengths they have gone to create the world-hopping technology. Crouch makes little attempt to justify the underlying science fiction MacGuffin, but a rousing and heartfelt ending will leave readers cheering. Agent: David Hale Smith, Inkwell Management. (July)

Review

"You'll gulp *Dark Matter* down in one afternoon, or more likely one night... Alternate-universe science fiction [and] a countdown thriller in which the hero must accomplish an impossible task to save his family. There's always another door to open, and another page to turn."

--New York Times Book Review

"A mind-blowing sci-fi/suspense/love-story mash-up."

--Entertainment Weekly

"A fast, tasty read with a killer twist. It's a whole bag of barbecue chips...just sitting there waiting for you to devour in one long rush."

-NPR.org

"A hard tale to shake...makes its characters — and readers — wonder what life would have been like had they made different decisions. Relatable and unnerving."

—USA Today

"Propulsive... Dark Matter has plenty of heady concepts and phantasmagorical plotting. But it is also beguilingly rooted in [its hero's] desperate travails, elevating this page-turning adventure into an entirely different dimension."

-- Entertainment Weekly

"A blockbuster read that channels Michael Crichton... I can't remember when I last sat down and blew through a book in literally a single sitting."

—The Verge

"A dazzling book for summer [with] a mind-bending premise, a head-spinning plot that's dialogue-driven and adrenaline-fueled, and a gut-wrenching climax that gave me goose bumps."

--Minneapolis Star-Tribune

"Draws on questions and anxieties we all wrestle with in the dark hours...Crouch has invested [sci-fi motifs] with scientific plausibility, and more unusually, with emotional depth."

--Wall Street Journal

"Crouch takes a sharp sci-fi premise and infuses it with love...A gripping page-turner [that is] concerned above all with the heart, and what we do to it—or let happen to it—over time. *Dark Matter* is *It's A Wonderful Life* for the 21st century"

-AVClub.com

"[A] mind-blowing speculative-science thriller that throws in an old-fashioned love story for good measure."

—Fort Worth Star-Telegram

"Enormously compelling...the fastest, strangest thriller you'll read this year."

-- Mashable.com

"Might be the most helter-skelter, race-to-the-finish-line thriller you'll read all year, with a clever, mind-boggling final twist."

--The Guardian

"A pacy, action-driven SF thriller...terse prose, strong characterisation and clever twists make for a quick, smart, engrossing read."

--Financial Times

"A high-tension thriller...always engaging and frequently moving. A strong piece of summertime get-away reading, perfect for those times when the mind wanders to contemplate an alternate reality of endless vacation."

--San Francisco Chronicle

"Exciting, suspenseful and frightening, yet also poignant and heartwarming, DARK MATTER is one of the best books of any year...or any reality."

-Book Reporter

"A mind-bending odyssey of parallel worlds and causality [that] unfolds with all the suspense and strength of a more straightforward thriller, building up to a deliciously surreal climax...memorable and well-rounded characters add a big, beating heart to the tale."

—New York Journal of Books

"Brilliant. A book to remember. I think Blake Crouch just invented something new."

—Lee Child, New York Times bestselling author of the Jack Reacher series

"Exceptional. An exciting, ingeniously plotted adventure about love, regret, and quantum superposition. It's been a long time since a novel sucked me in and kept me turning pages the way this one did."

—Andy Weir, New York Times bestselling author of The Martian

"A masterful, truly original work of suspense. Crouch delivers laser-focused prose, a plot that melds science

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fiction and thriller to brilliant effect, and a touching, twisted love story that plays out in ways you'll never see coming. It all adds up to one hell of a ride."

- --Harlan Coben, New York Times bestselling author of The Stranger
- "Wow. I gulped down *Dark Matter* in one sitting and put it down awed and amazed by the ride. It's fast, smart, addictive-- and the most creative, head-spinning novel I've read in ages. A truly remarkable thriller."
- -- Tess Gerritsen, New York Times bestselling author of the Rizzoli & Isles series
- "A mind-bending thriller of the first order, not merely a rollicking entertainment but a provocative investigation into the nature of second chances, all of it wrapped in a genius sci-fi package. I dare you to put it down, because I sure couldn't."
- -- Justin Cronin, New York Times bestselling author of the Passage Trilogy.
- "The kind of book the word "thriller" was coined for -- a shooting star through multiple genres, posing fundamental questions about identity and reality before revealing itself as, at its core, a love story. Smart, fast, powerful, and ultimately touching."
- -- Joseph Finder, New York Times bestselling author of Guilty Minds and Suspicion
- "An addictive read! When the quantum mechanics kick in (no kidding!), hold onto your horses -- you're in for an intelligent, breath-taking ride."
- --John Lescroart, New York Times bestselling author of The Fall and The Oath
- "Blake Crouch yet again proves himself to be a master. Nonstop pacing, fascinating characters and an ingenious concept all come together flawlessly in a crescendo of pursuit, danger, and romance all the way to a surprising and satisfying slam-bang conclusion."
- --Barry Eisler, New York Times bestselling author of the John Rain series
- "Excellent characterization and well-crafted tension...the rousing and heartfelt ending will leave readers cheering."
- —Publishers Weekly
- "Suspenseful, frightening, and sometimes poignant."
- —Kirkus
- "Crouch keeps the pace swift and the twists exciting. Readers who liked his Wayward Pines trilogy will probably devour this speculative thriller in one sitting [as will] those who enjoy roller-coaster reads in the vein of Harlan Coben."
- -Booklist

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Eunice Bosse:

The particular book Dark Matter: A Novel will bring one to the new experience of reading some sort of book. The author style to elucidate the idea is very unique. In case you try to find new book to study, this book very acceptable to you. The book Dark Matter: A Novel is much recommended to you you just read. You can also get the e-book from official web site, so you can quickly to read the book.

James Nadler:

Playing with family within a park, coming to see the water world or hanging out with close friends is thing that usually you may have done when you have spare time, after that why you don't try factor that really opposite from that. Just one activity that make you not feeling tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you have been ride on and with addition of knowledge. Even you love Dark Matter: A Novel, you are able to enjoy both. It is good combination right, you still wish to miss it? What kind of hang type is it? Oh can occur its mind hangout folks. What? Still don't have it, oh come on its named reading friends.

Randy Hunter:

The book untitled Dark Matter: A Novel contain a lot of information on this. The writer explains your girlfriend idea with easy technique. The language is very clear to see all the people, so do not necessarily worry, you can easy to read this. The book was authored by famous author. The author will take you in the new age of literary works. It is easy to read this book because you can continue reading your smart phone, or device, so you can read the book within anywhere and anytime. In a situation you wish to purchase the e-book, you can wide open their official web-site and also order it. Have a nice read.

James Edgar:

E-book is one of source of knowledge. We can add our expertise from it. Not only for students but native or citizen need book to know the update information of year in order to year. As we know those books have many advantages. Beside we add our knowledge, could also bring us to around the world. With the book Dark Matter: A Novel we can acquire more advantage. Don't one to be creative people? Being creative person must choose to read a book. Just simply choose the best book that suited with your aim. Don't become doubt to change your life at this book Dark Matter: A Novel. You can more appealing than now.

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