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Blake crouch book reviews

Book reviews of recursion by blake crouch.

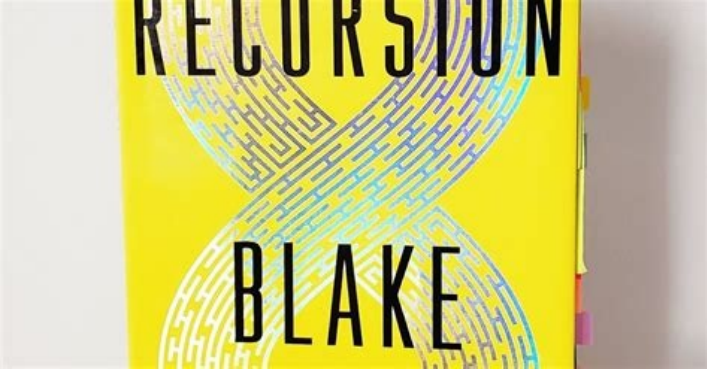


It is proud and joyful in its absurdity, and having a lot of fun with it too. Crouch's exploration of the path-not-taken fantasy is intriguing, his plot tight. So Dark Matter is not sensible, but sensible is overrated. There's the idea of another universe as an inverted or ironic reflection of ours, as in the movie "Sliding Doors" or the "Star Trek" episode featuring an evil, bearded Spock or the Philip K. When the Jason who is a modestly successful and somewhat happily married physics professor at a small Chicagoland college is traumatically translated into Jason the prizewinning scientific superstar at work on a zillion-dollar secret project to alter space and time, he can't avoid the central question of who the real Jason is, and how he can possibly tell. The fact that Crouch barely pretends to answer this — the Jason with a wife and kid who narrates the story is the "real" one, of course! — won't slow you down much as you plow through "Dark Matter." But higher-order speculation about the nature of identity amid the quantum science of uncertainty is by no means new to science fiction, and I couldn't help reflecting on the various ways genre masters less concerned with forward momentum — Ursula K. But rather like the mysterious cubelike chamber invented by the physicist Jason Dessen in Crouch's novel — well, let's say by at least one version of Jason and perhaps by several; indeed, perhaps by an infinite or incalculable number of Jasons — "Dark Matter" is a portal into other dimensions of reality. Or at least into other dimensions of media.

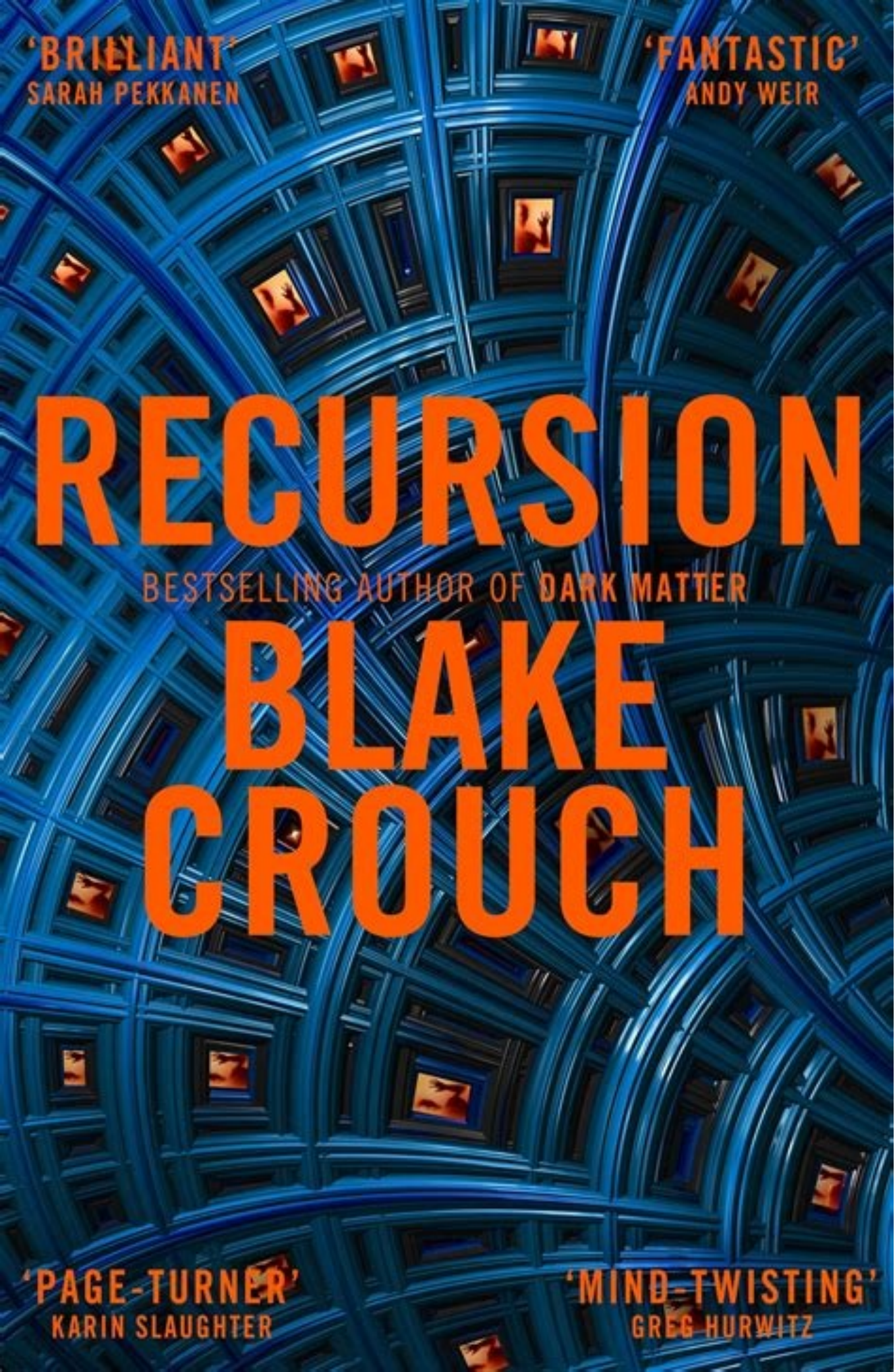
Thomas/Luther Kite, #1) by 3.77 avg rating — 7,559 ratings — published 2004 — 27 editions Good Behavior by 3.91 avg rating — 6,519 ratings — published 2013 — 16 editions Locked Doors (Andrew Z. Thomas/Luther Kite #2) by 3.97 avg rating — 4,744 ratings — published 2005 — 23 editions Draculas by 3.85 avg rating — 3,557 ratings — published 2010 — 16 editions Break You (Andrew Z. And indeed Crouch, known for the million-plus selling Wayward Pines trilogy, which was adapted by Fox, has already