



Locked Doors

Blake Crouch

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In hiding for seven years after being framed for a series of horrific murders committed by his psychotic brother, Andrew Thomas must risk discovery when his former girlfriend, Karen Prescott, becomes part of a nightmarish new series of crimes.

Locked Doors Details

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Author : Blake Crouch

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From Reader Review Locked Doors for online ebook

Jackie says

Crouch did it again! Another electrifying tale.

This one started out slightly slower but picked up quickly. When I got to a certain point, I couldn't put it down til I finished. Yes, another all nighter. I love when a book is that suspenseful and thrilling.

Horrors and thrillers are a genre that I think do best in stand alone stories. Crouch has me taking a different view on the subject now. Locked Doors was every bit as raw, shocking and terrifying as Desert Places. And I'm hoping for a #3.

Crouch has joined the ranks of my favorite authors. The man knows how to tell a story.

Richelle says

another amazing book by Blake Crouch! never disappoints! full of action and adventure.. constantly on the edge of your seat and never ever a happily ever after! ended on a huge cliffhanger and of course i just bought and downloaded the 3rd and final book in the Luther Kite trilogy!

a lot of the unanswered questions from

book 1 are answered in book 2! and I'm

hoping for the rest of the million questions I was left with after this one will be answered in book 3!

the way this book was concluded really surprised me actually! not only was it a huge cliffhanger but it actually had some "awe" factor to it.. a little bit of sweetness in a very dark world. I was surprised but loved it! wondering how the survivors of book 2 will play into book 3!

jumping back into this amazing world right now !

can't wait!

where has this author been all my life!

Michelle says

Crouch REALLYY needs to work on writing women. Need proof?

Exhibit A: The 26 year old main female character, despite being a cop who has already been promoted in her short career, is constantly referred to as "adorable" with "tiny feet." (No idea why we repeatedly need to be reminded that her feet are tiny. We just do.)

Exhibit B: She behaves more like a kindergarten teacher than a cop. She sucks at her actual job, constantly gets saved by men, spends much of the book being protected and coddled by others, does nothing remotely cop-like other than one brief interlude near the end.

Exhibit C: She then (of course) ends up involved with the 40- something male lead character. Because that's what all beautiful 20-something females long for: middle aged men who like their tiny feet.

If I had a nickel for every book by a middle aged male author about a middle aged male writer who magically ends up in a relationship with a gorgeous 20-something female, I'd be one rich bitch.

Pat says

Blake Crouch is like a guilty little secret that I dip my toe into occasionally. This book is the second featuring Andy Thomas and Luther Kite and picks up seven years after the events of the first book. The start was a bit pedestrian but we had to catch up with what Andy had been doing for the last seven years. It then quickly built up a head of steam.

At the end of *Desert Places* Luther was still alive. Andy had not bothered to finish him off, left him for dead but a good samaritan paid with his life when he rescued Luther. This book sees Andy drawn from his sanctuary in the Yukon by the headline grabbing actions of Luther as he went on a killing spree in Andy's old home town and kidnapped Beth, a former neighbour of Andy's. So he heads off to rescue Beth and finally put a stop to Luther.

Others get caught up in this drama along the way. Violet, a young detective from Davidson County travels to Luther's home town to interview his parents after a fingerprint at the house where one family has been massacred is identified as belonging to Luther Kite, not Andy Thomas as everyone expected. There is also a young student who wants to make his name by writing about Andy and who follows him into hell. There is lots of violence and some pretty dark stuff going on and it doesn't end well for everyone. I don't think I can read book 3 just yet because, by all accounts, its pretty gruesome. Ah well, maybe one day when I'm really bored from some lame psychological thriller that isn't...

Jack Haringa says

Well, the good news is that Blake Crouch's second novel, *Locked Doors* is a fast read. And it doesn't rely on one of the most aggravating, cliched, lazy devices of the thriller genre which marred his first novel, *Desert Places*, the repressed memory.

But the fact is that this book, a sequel to first, still has plenty of cliches, predictability, and "idiot plot" moments. And on top of all that, the book reads like a barely fleshed-out screenplay in a whole lot of places. Crouch isn't a terrible writer; in fact, he lets slip the fact that he has the ability to write a poetically phrased sentence. Unfortunately, this makes the majority of the novel stand out as either rushed or intentionally pared down. The characters are mere sketches, scarcely rising above central casting types, and the lack of depth makes it difficult to care about any of the killer's victims or even for the ostensible protagonist. The switches from first- to third-person seem like another mark of narrative laziness, giving away the survival of one character (and undermining the suspense as a result) and also fragmenting the narrative in ways that diffuses the tension.

