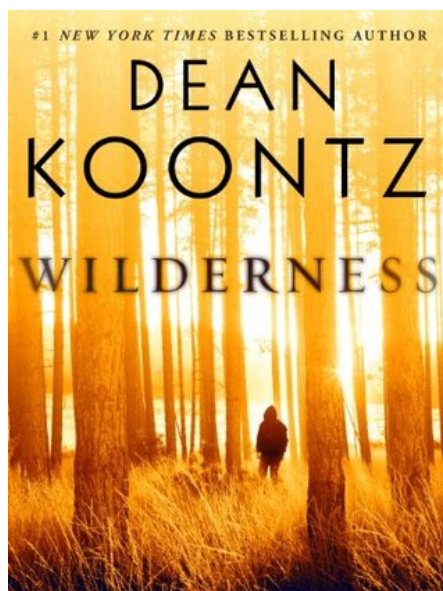




Wilderness

Dean Koontz

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Wilderness

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Wilderness Dean Koontz

With this darkly intriguing original e-short story, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author Dean Koontz sets the stage for his masterly new novel of mystery, suspense, and strange wonder—*Innocence*.

“The world is a machine that produces endless surprises and mysteries layered on mysteries.”

Addison Goodheart is a mystery even to himself. He was born in an isolated home surrounded by a deep forest, never known to his father, kept secret from everyone but his mother, who barely accepts him. She is haunted by private demons and keeps many secrets—none of which she dreads more than the young son who adores her.

Only in the woods, among the wildlife, is Addison truly welcome. Only there can he be at peace. Until the day he first knows terror, the day when his life changes radically and forever . .

Wilderness Details

Date : Published September 29th 2013 by Bantam

ISBN :

Author : Dean Koontz

Format : Kindle Edition 30 pages

Genre : Horror, Fiction, Short Stories, Thriller

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From Reader Review Wilderness for online ebook

Dustin Crazy little brown owl says

There's really not much to this 30 page story. I have enjoyed previous Dean Koontz novellas including Darkness Under the Sun which promoted What the Night Knows, The Moonlit Mind which promoted 77 Shadow Street and the three Odd Interlude Novellas. Wilderness lacks the length or subject matter to meet the novella criteria. Wilderness is clearly a promotional tool to boost the interest/sales of Innocence.

I believe humanity is better than represented here in the form of a hunter. I have not been overly impressed with Dean's 2013 releases but I will maintain hope for the future.

The 2013 releases of Dean Koontz including Deeply Odd, Wilderness and Innocence have strengthened my belief that religion is not necessary for people to be good, full of wonder, and a benefit to others. Please listen to IMAGINE by John Lennon.

Happy New Year 2014 :-)

2017 Thoughts: I enjoy the ideas that Imagination is a Wilderness, the inclusive Tapestry, the wonder & connection of nature and animals which is lightly touched upon in Wilderness. However, everything else I have previously stated still applies.

Magdalena aka A Bookaholic Swede says

A small appetizer to Innocence by Dean Koontz. It got me curious, why does Addison Goodheart spark such rage in other people and will the hunter be in the novel? Smart move by Koontz, make one curious enough so one has to read his novel to find the answers...

Amber says

Addison Goodheart was turned away from his mother at a young age because he was born a freak. When he is in the woods, he is found by a psychotic hunter who will stop at nothing to kill him. Will he survive the wilderness? Read on and find out for yourself.

I enjoyed listening to this audiobook online and the ebook is available wherever books are sold so definitely check this out if you enjoy thriller short stories.

John says

A pointless, lame story that "sets the stage" for Koontz's new novel, INNOCENCE--a book that I will now be giving a wide berth.

Paul Nash says

This is Innocence 1.5 or something like that. It felt like this was a section cut from the book during the editing. Then Dean took that cut section and turned it into a short story.

It did add something to the story and overall wasn't bad.

3 stars

Jj says

Wilderness it's a short story about a boy name Addison. The only person Addison has ever known in his life is his mother. Addison was also born with a birth defect. In this short novel, a hunter spots Addison and begins a mad goose chase.

I enjoy anything Dean Koontz write, but this ebook was too short for my taste. I also heard....HEARD a rumor this is just a taste of what his upcoming book Innocence is post to be about. if that is true, then I am dying to know and learn more about Addison. It was a lot of unanswered questions, to me.

Matt says

WILDERNESS was a good set up story for the Addison character and lets the reader get to know him a little before seeing him in Dean Koontz's next novel Innocence: A Novel. The story had a bit of action as well and I wonder if the hunter will make an appearance in the full length novel.

Overall a good short read. A good start for what hopefully will be a great novel with INNOCENCE later this December.

