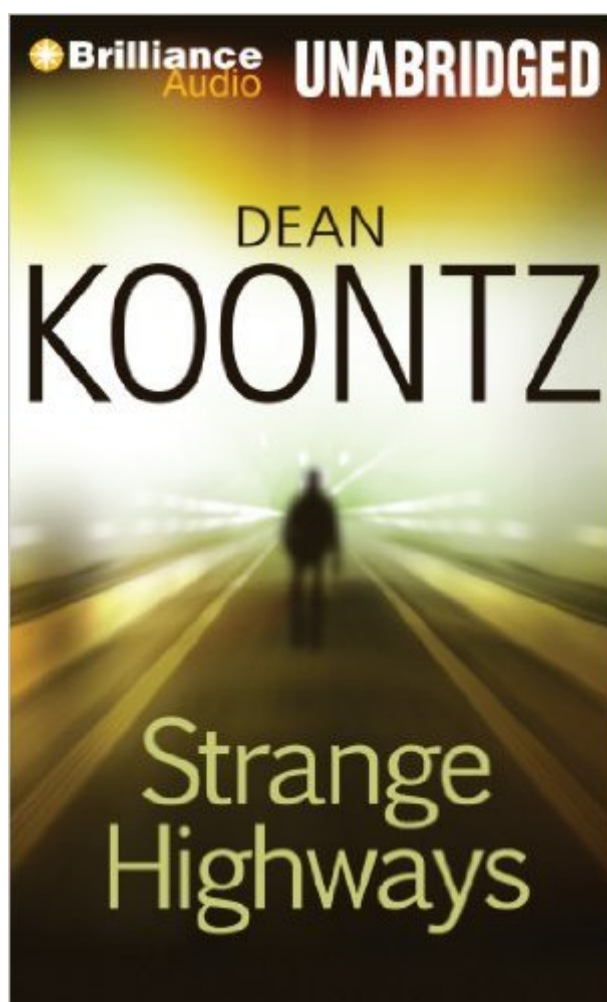


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# Strange Highways



## Synopsis

Joey Shannon, an alcoholic whose life has been going nowhere for 20 years, returns to his hometown for the funeral of his father. As he leaves town, he gets a mysterious second chance to relive the night in 1975 when his life began its downward spiral: to both literally and figuratively take the road that he didn't originally take. On this road he is supremely tested by conflict with his successful and charismatic older brother P.J., by conflict between his cynicism and his lost faith, and by conflict between the ultimate good and evil.

## Book Information

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Shipping Weight: 3.2 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (109 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #814,735 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #22 in [Books > Books on CD >](#)

[Authors, A-Z > \( K \) > Koontz, Dean](#) #149 in [Books > Books on CD > Horror](#) #1902 in [Books > Books on CD > Literature & Fiction > Unabridged](#)

## Customer Reviews

**Strange highways** This is a twisted story about a man that must confront his past and gets a second chance by choosing the highway road he didn't take 20 years earlier. It will take him back to when he was 20 years old and will enter new people to help him along the way. He is able to rewind for a few minutes until he gets it right. It was a very short story. A bit too descriptive for me, I felt like the story dragged. **The Black Pumpkin** I could see this in Tales of the Crypt. You get what you give. Very good story about being good and being evil. The choice is ultimately up to you! **Miss Attila the Hun** A great story that Love does conquer all. I loved the storyline that this teacher was able to protect her children she taught and the town she loved to live in. **Down in the Darkness** What would you do if you came in contact with a door that just appeared everytime someone was being mean to you? Would you use that door to the cellar to your advantage? Would you let the "things" take what you could not stand anymore? When would it end? Loved this one! I wish I had a cellar door like this! **Snatcher** When evil encounters something even eviler than oneself. What happens? Will it

survive? This is about a young man who loves to steal and to will steal at any cost. Enter a fragile old woman and her purse. What lays beneath her purse is bound to cure the thief! Trapped Total Sci-Fi and a bit cartoonish. What happens when the BioLab up the road finds out its inhabitants escaped. Will mankind survive or will they triumph? Bruno What a strange character Bruno is. He has hands with power to heal and powers that enable him to mend with one's mind.

Saw a lot of reviews and was frankly shocked to see that the title story; Strange Highways actually brought the rating down! Are you kidding me?? All of the stories in this book are great... but that one sticks out more than the rest. Strange Highways is a story that I hold very close to my heart. At only 154 pages long and an easy read, it's amazing how much this few-hour-read draws you in and keeps you in. Renown thriller writing Dean Koontz really hit it out of the park with this one. Synopsis (pulled from Wiki): A failed author returns to his hometown after many years to attend his father's funeral, only to find himself suddenly and inexplicably thrust back through time to relive a traumatic event from his past, and possibly to find redemption. In the introduction, Koontz lists the Centralia, Pennsylvania mine fire as an inspiration for this story. I first read this story back in 1999. My High School's summer reading list allowed us to choose 5 novels and my father just happened to own this one. Being someone who loved thriller movies, I decided to give this a whirl, heck it couldn't be any worse than "When Legends Die" off of the previous years reading list | right? Famous last words aside, at first, this book seemed reminiscent of the average Stephen King novel. A failed, alcoholic writer who was down on his luck. The first few chapters are depressing and dreary, but the erratic behavior of the lead character keeps you hooked just enough to want to find out what pushes him to behave the way he does. The payoff is well worth the wait. As the rain begins to fall after the main character, Joey's final farewell to his father, the action picks up. The man is given the opportunity to re-live a pivotal moment in his life.

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