



The Devil Went Down to Austin

Rick Riordan

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From the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of the *Percy Jackson and the Olympians* series

Rick Riordan, triple-crown winner of the Edgar, Anthony, and Shamus Awards, brings his fast-talking, hard-living, Texas-hip P.I. Tres Navarre to the heart of the Lone Star State—Austin—to unravel a case so dark, twisted, and deadly, it can only involve family....

Tres Navarre, the P.I. with a Ph.D. in literature, heads to Austin for a laid-back summer teaching gig. But he's in store for a whole lot more. His big brother Garrett--computer whiz, Jimmy Buffett fanatic, and all-around eccentric—is hoping to retire a multimillionaire by the fall. He's bet his career and the Navarre family ranch to do it.

Then Garrett's oldest friend and business partner is murdered—and Garrett is the only suspect. As Tres delves into Garrett's bizarre world to find the truth behind the murder, he comes face to face with the damaged relationships, violent lives, and billion-dollar schemes of a high-tech world gone haywire. Connecting them all is beautiful Lake Travis and the shocking secret that lies within its depths. Now, as Tres struggles with his own troubled family past and to clear his brother's name, he finds himself stalked by a cold-blooded killer—one who could spell the death of both Navarres.

The Devil Went Down to Austin Details

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From Reader Review The Devil Went Down to Austin for online ebook

Kathryne Baldwin says

After reading 42% of this book, I just simply put it down. I'm a huge fan of Rick Riordan and even have family living in Austin, so, based on the colorful language of the narrative and the setting alone, I thought this book was a shoo-in as one of my new favorites. Unfortunately, that just was not the case. I can't relate to the characters and, honestly, I'm not even entirely sure what is going on. There's no mystery when there's no plot development. Bummer.

Vishal Mehta says

I found the plot fascinating. However, Rick's detailed descriptions and long winded dialogues slowed down the action for me. I realise that a lot of readers actually enjoy this sort of evocative writing and verbal banter ... sorry doesn't really work that well for me! Couldn't bring myself to give out that teeny weeny fifth star!

Lindsey says

I couldn't put this book down. This is my favorite Tres Navarre book so far. I really liked how the character Maia made a show again. I also liked how the book went into Tres' brother, Garrett's past. Tres is definitely growing as a character.

Emesskay says

To be honest, I did not finish this book, I could not finish this book. I read for pleasure, for escapism. I also like to read just before I go to bed. This book is just grim. The chapters of the mystery are interspersed with emails from the sociopath murderer detailing his abusive childhood, and everybody has some kind of deep personal trauma they are still dealing with, and people are getting murdered. I could feel myself stressing out when I was reading this, which means it is not meeting the goals of being an escapist, relaxing activity. And I couldn't read it at bedtime, because it would likely give me nightmares. So I put it in the giveaway pile. I am sure it is well written and all that, it was just too much for me, I like my mysteries with humor and a little less anxiety.

Elar says

This time author tried to give clues a little bit differently and it actually worked. There were some inconsistencies about technology. For example about not being able to make screenshots - you can take picture of computer screen with regular camera :D.

Annette says

Actually, I just finished it moments ago. I am such a fan of his Percy Jackson books I couldn't resist his mysteries. Much to like about this one and liked his first Texas mystery even more.

Meg says

I just love this series. Great characters, snappy dialogue and cool crime.

Lee says

Another sarcastic filled romp down in Texas, with a good mystery thrown in. This one taking place in Austin, instead of his home turf of San Antonio. For me, it made a difference in the story as Riordan really gives the reader a grand tour of San Antonio, with his detail of the place. That being said, Tres Navarre is a great character, which ever town he ends up in, solving a case.

Peggy says

I listened to this audiobook. This is the 4th installment of the Tres Navarre series. Riordan is most famous for his young adult fantasy fiction, but this is an adult mystery series. Jackson Navarre III (aka Tres) is a unique character. He is a tai chi master with a PhD in medieval studies. The son of sheriff out of San Antonio, Texas, Tres is all Texan. He is a private investigator between academic gigs. He gets in his fair share of trouble. Having lived in San Antonio I appreciate the rich descriptions of the area with nods to the unique culture. In this book Tres is in Austin for the summer to teach a medieval literature class at UT. His brother Garrett, who lost his legs in a train accident, lives in Austin and is a computer whiz. When Garrett is accused of killing his best friend and business partner, Tres can't help but get involved. The internet security program created by Garrett and the dead friend is at the center of the controversy. A hostile take over by a ruthless business man, Tres' former girlfriend and attorney, the dead man's ex-wife, and Garrett, provide Tres with plenty to juggle and figure out. It is a good book, but drags a little in the middle. A couple of twists at the end are satisfying.

Meredith Schmitt says

I love his young adult books (Percy Jackson series, Kane Chronicles, Heroes of Olympus), so I thought his adult fiction would be worth checking out. Somehow, his writing just doesn't translate. Never felt that interested in the characters or the story.

Joe Robles says

Now I know what the hype is about. Sure most people probably know Rick Riordan from *Percy Jackson*, but he started as a mystery writer, and a damned good one. Winner of the Edgar, Anthony, and Shamus awards, and from this book I can see why. As an Austinite it was fun to take a trip down memory lane and see how much Austin has changed. I was taking summer courses during the time the novel takes place. I am a background character in this novel. A great read with expertly done twists. Look forward to reading the whole series.

Maggie says

Medium good mystery...thought it would be better since it took place in Austin

Rachael says

Compared to the book prior to this one, *The Devil Went Down to Austin* feels like a disappointment and a step back. Some great ensemble work was thrown out the window and Maia Lee returned for the sole purpose it seemed of being Tres's girlfriend. However, I did like that Riordan started playing around with a different style of storytelling. After every couple of chapters there would be an email written by the killer that really ramped up the suspense and added a sense of urgency and a creep factor to what was going on. Although I did solve the first half of the mystery with ease there were a couple of surprises that I couldn't figure out. For a more complete review check out my blog, Rachael Reads!

Hannah says

Now that I live in Austin, the fact that this book takes place in Austin interested me in it. Unfortunately, it wasn't a very good story.

Heather says

If you can believe it, Tres is finally starting to iron out the wrinkles in his life. Naturally, as soon as that happens, his brother's life goes to hell. This is a very interesting story that touches a lot of psychological bases. Serial killer, phobias, manipulation, resentment, skeletons in the closet. This book really has it all. I was hooked as soon as I started reading. This is definitely the darkest Tres Navarre book so far. So many things change your perspective in this book, that it's hard to keep track of whose side you're on! Great read!
