

A Review of

Your Heart Belongs to Me

Author: Dean Koontz



Reviewed by Jim Gleason, heart recipient

While not to be confused with a real life story, this latest novel by popular author, Dean Koontz provides some interesting reading that while having some basis in contemporary world news and medical facts should not be taken as based in facts. Yes there is mention of the heart transplant waiting and listing process, the frustration when you have unlimited funds takes the main character into the realms of organ brokers and international tourist transplant trade (although that is not obvious in the main story reading, coming out only after the fact in the book's concluding storyline).

This is a fast fun action based mystery reading which gives short riff to the facts of transplant. The storyline finally connects to the Chinese murders of Falun Gong prisoners to supply wealthy tourists' organs for transplant, in this case, a heart. The adventure deepens as someone is trying to scare and then kill the recipient of that fated heart.

A love relationship that threads the tale ends in a strange but positive way (sorry, I've given too many spoilers already, so don't want to give it all away with too much detail here). There are many mysterious happenings that really don't get resolved in the telling, so the reader is left without closure in that sense for most of them.

In summary, if you are a fan of author, Dean Koontz, or just enjoy murder mysteries and will not be offended by the lack of factual detail in the transplant story, don't necessarily buy the book, but borrow it from your local library and enjoy the read. As a heart recipient myself, I can't resist such stories (if for no other reason than people will ask me if I have read the book and I write these reviews of anything transplant related) and did enjoy this one, the first of Dean's books I have read.

Note: **Your Heart Belongs to Me** is available in hard cover from Amazon.com.

Brief bio:

Jim Gleason, receiving his own heart transplant Oct. '94, retired after 37 years with Unisys Corporation in 2005, is a volunteer with The Gift of Life Donor Program, NKF and UNOS as well as a nationally recognized speaker and author. His own book, **A Gift from the Heart**, is offered free in thanks to his donor family and can be obtained by contacting him at GLEASONJIM@AOL.COM.