seen film rights optioned by Sony Pictures for Dark Matter, for \$1.25m. Wayward Pines review - so much more than Twin Peaks-lite His particular vision of the multiverse is posited on the Schrödinger's cat experiment — "you figured out a way to turn a human being into a living and dead cat". Jason is told at one point. There are two straight-backed wooden chairs, and on the small table a laptop, a pitcher of water, two drinking glasses, a steel carafe, and a steaming mug that fills the room with the aroma of good coffee. Despite the light dusting of pop physics — specifically, the "many worlds" version of multiverse theory, in which virtually every choice made by every sentient being engenders a new universe — Crouch is effectively repurposing and joining two well-worn channels of fictional speculation. It also might be the most helter-skelter, race-to-the-finish-line thriller you'll read all year, with such a clever, mind-boggling final twist that Sony's adaptation could just be worth it. Dark Matter is published by Macmillan (£12.99). As I have suggested, restraint and philosophical reflection are not Crouch's strong suits, and anyway I shouldn't give away more of the story than I have already. Dark Matter by 4.13 avg rating — 429,975 ratings — published 2016 — 17 editions Recursion by 4.16 avg rating — 209,182 ratings — published 2019 — 83 editions Pines (Wayward Pines, #1) by 3.94 avg rating — 114,666 ratings — published 2012 — 93 editions Upgrade by 3.82 avg rating — 77,123 ratings — published 2022 — 31 editions Wayward (Wayward Pines, #2) by 4.14 avg rating — 63,624 ratings — published 2013 — 67 editions The Last Town (Wayward Pines, #3) by 4.10 avg rating — 58,328 ratings — published 2014 — 53 editions Abandon by 3.70 avg rating — 23,933 ratings — published 2009 — 32 editions Summer Frost by 4.10 avg rating — 21,046 ratings — published 2019 — 6 editions Run by 3.87 avg rating — 15,127 ratings — published 2011 — 16 editions Snowbound by 3.74 avg rating — 8,566 ratings — published 2010 — 17 editions Desert Places (Andrew Z. Click here to buy it for £10.65 DARK MATTER By Blake Crouch 342 pp. But the next time you look, it will have metamorphosed into some other form. I don't mean that as disparagement, or mostly I don't.