C.J. Darlington says

Maybe it's just me, but I was not into this short story. My first intro to Koontz, and I feel it wasn't up to par with his novels from all the great stuff I hear about them. This felt more like a promo piece, its purpose only to draw readers into his full length Innocence. There were some interesting turns of phrase, but at times it felt like Koontz was trying too hard to be eloquent. Again, could be me, but if this was all I had to go by to judge whether I want to read more Koontz, I'd have to take a pass. Sorry, Dean.

Orkney Dean says

Dean Koontz does it again with a short story introduction to his upcoming release "Innocence". Here we meet Addison Goodheart, an eight year old boy shunned by his own mother because of the way he looks. Described as an abomination and living in the middle of nowhere his mother is the only other human being he has ever known, until the day he is left to wonder the woods and encounters the psychopathic hunter. We never get a physical description of young Addison, leaving us to ask ourselves, do we really want to know? Is it okay for us to ask ourselves this question in the first place? Is he as abominable as we are made to think

or could it be a singularity some might see as beauty?

Read it if you want some great suspense from a master of storytelling, you won't be disappointed and like me, will want the release of "Innocence" to arrive much sooner.

Russell Smith says

Hmm. Another timely Kindle release from Koontz, in that this mini-book clearly serves as the starter before the main course, 'Innocence', is released in January.

Being a staunch supporter of all things Koontz and also a completist, I will undoubtedly still be buying the book when it comes out. However, this will mostly be out of curiosity to see if it is any better than this painfully mediocre effort.

Somewhere along the way, Koontz lost his mojo and has yet to reclaim it. Too many of his books are now padded out with lengthy, banal paragraphs of description, which makes for tedious reading. It pains me to say this but, unless Innocence turns out to be a thoroughly thrilling page-turner, I too may be forced to give up on my favourite author - and I really don't want to do that.

Sort it out, Dean. Please.

Fred says

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=fcTzUo6...>

Audio on YouTube.com (above link) a quick 1 hour to review

Addison Goodheart(8) shows a "Wilderness" is a track of forests/trees -and- it is a human heart/hostility. His "unhappy" mother put him out of house, to sleep, to eat, etc. he eventually leaves her behind. Surprised wolves are more friendly than humans, when one wolf warned him from a "evil hunter", his first human outside of mom. Addison must escape the hunter. Addison comes back home to learn that wilderness has endless surprises & mysteries.

Justin says

What to say? Well I guess that I should start by telling you that I used to be a huge Dean koontz fan but eventually got a bit burned out on him, particularly on his "all humans are pure evil and all animals are pure innocence" kind of feel that his books give off. This short story was no exception to that, a boy was born deformed and the mear sight of him make any human instantly want to kill him. His mother bans him from the house and he lived with the purely innocent animals. Reading this short story was kind of like hanging out with a hardcore Christian that just wanted to spend the entire time telling you why you are going to hell. I get the whole evil of the human race thing but I just can't buy it that everyone who sees this deformed child would instantly be filled with a murderous rage. The story was entertaining but very short and really not so much of a story as it was just a character introduction. It makes mention of what will happen in the novel even though it effects this story in no way and at the end I kind of felt like I had been tricked into buying a promotional tool for the novel because really that's all this is. I guess what I am really saying is that it don't read like a short story, it reads like the first chapter of a novel which is what most authors would give away

just to try and hook you on the story so you would buy the novel.

Caroline says

Dean Koontz.

WTF. After giving you my adolescent years, and faithfully reading all your books at my public library. Arguing how much King sucked and paled in comparison. I got did :-/

I realize the story was short. But just to cut off as abruptly as it did after the adrenaline rush of a chase. I would have thrown my Kindle if i knew it wouldn't break. Dag on it. At least describe what he looked like... almost felt that maybe he was something wonderful instead of horrible and that's what frightened people off...

Paula Cappa says

"Each life is a spool of thread that unravels through the years, and it is by a thread that we are so perilously suspended." So says Addison, a wretched young boy who is too hideous to look upon, even his mother has to send him away. Heart-breaking from page one! These words of life "unraveling like a thread perilously suspended" certainly do sum up the high suspension of this story. I couldn't stop reading it. Wilderness is haunting and intimate with imagery you won't forget. I like the themes of human nature vs. Mother nature. And the wolves here are so mysterious, so beautiful, I'm curious to read more. A thrilling read from a master writer.

Kimberlee says

I feel like everyone does this, but I'm going to start by saying I'm a long-time Koontz fan, probably to qualify my review in some way.

While I suppose this is an adequate teaser to a book I haven't read yet (and therefore can't give a better opinion on), there were a few issues I had with the content. And I realize I'm being a little nitpicky, but by now I feel we should be beyond this point:

- Goodheart? Really? Isn't that a little on the nose?
- Why? What is motivating this hunter?
- The overt foreshadowing is starting to bug me.

I actually like that they didn't describe what Addison looked like. The imagination is an amazing tool and sometimes words just get in the way. I'm interested in seeing what Innocence has to offer, but I'm not sure

what to expect.
