



## Turn Coat

*Jim Butcher*

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When it comes to the magical ruling body known as the White Council, Harry keeps his nose clean and his head down. For years, the Council has held a death mark over Harry's head. He's still thought of as a black sheep by some and as a sacrificial lamb by others. But none regard him with more suspicion and disdain than Morgan, a veteran Warden with a grudge against anyone who bends the rules.

Like Harry.

So when Morgan turns up asking for help, Harry isn't exactly eager to leap into action. Morgan has been accused of treason against the White Council, and there's only one final punishment for that crime. He's on the run, he wants his name cleared, and he needs someone with a knack for backing the underdog.

Like Harry.

Now Harry must uncover a traitor within the Council, keep a less than agreeable Morgan under wraps, and avoid coming under scrutiny himself. And a single mistake may cost someone his head.

*Like Harry...*

## Turn Coat Details

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Author : Jim Butcher

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## From Reader Review Turn Coat for online ebook

### Carolyn says

Things are getting pretty serious in the Dresden Files as Harry hunts down a traitor in the White Council of wizards. When Morgan, the warden who once wanted to kill Harry, turns up on his doorstep hurt and on the run from the White Council Harry knows something is seriously wrong as Morgan has been accused of a crime Harry knows he would never commit. The White Court of vampires have also been set up by someone in their ranks and form an uneasy truce with Harry and the wardens to flush out the traitors.

Still plenty of fun and wisecracks from Harry in this episode as he sets about looking for the dark forces at work. He is also being hunted by a large, scary shapeshifter from Indian mythology and must use some ingenious magic to escape and protect those around him. No significant new characters in this one, although we do get to learn a lot more about some of the other wardens and their magical talents and get to see their headquarters in Edinburgh. Harry not only takes some heavy physical hits in this episode but also some heavy personal ones. An entertaining episode moving the plot along to the war that is sure to resume between the wizards and the red vampires.

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### Heather K (dentist in my spare time) says

#### **I KNEW IT! Well... part of it at least.**

I never guess the bad guy and I guessed it here! *\*pats self on back\** Though the simple solution is never the entire answer, thanks to the brilliant mind of Jim Butcher.

What can I say that I haven't said before? This was another expertly narrated audiobook by one of my all time faves, James Marsters, who was in fine form.

Brilliant, moving, twisty and turny... just another excellent addition to the Dresden Files series, which has become one of my all time favorites.

#### **I hope this series stretches on and on so I can get older with Harry Dresden by my side.**

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### Rebecca says

This time Harry Dresden, Wizard detective, is trying to find the traitor in the White Council, after Morgan shows up on his doorstep on the lam for a crime he didn't commit and Harry realized that hes got to either turn Morgan in or help him out (and get blamed for helping a criminal).

The good things:

-- We get to see more of the White Council, find out more about Morgan, Luccio and Listen-to-Wind. We

also see a bit of why the Council thinks about Harry the way they do, and some awesome magic.

-- I once read a maxim about how authors are willing to make characters struggle for what they need (read: plot) but are willing to give in on things that the characters want but don't need. Not to spoil things, but Jim Butcher doesn't do that in this book. Harry might solve the mystery, but he gets dealt several nasty punches for it -- it's definitely bittersweet.

-- The banter is good, and I always appreciate that most characters can keep up with Harry verbally. It's nice to see that Harry doesn't get all the good lines.

The bad things:

-- The traitor's plot is clever, but the identity of the traitor was a bit of a let down. A friend compared it to Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire, when a giant deal was made about a character dying, when you find out that the character was only a minor character until that book. That and I kind of pegged it -- partly because my friend told me this beforehand, maybe.

Plus, Mouse totally stole the show. Mouse is awesome.

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## **Marielle says**

God, it was great reading about Harry Dresden again! This one was spectacular... Lots of magic and Harry's humor. It also kept me in the dark for quite a while.

The hunt for the Black Council continues so it seems, and I will certainly be reading all about it!

"I closed the door behind me, while life went on."

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## **Niki Hawkes - The Obsessive Bookseller says**

Finally! We dig into the wizarding White Council and find out more about how it operates (and the many interesting characters involved). Delightful politicking ensued left and right, and it was really fun to see how Dresden fit in (or stuck out, depending on how you look at it). My favorite elements of Turn Coat were the settings and the mystery surrounding the Council. I had lots of theories on "whodunit," and even though none of them turned out to be correct, I love it when books get me so involved.

Via The Obsessive Bookseller at [www.nikihawkes.com](http://www.nikihawkes.com)

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## **Becky says**

3.5 Stars

This book was a little... predictable, in my opinion. Maybe not the supernatural threat in this book, because that was new, but quite a few different things were extremely predictable, and I figured out the whodunnit way, way early.

I almost never put all the pieces together before Harry does, but in this one, I did... over and over.

That's not to say that I didn't enjoy the book. I really did. Harry is his usual snarkrageous self, and I loved

him. Things got dicey here, and the tension was pretty palpable, especially because I was listening to the audio. The voices were very different than I'd heard the characters in my head, but I still enjoyed the reading quite a lot.

Very interested to see where the next one goes.