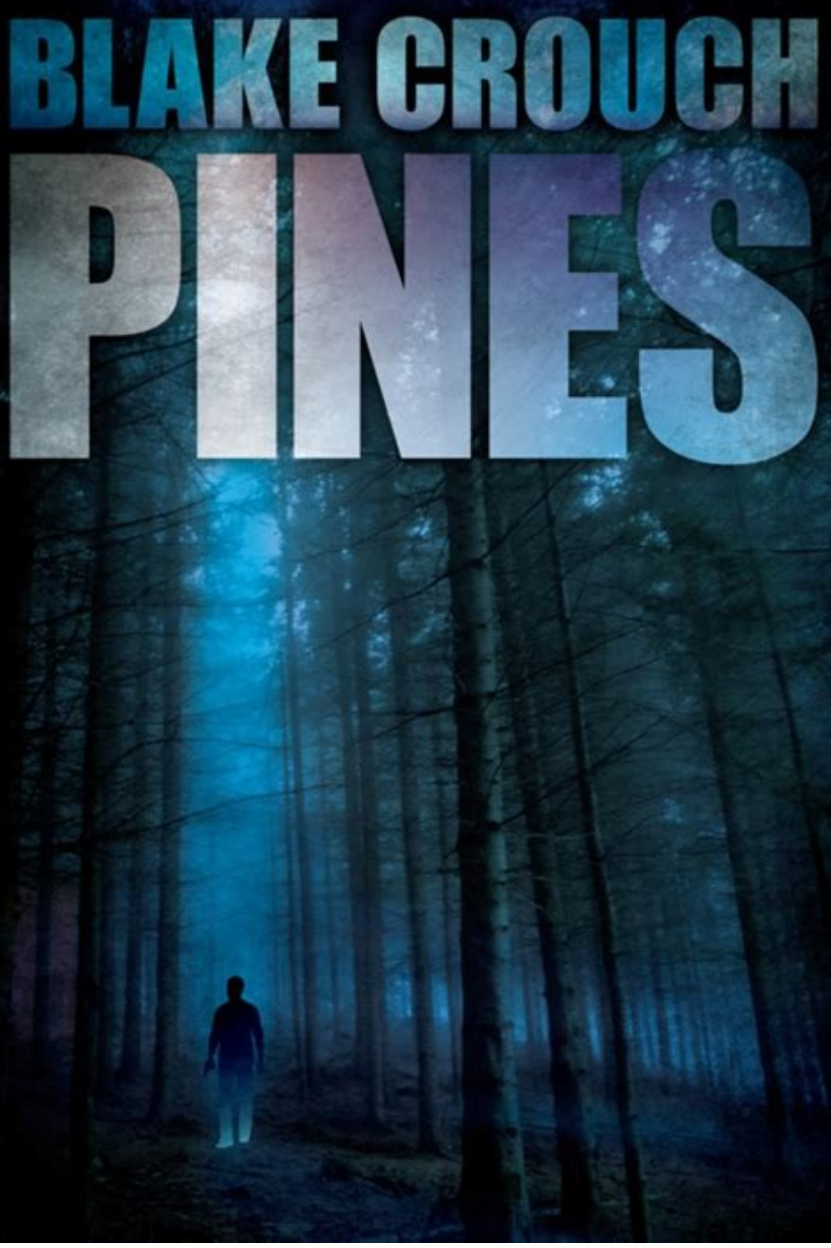
"Dark Matter" is surely destined for a similar fate, and as you read it on paper it inhabits a state of quantum transubstantiation, or "superposition," to use Jason Dessen's lingo. Crouch's Wayward Pines trilogy became the basis for a Fox television series whose pilot episode was directed by M. Much of his scene-setting is strictly thrillerism: an abandoned building in an industrial zone on the shore of Lake Michigan, a luxuriously appointed apartment, a secret high-tech facility many floors underground, a secret high-tech facility many floors underground. Lewis's "Chronicles of Narnia" or Lev Grossman's postmodern "Magicians" series. What Crouch really cannot do, although he occasionally makes token efforts, is slow down the pace enough to allow his characters and readers to take stock of their situation and ponder the meaning of it all. Here, the choices we make splinter off into new worlds all the time. It's a countdown thriller in which the hero must accomplish an impossible task in constrained circumstances to save his family.