Having heard David Morrell praise Crouch's work at a conference several years ago, I picked up both *Desert Places* and *Locked Doors*. It took me four years to muster the interest to read the second book after being

profoundly disappointed in the first. This reading of the sequel makes me wonder what Morrell, or anyone else for that matter, sees in Crouch's concoctions. There are many better thriller writers out there who don't take narrative shortcuts. The occasional scene that seems more sadistic than necessary is only the rancid icing on this rather stale cake. This isn't the worst thriller I've read, but it certainly has little to recommend it. Spend your money on something better.

Georgiann Hennelly says

Andrew Thomas is a suspense novelist. Seven years ago his life was shattered when he was framed for a series of murders. The killer buried his victims on Andrews lake front property, now wanted by the FBI. Andrew fled and created a new identity. He lives in a cabin tucked away in the remote wilderness of Haines Junction, Yukon. His only link to society is through e-mail which is how he learns that all the people he ever loved are being stalked and murdered. Culminating in the outer banks of North Carolina, Andrew Thomas, Luther Kite a psychotic killer and a young female detective collide. Locked doors is a great suspense story that will give you chills, and just might scare you to death.

Lee says

The second visit with Andrew Thomas, doesn't feel like if you missed a gear from third to fourth...this damn thing is leaving rubber from the starting line. This is one scary thriller, with that psycho without a conscious named Luther Kite, seeking revenge. There are some gut-wrenching moments and with a couple of glances to see if my doors were locked....this was a hell of a ride.

Dystopian says

Spoilers in second paragraph.

This author needs an editor who will make him kill his darlings. The darling in question is his strange habit of combining adjectives into one word. For example, it's not a "dark navy sea" it's a "navydark sea." He did it over a hundred times, and it drove me crazy every time. Hard to enjoy a book when there is something like that happening every few pages that makes you feel like you hit a lump of tinfoil in your nice roast beef sandwich every time it happens.

SPOILER.

I am fine with suspension of disbelief, as long as the author obeys the laws of his universe consistently. In this book, Crouch doesn't. In book one of this series, he says that Luther Kite was captured by Orson and turned into a serial killer. In this second book, however, Crouch reveals that Kite's parents are also serial killers of long standing. I don't think Orson would have had to do much turning in that case. I found it ridiculous to have the parents be serial killers. It was eye-rollingly hokey to me.

Also, it was unrealistic to have the Kites hold three people hostage for four or five days in order to build an

electric chair to use on one of them. I know serial killers often get off on torture, but when, as a reader, you are thinking "For Pete's sake just SHOOT THEM ALREADY" it's too much.

Kasia says

The 2nd installment of the Andrew Thomas series was a serious kick in the pants. The moment you think that everything is okay you get double the punishment in the best way possible. This was such a great read, truly a heck of a ride! I've been a Crouch fan for a while now, read a bunch of his works, his single books and his series with J A Konrath and the stuff he wrote with his brother, it's hard to stay away from this literary titan, the man is genius and delivers beyond what you'd expect and then some...

Locked Doors follows the trail of Andrew Thomas from the first book, Desert Places, which should be read in order simply because it's so damn good in the sea of stuff that's out there... blamed for the crimes of his sadistic brother Orson, Andrew has to go into hiding but someone is back to taunt his existence. After seven quiet, peaceful years an enemy that is not only relentless but one who truly enjoys what he does with people that matter is back and Luther won't back off until Andrew resurfaces. I had to put this book down many, many times as I read it, it was so good that it was scary, and the writing, the characterization and depth was all so seamlessly merged that it truly made the story, it shone with quality and stealth of what was going on and it not only scared me but it excited me for more, each character was exceptionally fleshed out and well throughout.. Luther, Andrew, the Kites, Violet, Elizabeth, Beth, many many faces and people, places and feelings will put the reader through the meat grinder in this one, and trust me, no one is safe. Do not be fooled here; don't make any favorites... even if it's the bad guys.

- Kasia S.

Terry Tyler says

Desert Places was jolly good, but this is even better. Obviously I can't say anything about the plot because of the fact that it's a sequel, and it would give away what happens in Book One, so I'll give the reasons why I liked it:

There's no exposition-type recapping of the previous book, and the situation of the main character, writer Andrew Thomas, seven years on from the end of the last book, is all that you would hope for him. He's in Yukon, and I loved the description of the lonely cabin where he lives (okay, okay, I wanted to live there too....). When the psychopathic Luther Kite beckons, though, he can't help responding....