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### **Arah-Lynda says**

In absolute fairness my reading of this novel suffered from two things.

First and foremost this is the only Harry Dresden novel I have ever read. While enjoyable I am certain that I would have benefitted greatly in knowing more about Dresden's world from the earlier novels in the series.

Secondly, I started this right on the heels of having read *On South Mountain: The Dark Secrets Of The Goler Clan* a vile true account of what life was like for the children of the Goler Clan of Nova Scotia. It has seeped into my pores and wreaks havoc on my soul even now.

That said, it seems to me that Jim Butcher has a winning series going on here and some day I hope to visit the earliest novel in the series and gain some much warranted background.

My favourite sequence in this offering was the battle between Injun Joe and the naagloshii. Loved it, oh and Toot-toot too.

3.5 stars which I am sure would be a certain 4 for a seasoned Dresden reader.

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### **Javir11 says**

8/10 o 4 estrellas de las completas.

Durante un tiempo creí que no volvería a leer a Harry en castellano, así que decir que estoy encantado es quizás quedarme corto.

Me ha gustado volver a leer al personaje de Dresden, uno de los mejores protagonistas que he leído y con el que es imposible no empatizar.

También me ha gustado la trama y el desenlace. En ambos casos me han sorprendido para bien. La trama por el enorme número de posibilidades que abre para las futuras lecturas y el desenlace por temerme que iba a ser muy previsible, y al final ser más de lo que parecía.

Por ponerle algún pero, creo que el personaje de Harry esta alcanzado ciertas cuotas de heroísmo e indestructibilidad que no le favorecen para nada. Harry gusta porque es alguien cercano, con problemas económicos y que disfruta con una coca cola y yendo al burger king, vamos, uno de los nuestros.

Como siempre os dejo el enlace a mi blog por si queréis darle un vistazo a la reseña que dejé allí.

<http://fantasiascifiymuchomas.blogspot...>

## Dan Schwent says

I was planning on quitting this series if this one didn't measure up. Looks like I'm sticking around.

Morgan shows up at Harry's house with the Wardens on his trail, framed for murder. Harry goes about trying to clear Morgan's name, all the while dealing with a summoner named Binder and a demon called the Skinwalker. Meanwhile, the Wardens are coming to Chicago and it looks like the White Court of the vampires is linked to the mysterious Black Circle of wizards Harry is sure exists.

Why am I sticking around? Lots of things happen in this one. People die. Harry accumulates more scars. Harry's relationships with the other wizards and Thomas change. New characters are introduced. The plot advances.

I can't imagine how anyone who has stuck out the series so far would find anything wrong with this one. It wraps up some old plot threads and introduces others.

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## Ashley says

**Re-read Review, February 2018:** As with almost every book in this series, I liked it better this time. I've said this before, but there are advantages to reading the hard copies of the books, as much as I love the audio versions with James Marsters. And one of those advantages is it just takes so much less time to read a physical book, and stuff that you're not enjoying either goes faster or you can skip it outright. I remember when I read this book the first time it just felt a little too long, a little too dragged out. But this time it didn't feel like that at all. I think I must have re-read it in about two days.

I also felt differently about Morgan this time around. The first time, I just couldn't get over how much of a shithhead that guy was. How he was accepting help from Harry, which risked everyone in Harry's life, and he was STILL treating him (and Molly) with disdain. But the second time through, I could see that a lot of it was stubbornness, and he did see that. At the end, it's pretty clear that he believes in Harry enough to sacrifice his life to save him, and enough not to tell the Council about Molly relapsing a teensy bit into warlockian behavior.

Plus, Butcher shoehorns in so much other cool stuff. Harry claiming Demonreach as sanctuary. The team-up with the Wraiths (who are terrifying). Finally some acknowledgement from Harry that the werewolves are adults now. And the monster. Oh, man, I'm not usually a fan of monster plots, but this one was genuinely terrifying. And even if I don't \*like\* it, I think Butcher deploys what the monster does to Thomas in an effective way.

All in all, one of the best books of the series, and probably in the top two of the first half (pre-*Changes*, when everything, well, changes).

**Original Review, May 2013:** I'm going to keep this (relatively) short because I'm about 7 gazillion reviews behind, but this series just keeps getting better and better. There aren't many series that I've read that up the ante like this as they go along. In fact, most start out really promising and then totally biff it along the way.

The Dresden Files just keeps getting more interesting and exciting and emotionally complex. I think a lot of that might have something do with Butcher having started this series as a formulaic urban fantasy noir, but he's taken it to another place in the decade plus since. It's definitely not 'epic fantasy' but once might choose to use the phrase EPIC when describing it, if only because starting a new Dresden book lately makes me want to get on the floor and roll around and maybe squeal for a little bit.

*Turn Coat* is the culmination of the series-long feud between Harry and the Warden known as Donald Morgan, a hundred year old wizard who is also the de facto executioner for the White Council, and who's had it out for Harry ever since he was sixteen years old. But this time, Morgan's in trouble. He's being framed for the murder of a member of the senior council, a murder which would also implicate him as a traitor, and he wants Harry's help to find the real murderer. Why Harry? Because Morgan knows Harry has experience in being unjustly vilified, and also he would literally rather die than see an innocent man condemned. And yes, the irony in this situation is delicious, for Harry and for us as readers. On top of that whole situation, Harry is being chased by a scary-ass monster called a Skinwalker, and his involvement in the case threatens not only his own safety, but that of his friends and family.