Under deeper cover, it might also be a fantasy novel shaped by C. Dick classic "The Man in the High Castle." And then there's the literary conceit, going back at least as far as Poe and Dostoyevsky and Henry James, that throughout our lives we remain haunted by what we might have been, by the ghosts of people we never became. What if those other selves could get through the microscopic membrane separating their universes from ours? Jason's love for his wife and son is given proper depth and history; it's touching, and charming. Le Guin, Neil Gaiman, Peter F. Crouch wants us to believe that Jason is traumatized by seeing his beloved wife die gruesomely, or for that matter seeing human civilization exterminated, but it's all kind of a blur: That's only one version of his beloved spouse, and one version of our species. One paragraph reads, in its entirety, "Popcorn." (The one before that, inevitably, is "Roasted peanuts.") An account of a character angrily leaving a room takes 21 words, sliced into five paragraphs. But when Jason finds himself in a film-noir universe where a neon sign sputters in the rain outside a hotel-room window while a shadowy stranger watches from behind a lit cigarette, or in an especially nightmarish technological upgrade of C.S. Lewis's "Wood Between the Worlds," I'd have appreciated more expansiveness and more relish. A more serious flaw, perhaps, is that infinite universes produce a certain moral carelessness, a criticism of popularized multiverse theories that has also been heard in the scientific community. Even the advance galley I just read (in one sitting) was printed on actual paper, with an artfully designed cover and everything. (Which is kind of what happens in that "Star Trek" episode, come to think of it.) Crouch carries the logical conundrums created by such game-theory hypotheticals to an intentionally ludicrous extreme, culminating in an online chat room where dozens of Jason Dessens argue and feud and forge alliances against one another. Thomas/Luther Kite #3) by 3.70 avg rating — 2,631 ratings — published 2011 — 7 editions Serial Killers Uncut by 4.09 avg rating — 2,192 ratings — published 2011 — 3 editions Eerie by 3.62 avg rating — 2,445 ratings — published 2012 — 9 editions Perfect Little Town by 3.57 avg rating — 2,357 ratings — published 2010 — 5 editions Famous by 3.56 avg rating — 1,414 ratings — published 2010 — 6 editions Forward: Stories of Tomorrow by 3.75 avg rating — 900 ratings — published 2019 Fully Loaded Thrillers: The Complete and Collected Stories of Blake Crouch by 3.99 avg rating — 758 ratings — published 2011 — 10 editions Killers by 4.15 avg rating — 713 ratings — published 2011 — 4 editions Thicker Than Blood by 4.05 avg rating — 589 ratings — published 2011 — 8 editions Shining Rock by 4.04 avg rating — 555 ratings — published 2010 — 7 editions Bad Girl by 3.78 avg rating — 580 ratings — published 2010 — 5 editions The Fear Trilogy - Three Thriller Novels (Run, Snowbound, Abandon) by 4.09 avg rating — 497 ratings — published 2013 *69 by 3.71 avg rating — 536 ratings — published 2010 — 8 editions Birds of Prey by 4.03 avg rating — 472 ratings — published 2011 — 3 editions The Pain of Others (Letty Dobesh Book 1) by 3.75 avg rating — 419 ratings — published 2011 — 3 editions Sunset Key by 3.77 avg rating — 406 ratings — published 2013 — 5 editions * Note: these are all the books on Goodreads for this author. Hamilton — have tangled with such things. Sometimes the tactics Crouch uses to keep you reading are delightfully obvious: He has mastered the use of one-word sentences, one-sentence paragraphs and dramatic oceans of white space that allow your eyes to surf down the page. But allow for this, and for the appearance of a "mysterious psychoactive compound", which is both crucial and running out at an alarming rate, and there's more to this techno-thriller than meets the eye.