The pace is terrific. It alternates between characters, and from first to third person, and each change is just right, building the suspense perfectly - I'd swear that on occasion I got that adrenalin flutter of excitement as I moved from one section to another!

The new characters brought in are terrific - there's young Christian detective, Violet, plus Andrew's 'biggest fan', Horace Boone... and the parents of the evil killer.

It's realistic - although all books of this type (serial killer thrillers in which your average guy takes on

ultimate evil) can get a little far-fetched, all of this is well within the bounds of feasibility. It's not predictable, either. Just when you think it's going to be okay, it gets bad again. And Crouch shows no fear about killing off people you badly, badly want to stay alive.....

A fab example of its type. Really looking forward to the next one, Break You. The reviews for that aren't so good... we'll see. Incidentally, like all Blake Crouch books, this one finishes by about 80%, followed by excerpts from other books and bits and bobs generally telling you how awesome Blake Crouch is. I don't mind this, if the book's been really good, but some people feel ripped off by anything that doesn't end at 99%, so I thought I'd better mention it.

Lisa Konet says

Pretty good read and not boring! Just not as edge of your seat, oh my god as Wayward Pines series. Just ok

Josh says

LOCKED DOORS is the sequel to DESERT PLACES and features as a pivotal early piece in the 'serial universe' alongside other titles by Crouch and Konrath. Central character, Andrew Z. Thomas returns, the accused novelist now living in hiding is thrust into the dangerous world of serial killers once more when he learns of the re-emergence of Lucifer, a deranged and emotionally detracted killer.

LOCKED DOORS doesn't have the same polished feel as DESERT PLACES with the second instalment in the Andrew Z. Thomas trilogy reading much like a typical serial killer tale. Yet, it's the overly brutal manner by which it's delivered that separates it from the pack. No character is safe as Lucifer does whatever it takes to enact revenge on Andrew for leaving him to bleed out at the end of DESERT PLACES.

At its core, LOCKED DOORS is driven by revenge. Lucifer, let to live regains his strength and targets those who were previously close to Andrew – once the bait is set and subsequently latched upon – the real gore begins.

Despite the graphical content, I felt it was warranted. Unlike other serial killer novels where the blood leads to distraction, the brutality and cruel ways of the killings served to enhance Lucifers lore and establish a truly menacing character.

I also liked the inception of a more investigative angle this time round. Violet, a young detective is on the hunt for Andrew – accused for murders his deranged brother committed, ends up forming a rather unique and interesting relationship with Andrew and Lucifer for that matter. I really liked the way Crouch wrote Violet – her story adds further humility to the series.

LOCKED DOORS is a pretty decent serial killer novel with plenty of gore with cause and thrills typical of the genre. Andrew Z. Thomas continues to grown on me as a 'man wronged' with his resolve tested to the

fullest in this instalment. I'm interested to see what transpires in BREAK YOU, the conclusion to the Andrew Z. Thompson trilogy.

On a side note – Crouch includes a very handy read list of the Serial Universe up to LOCKED DOORS at the end of the novel in the kindle edition.

Robjr73 says

Crouch is quickly becoming one of my favorite authors. I've only read two of his books so seems weird to say that already but wow....if you've never read his stuff check out Desert Places and this one. Locked Doors is the sequel to DP and a pretty darn good one. I think I liked Desert a tad more because this one takes a little bit longer to get going but once it does...brace yourself. It's dark, violent, creepy and somewhat far fetched at times but I can't wait to read more by this talented author.

Kate says

I actually hadn't read Desert Places when I read this one (oops!) but it made total sense so you can read it as a standalone. Wow! Luther Kite is like Michael Meyers from Halloween. No matter what you do to him that guy keeps coming back. When you think about the terror of trying to run from your old life, then trying to save other people without outing yourself, trying not to cause pain to everyone around you-it's a miracle Andrew keeps his sanity at all.

Kasia says

The 2nd installment of the Andrew Thomas series was a serious kick in the pants. The moment you think that everything is okay you get double the punishment in the best way possible. This was such a great read, truly a heck of a ride! I've been a Crouch fan for a while now, read a bunch of his works, his single books and his series with J A Konrath and the stuff he wrote with his brother, it's hard to stay away from this literary titan, the man is genius and delivers beyond what you'd expect and then some...

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