I didn't like this one as much as I liked *Small Favor* or as much as I'm liking *Changes*, but it's pretty damn good. Morgan has always been a frustrating character for me, and he remained so for most of this book, but his arc wraps up nicely by the end. The flavor and intensity of the plot movement in this book hints that big stuff is coming, and Harry takes some pretty significant losses. The fact that these losses seem to largely be foreshadowing is a frightening thought. (And if some of them don't get, um, *fixed*, I'm going to throw a shit fit.)

On to book twelve.

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### Manju says

*“There are bad things in the world. There's no getting away from that. But that doesn't mean nothing can be done about them. You can't abandon life just because it's scary, and just because sometimes you get hurt.”*

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### Lindsey Rey says

[4.5 Stars]

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### Jilly says

Another question for my non-southern friends: is it really a problem for you if a man opens a door for you? Because Harry keeps saying that he's a chauvinist for doing things like opening doors for women, and that Murphy gets mad when he does it for her, but that's just crazy talk to me. Crazy talk! Because, here in Texas, where I live, a man is **expected** to open a door for a woman. It doesn't matter what age either the male or female is, or the health of either. If you have a penis, you are the designated door-opener. I don't care if the guy is blind with only one leg. He'd better hobble on over to where he thinks that door is if he smells the

scent of a woman's perfume. It's his duty. I haven't opened a door for myself in 18 years. I don't think I know how to do it anymore. If I'm out alone, I have to just stand there in front of an establishment until a nice man comes along and opens it for me. Thank the good Lord for strong men! Bless their hearts!

As I have said before, Harry would fit in well here. Hmm, except for the godless thing. We'd all have to pray for his pagan soul. But, other than that...

On to the book!

So, I have been hoping that things would change a little in the Harry Dresden formula. You know, the "Harry gets a case, Harry fights the scary monsters and wins, Harry solves the case" thing? Like Scooby Doo. And, it looks like we might be heading that way. Because things didn't go so well for Harry this time. There are also some things that could be foreshadows of future bad things.

***They'd been a problem, the past several months - increasingly painful migraines.***

*it doesn't just mean he needs more aspirin!*

Harry's main goal in this book is to find the killer of one of the members of the White Council, which is the wizard's senate. And, yes, they are about as effective, corrupt, and out-of-touch as our politicians. Oh, and hundreds of years old - like our politicians.

The main suspect in the murder is Harry's old nemesis, Morgan - the guy who has wanted to kill him since he was 16. It is Harry's perfect chance for revenge! Now, Morgan has the death sentence. Harry can sit back and let heads roll (Morgan's head, that is). But, Harry is a boy scout and can't let Morgan take the fall because he's innocent. What a softie! So, he is helping Morgan and trying to find the real killer.

Things get complicated real fast. And, surprisingly, things get dark in this book. People die - people that we have gotten to know and like. And, things don't end well. At all.

I'm glad to see this departure from the usual Harry Dresden formula, although there were some sad moments. I can't wait to find out where this goes next.

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## **Brooke says**

I often have a difficult time reviewing books in a series, so I'll just say this one thing: I'm continually thrilled by the fact that every event in the Dresden Files series is relevant to the struggle in Turn Coat. So many authors miss the "why?" - why start a series at a certain point in time? Why is the main character the focal point, how are they special? Why does anything happen? Jim Butcher has an answer for each question and I want to hug him for it. Once again, he serves up sacrifices and tough blows along with the victories, and it's become clear to me that Butcher and Joss Whedon have a lot in common.

Okay, when's the next book coming out? :)

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## **Richard says**

8/10

I'll just look through my previous Dresden reviews and copy and paste it here. I'm running out of things to say on this series now that would provide anything new or insightful (not that I previously did provide those things anyway).

This was as good as the previous few novels keeping up what the series is good at; mysterious plot needing Harry to do some detective work whilst maintaining an ability to throw some quips around and using the assistance of those characters he's previously been able to call upon. The added bonus this time is that there is more emphasis on the Black Council and their ability to weave closer to the White Council without their knowledge. Also, bonus points for EDINBURGH!!

I enjoyed reading this, probably helped by the complete contrast in writing style and pacing to my previous book, A Storm of Swords, as things get going pretty quick and don't really let off the pace until the very end. There are some good bad guys (with shocking names - Shagnasty?!) and the whole prospect of Harry having to work out a way to clear Morgan of murder when he has had nothing but run in's with the douche previously was a nice touch.

The ending was done nicely with enough resolution of certain things to feel like a satisfactory ending but with plenty of open threads still to be worked out in future novels. The Black Council thread is hotting up now and I'm keen to see where that leads and also to see (view spoiler). A solid entry into the series leaving me wanting more. Solid Dresden win.

If you like this try: "Going Postal" by Terry Pratchett

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