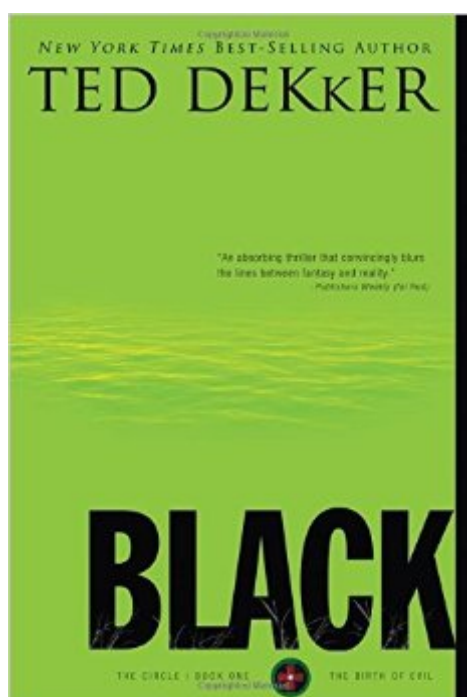


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## Black (The Circle Series)



## Synopsis

An Adrenaline-Laced Epic Where Dreams and Reality Collide. Fleeing assailants through deserted alleyways, Thomas Hunter narrowly escapes to the roof of a building. Then a silent bullet from the night clips his head . . . and his world goes black. From the blackness comes an amazing reality of another world where evil is contained. A world where Thomas Hunter is in love with a beautiful woman. But then he remembers the dream of being chased through an alleyway as he reaches to touch the blood on his head. Where does the dream end and reality begin? Every time he falls asleep in one world, he awakes in the other. Yet in both, catastrophic disaster awaits him . . . may even be caused by him. Some say the world hangs in the balance of every choice we make. Now the fate of two worlds hangs in the balance of one man's choices.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Ted Dekker has proven time and time again that he can write a story that will capture and captivate us from start to finish. This first book of his new trilogy is no exception. When we first meet Thomas Hunter, he is on the run from some hitmen. It seems that he borrowed some money from the mob and never quite managed to pay them back. A bullet grazes Thomas' head and he is knocked unconscious. As Thomas regains consciousness, he finds that he has no memory of who he is or even where he is. He touches his throbbing head and finds that it is bleeding. There is also some blood on the rocks where his head was. He thinks he must have fallen and knocked himself out.

Unfortunately, Thomas is in the middle of the Black Forest, which is filled with thousands of big, ugly, black bats. When one of them bares his yellow fangs at the confused man, Thomas passes out. When Thomas comes to, he finds himself face down in a pile of garbage. He manages to make his way to his sister's apartment. After cleaning himself up a little, he passes out on the couch from sheer exhaustion. As Thomas wakes up, he finds himself surrounded once again by the big, ugly, black bats. Worse yet, he still has no idea who he is or where he is. Thomas Hunter is trapped between two realities. Everytime he falls asleep or goes unconscious in one of them, he wakes up in the other. But these realities seem more like dreams to Thomas. And to make matters worse, he doesn't know which one is the dream and which one is real. Unfortunately, both realities are in grave danger. And Thomas is the only one who can save both worlds. But before he can do that, he must accept the reality of both worlds. If he doesn't, neither reality stands a chance of surviving.

Thomas, Kara, Rachelle, Monique, Tanis, Teelah, Johan, Elyon ... all memorable characters living in a vivid landscape of the mind. I have read all of Ted Dekker's works and have found none of them to be lacking. He is a brilliant writer and has the ability to capture the heart, soul, and mind of the reader ... pulling him within his luscious landscapes. Out of all of Dekker's novels, this one starts us off on a journey through a parallel world, entered only through the dreams of Thomas Hunter. He falls asleep in one world, only to wake in the next and can only return to the other by falling asleep to dream. I have read other reviews correlating "Black" to the likes of The Matrix and The Lord of the Rings. Of the two, I would say that it most closely resembles the latter. Yet, throughout, Dekker always places a glimmer of hope. You never feel swallowed by the blackness, yet, live in the hope of regaining the light. If you have yet to read any of Dekker's books, all I can say is grab them all. They are all fantastic in their own unique and special way. I would probably start with Blessed Child and then span out from there. The only downfall to this novel is the fact that I now have to wait three months for the sequel and then another four months for the finale. In the meantime, I will close my eyes to dream of the Shataiki, the Roush, Elyon, green canopies shimmering in the breeze, the black forest, sweet and delicious fruit, singing and dancing, the Gathering, lavender and turquoise and gold hanging in the air, and the Great Romance. Does this sound intriguing, inviting, and irresistible? It is. We were created to love beauty. We love beauty because Elyon loves beauty. We love song because Elyon loves song. We love love because Elyon loves love.

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