

**Dexter in the Dark**

Jeff Lindsay. Doubleday, \$23.95 (368p) ISBN 978-0-385-51833-8

In Lindsay's third novel to feature endearing Miami cop and serial killer Dexter Morgan (after 2005's *Darkly Devoted Dexter*), the Dark Passenger, the voice inside Dexter's head that from time to time drives him to the "Theme Park of the Unthinkable," inexplicably disappears while Morgan is investigating a gruesome double murder on the University of Miami campus. The crime scene, at which two co-eds were ritualistically burned and beheaded, gives even the human vivisection-loving vigilante the creeps. As the burned and beheaded body count continues to mount, Morgan realizes that the force behind the killings is something even more evil than his Dark Passenger. Though the macabre wit that powered the first two installments of this delightfully dark series (also a hit on TV's Showtime) is still evident, this third entry takes a decidedly deep introspective turn as Dexter is forced to contemplate not only life without his enigmatic companion but also who—or what—he truly is. (*Sept.*)

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