Like so: "We're in a simple, finite box again. Four walls. A door. A lantern. A backpack. And two bewildered human beings." Quite why the door, the lantern and the backpack need so much space on the page is beyond me. It also, and unashamedly so, appears to be very much aimed at film adaptation. The walls and ceiling are made of smoked glass." Et cetera. There's nothing approaching a "Council of Elrond" episode in Jason Dessen's thicket of multiple-universe paradoxes, and such explication as we get generally arrives in the plot interstices between moments when Jason watches someone he loves get shot in the head, or faces death by freezing and starvation in a post-apocalyptic Chicago, or fends off wolves in a version of North America that has reverted to wilderness. This book is alternate-universe science fiction bolstered by a smidgen of theoretical physics.



The first thing to know about Blake Crouch’s Dark Matter is that it is not, by any means, a sensible book. Blake Crouch Average rating 4.06 · 1,076,429 ratings · 116,564 reviews · shelved 468,275 times Showing 30 distinct works. Or finds himself in a world alarmingly similar to his own but not quite identical — where the neighborhood motel has been converted to luxury apartments, the corner bar has gone upscale, and his wife and son don’t recognize him, or don’t exist. That limitation is quite likely all to the good, because if we weren’t being thrust relentlessly forward in Jason’s quest to figure out why he was kidnapped by a familiar-seeming stranger in the middle of the night, injected with powerful narcotics and catapulted, like Howard the Duck, into a world he never made, we might notice how familiar it all is. It’s a novel right now, one that barely qualifies as beach reading because you’ll gulp it down in one afternoon, or more likely one night. There’s always another door to open, and another page to turn. It stars one Jason Dessen, an atomic physicist who has left behind his dreams of creating “the quantum superposition of an object that was visible to the human eye” (more on that later, don’t panic) to settle into life as a professor at a small college, and into domesticity: beautiful artist wife Daniela, teenage son Charlie. Sent out to buy ice cream one evening, Jason is abducted and drugged, and wakes up to find himself in a version of Chicago that isn’t his own: he’s not married, he has no child, and he now appears to be an award-winning physicist who’s found a way to tap into an infinite number of universes. Jason and a pencil-skirted sidekick journey through various nightmarish versions of Chicago as he tries to find his way home, from post-nuclear wasteland to arctic desert, “literally adrift in the nothing space between universes”, looking for “a grain of sand on an infinite beach”. Dark Matter is proud and joyful in its absurdity, and having a lot of fun with it too. Dark Matter is madly fast-moving, made even more so by Crouch’s not-un-irritating habit of breaking his narrative up into single-line paragraphs. “Dark Matter” is far too cheerful and indeed too earnest to feel cynical, even as Crouch pilfers material from dozens of sources and Mixmasters together multiple genres of popular fiction. Crouch has also studied at the Stephen King School of Information Management, which teaches that the reader and protagonist must be in a state of constant overlap and flux in terms of what they know about the plot, and dictates that whenever one gets too far ahead of the other, she or he will be blindsided by an unexpected revelation or an unobserved detail. On the other hand, Crouch’s obsessive need for speed sometimes leads him to tread upon his better writing and his more imaginative ideas. But who is living his perfect family life while he’s gone? Crown. What if they liked our lives better and decided to move in? S. If any number of equally real universes exist in which Hitler worked out his aggressions by playing clockwork video games, why get so upset about the unfortunate outcome of his career in ours? To add more books, click here. \$26.99. In the technical sense of the term, Blake Crouch’s “Dark Matter” is definitely a book. Some scenes go so far as to read like stage setting and direction: “The lighting is soft and unthreatening, like a movie theatre moments before the film begins. Night Shyamalan, possibly because Crouch’s episodic tale about a rural Idaho town that is not what it appears to be was more like a Shyamalan film than anything the director has made in years.