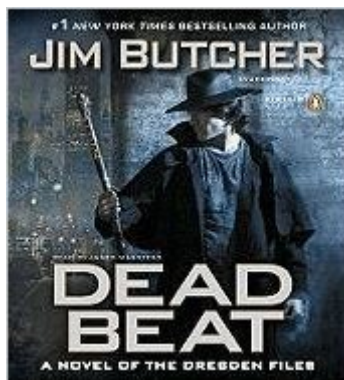


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## Dead Beat (Dresden Files)



## Synopsis

Unabridged CDs, 10 CDs, 13 hours Read by James Marsters "The wildest, strangest, best Dresden adventure to date...Butcher's blending of modern fantasy with classic noir sensibilities ensures that there's never a dull moment." -SF Site

## Book Information

Series: Dresden Files (Book 7)

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## Customer Reviews

Harry Dresden's first hardcover adventure finds Chicago's preeminent wizard coping with his new roommate--vampire half-brother Thomas. Harry soon has problems bigger than Thomas' clutter to deal with. Marva, one of Harry's vampire foes, summons him with a threat to his police-lieutenant friend, Karrin Murphy. Marva demands Harry get the Word of Kemmler for her, or she'll frame Murphy for murder. Harry doesn't even know what the Word is, but while he's trying to find out, and also what damage Marva will be able to do with it, several necromancers descend on Chicago. When Harry learns that the newcomers are students of Kemmler, an evil wizard who mastered ancient spirits in a way no one has since, he discovers that they are seeking the Word, too, in hopes of seizing the powerful knowledge within it and calling forth a powerful creature known as the Erlking. Butcher's latest maintains the momentum of previous Dresden outings and builds the suspense right up to a rousing conclusion. Kristine HuntleyCopyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

An intensely enjoyable series SciFi Now Butcher's latest maintains the momentum ... builds the

suspense right up to a rousing conclusion Booklist The best novels in the supernatural PI subgenre  
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Hooked on Dresden Files. For fans who like the combo of mystery and supernatural, these books will be a hit. I loved the brief lived TV series and adore the books. I recommend that you start with the beginning book of the series, however, because you will otherwise be a little lost at the relationships of the characters. Slightly similar to old style "noir" type mysteries, but I like that . Butcher's imagery is great and the characters are distinctive. I was disappointed when I finished the last book in the series cause I wanted MORE. (because I couldn't find a couple of the book early in the series, I got the audio version of them. I was not happy with the audio books. The narrator was James Marsters (of Buffy the Vampire TV show - played the character Spike). I just didn't think the quality of voice was appropriate for the character and found that my attention drifted as a result. I recommend sticking with the printed versions. You will greatly enjoy them all. (and the pets in the book become characters in their own right.)

All of The Dresden Files follow the same type of process. They're a fast read, don't want to put it down, want to see how it ends. A bit less sophisticated than Rothfuss' The Kingkiller Chronicle, but then we are still waiting for book 3. So with that said, I would definitely recommend this series. They just keep coming and they don't disappoint.

Chicago wizard Harry Dresden never has a dull moment. His (newly discovered) half-brother Thomas is now living with him in Harry's tiny sub-basement apartment; trouble is, Thomas, a seductive White Court vampire, can't hold a job (his female co-workers keep throwing themselves at him). Even worse, Mavra of the deadly Black Court of Vampires, has incriminating photos of Lt. Karrin Murphy of the Chicago PD, a long-time ally of Harry, in the act of committing murder; in order to protect Murphy, Harry must find and present the supernatural 'Book of Kemmler' to her. And just what is this book? Harry learns it's the instruction manual for necromancers to summon Darkhallow--a deadly ritual calling countless spirits back to life in order for the conjurer to absorb their spiritual energy to obtain godlike power. And three of Kemmler's disciples--all necromancers who can restore the dead back to zombie life--are also searching for the 'Book of Kemmler' to conduct Darkhallow on Halloween night, on the campus of Northwestern University. Harry must find a way to stop the ritual, battling necromancers who all possess more power than he, and procure the book to give to Mavra--which will put him at odds with his fellow White Council wizards.

Needless to say, the action is fast-paced and furious, giving us DEAD BEAT, the seventh installment of the highly entertaining Dresden Files series. To fully enjoy this installment, it's important the reader has read *Death Masks*, book five in the series. For openers, this book introduces us to Butters, the eccentric Medical Examiner; in DEAD BEAT, Butters becomes Harry's involuntary sidekick, as he faces--usually screaming--hordes of mindless zombies. And in 'Death Masks', Harry is exposed unwittingly to a Denarian--one of the thirty pieces of silver given long ago to Judas. This exposure has caused the demon Lasciel to inhabit Harry's sub-conscious, and by the seventh installment the beautiful Lasciel is proving to be one heck of a temptress. In grand Dresden Files fashion, Harry always has a quip at the ready; he may be facing a powerful necromancer commanding an army of zombies, but he's never going to take matters seriously. Author Jim Butcher has a knack for penning an exciting action tale while never taking his foot off the gas; DEAD BEAT moves like running barefoot on a sidewalk in August. We even have a contribution by the fierce spirit of a tyrannosaur to crowd in on the action! DEAD BEAT is a grand supernatural tale, daring the reader not to reach for the next installment in this highly acclaimed series.--D. Mikels, Esq.

While Blood Rites had a super slow start and a great ending, Dead Beat seemed to constantly vacillate between completely amazing and totally meh. The story was okay- 6 former followers of an infamous necromancer have converged on Chicago to find their former teachers final book; a book that may contain the final key to ultimate power for one of them, and only Harry can stop them. Zombies are not my favorite villain ever, in fact I'd say these are least interesting villains we've seen since the werewolves in Fool Moon, but there are still some really interesting developments series wise. We meet Waldo Butters, a character I initially loved (I thought he was going to become Harry's Q), then despised (turns out he's just a coward that gets in Harry's way), then loved again ('Polka will NEVER die!'). Thomas gets some huge development, and even Morgan gets really fleshed out. We also see the war between the Council and the Red Court go completely apocalyptic. But that was still not enough to deserve 5 stars. No, I gave Dead Beat 5 stars because it has the most ridiculous, mind blowing ending of any Dresden book yet. It was so ridiculous I literally just laughed. It's a great book in a great series. Just read it.

So far, Dead Beat is my favorite Dresden Files book !! Harry is up to his butt in alligators once again, and who will save the world? Harry Dresden, of course, with the help of a mild mannered coroner and a VERY unlikely steed !!! Don't miss this one!!

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