



A Dirty Job: A Novel

By Christopher Moore

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Charlie Asher is a pretty normal guy with a normal life, married to a bright and pretty woman who actually loves him for his normalcy. They're even about to have their first child. Yes, Charlie's doing okay—until people start dropping dead around him, and everywhere he goes a dark presence whispers to him from under the streets. Charlie Asher, it seems, has been recruited for a new position: as Death.

It's a dirty job. But, hey! Somebody's gotta do it.

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A Dirty Job: A Novel By Christopher Moore Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #36030 in eBooks
- Published on: 2009-10-13
- Released on: 2009-10-13
- Format: Kindle eBook

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Moore spends a significant portion of his new novel speculating on the nature of the careful, cautious beta male, so it's appropriate that Stevens, reading the novel, sounds like one himself, gently picking his way through the blackly comic tangles of the book's dense plot. Charlie Asher's life is thrown into chaos when his beloved wife unexpectedly dies, and while trying to recover a sense of balance, he finds himself suddenly surrounded by the dead and dying. Stevens's voice is professional and assured, letting the jokes take care of themselves rather than pounding them into submission. Most importantly, Stevens's average-guy voice stands in for Charlie's own increasingly puzzled demeanor, besieged by a world which makes less and less sense, in which the realm of the dead grows ever larger.

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From [Bookmarks Magazine](#)

It's certainly original. Even the harshest critic can't begrudge Christopher Moore his vivid imagination, satirical plots, and humor. Like a good sleight-of-hand artist, Moore builds up a huge reserve of goodwill to pull off his most demanding trick yet: laughing at death. The already-strained boundaries of his previous work (*Lamb*, an alternate history of Jesus's life; *Bloodsucking Fiends*, a vampire love story; and *The Stupidest Angel*, concerning the resurrection of Santa Claus) stretch even further to produce this tale that critics praise for its "improbable humor" (*New York Times*) and courage in "embracing what we fear" (*Washington Post*).

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From [Booklist](#)

Moore has been winningly adulterating horror with comedy for more than a decade, and his last novel, *The Stupidest Angel* (2004), drew more delighted attention than ever. Big things are anticipated for this book, which trades in Moore's usual small-town setting for glamorous San Francisco, where ridiculously apprehensive brand-new father Charlie Asher runs a secondhand shop. Charlie obsesses that little Sophie won't draw her next breath. Instead, his wife Rachel doesn't, and Charlie blames the seven-foot guy in the mint-green suit whom he intercepts in Rachel's room. Would it were that simple. Charlie eventually learns he has joined a tiny band, to which the tall intruder already belongs, whose members must collect soul vessels--objects in which the souls of the just-deceased are lodged--and keep them until their proper, necessarily soulless, next human receptacles come along. Unfortunately, four hideous demons or deities of death want the soul vessels, too, for sustenance as they prepare to conquer the world. The book unfolds as a struggle between Charlie, who thinks he's supposed to be the new big cheese of death, and the demons. The comedy's in the fine points: of character (the men are all beta males, congenitally shy of confrontation; the women, even little Sophie, brainy eccentrics), of dialogue (lotsa rude sex and fashion jokes), of physical detail (e.g., Charlie favors, of all things, an epicene sword-cane as a weapon). If not quite as funny as some of its predecessors, this showcases Moore's most distinctive gift: maintaining a breakneck pace while seemingly just numbly fumbling along. *Ray Olson*

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Rodney Sierra:

Book is to be different for every single grade. Book for children till adult are different content. To be sure that book is very important usually. The book A Dirty Job: A Novel had been making you to know about other understanding and of course you can take more information. It is very advantages for you. The e-book A Dirty Job: A Novel is not only giving you much more new information but also being your friend when you really feel bored. You can spend your own spend time to read your publication. Try to make relationship with the book A Dirty Job: A Novel. You never experience lose out for everything when you read some books.

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