

Title: The Sleeping Deep

Written by: Jeff Palmer

Genre: Supernatural thriller

Log line: Two women must destroy an underwater dream world before its gruesome inhabitants find passage into the waking reality of humans.

Synopsis: After attending a distant friend's funeral in the remote town of Dexter Cove, Maine, Charlotte Foster finds herself inexplicably pregnant with a litter of unidentifiable creatures. Her terrifying condition is followed with recurring dreams that connect her to Seth Lawson, a mentally deranged man suffering an equally disturbing torment.

As Charlotte's grotesque dream intensifies, she is plunged deep into a world of sacrificial sex acts with part-man, part-eel demons. Sharing this same dream, Seth's journey takes shape as he attempts to find his missing girlfriend Jennie Tuttle, the very person whose funeral Charlotte attended at Dexter Cove.

When several months of searching land Seth in a halfway house for the mentally ill, he finds himself under the care of a middle-aged psych nurse, Janice Adams. Nagging voices convince him that Jennie is alive and trapped in an ancient dream world beneath Dexter Lake, while Janice claims his ramblings delusional and psychotic. Still, she finds his stories breathtakingly imaginative and jots down notes for research.

At the public library, Janice's scientific theories are quickly challenged. There, in the regional section of an online newspaper, an article reports the body of Jennie Tuttle was found along the bank of Dexter Lake. The headline reads: Body intact, brain missing.

Hard to believe let alone imagine, Janice is compelled to learn more of Seth's dream world and the events surrounding Jennie's strange disappearance. Returning for a routine visit with Seth, Janice discovers him in a catatonic state brought on by sudden grand mal seizures. The scene is alarming, but she is startled by something even more upsetting. His chest is etched with the same symbol found on the body of Jennie Tuttle.

In accord with these incidents, Charlotte's waking visions further unfold, painting a more detailed picture of her stay at Lakeview Bed & Breakfast and Jennie's funeral. Combined with chaotic nightmares and the restless litter inside her womb, she revisits Dexter Cove in search of answers, in search of hope.

On the shady grass of Freedom Cemetery, Charlotte and Janice cross paths at the resting place of Jennie Tuttle; both women embroiled in a mystery exceedingly complex to explain yet far too threatening to dismiss as chance. After lengthy discourse regarding their situation, they make plans to investigate the dark waters of Dexter Lake together.