



The Speed of Dark: A Novel (Ballantine Reader's Circle)

Elizabeth Moon

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Tenth anniversary edition • With a new Introduction by the author

In the near future, disease will be a condition of the past. Most genetic defects will be removed at birth; the remaining during infancy. Lou Arrendale, a high-functioning autistic adult, is a member of the lost generation, born at the wrong time to reap the rewards of medical science. He lives a low-key, independent life. But then he is offered a chance to try a brand-new experimental “cure” for his condition. With this treatment Lou would think and act and *be* just like everyone else. But if he was suddenly free of autism, would he still be himself? Would he still love the same classical music—with its complications and resolutions? Would he still see the same colors and patterns in the world—shades and hues that others cannot see? Most important, would he still love Marjory, a woman who may never be able to reciprocate his feelings? Now Lou must decide if he should submit to a surgery that might completely change the way he views the world . . . and the very essence of who he is.

Thoughtful, provocative, poignant, unforgettable, *The Speed of Dark* is a gripping journey into the mind of an autistic person as he struggles with profound questions of humanity and matters of the heart.

Praise for *The Speed of Dark*

“Splendid and graceful . . . A lot of novels promise to change the way a reader sees the world; *The Speed of Dark* actually does.”—*The Washington Post Book World*

“[A] beautiful and moving story . . . [Elizabeth] Moon is the mother of an autistic teenager and her love is apparent in the story of Lou. He makes a deep and lasting impact on the reader while showing a different way of looking at the world.”—*The Denver Post*

“Every once in a while, you come across a book that is both an important literary achievement and a completely and utterly absorbing reading experience—a book with provocative ideas and an equally compelling story. Such a book is *The Speed of Dark*.”—Fort Lauderdale *Sun-Sentinel*

“A remarkable journey [that] takes us into the mind of an autistic with a terrible choice: become normal or remain an alien on his own planet.”—Mary Doria Russell, author of *The Sparrow*

“A powerful portrait . . . an engaging journey into the dark edges that define the self.”—*The Seattle Times*

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The Speed of Dark: A Novel (Ballantine Reader's Circle) can be one of your beginning books that are good idea. Most of us recommend that straight away because this book has good vocabulary that will increase your knowledge in vocab, easy to understand, bit entertaining but still delivering the information. The writer giving his/her effort to get every word into joy arrangement in writing *The Speed of Dark: A Novel* (Ballantine Reader's Circle) yet doesn't forget the main point, giving the reader the hottest along with based confirm resource information that maybe you can be among it. This great information can easily drawn you into completely new stage of crucial imagining.

Christopher McCormick:

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