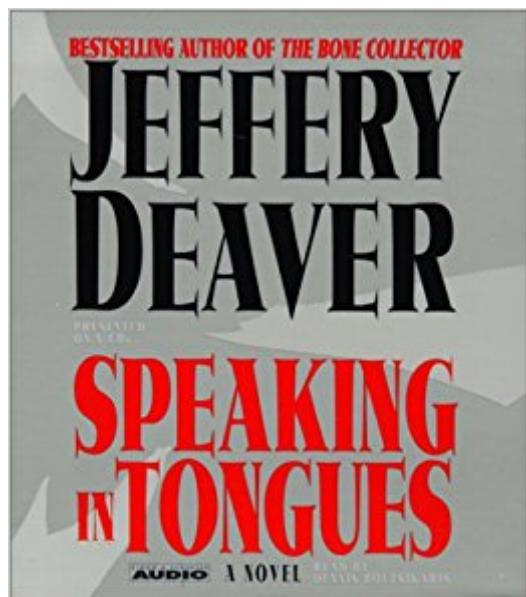


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# Speaking In Tongues



## **Synopsis**

Two men of words...One seeking only peace. The other, violence. Tate Collier, once one of the country's finest trial lawyers, is trying to forget his past. Now a divorced gentleman farmer, land developer, and community advocate in rural Virginia, he's regrouping from some disastrous mistakes in the realms of love and the law. But controversy -- and danger -- seem to have an unerring hold on Tate. And even as he struggles to regroup, his alter ego is plotting his demise. Aaron Matthews, a brilliant psychologist, has turned his talents away from curing patients to far deadlier goals. He's targeted Tate, his ex-wife, Bett, and their estranged daughter Megan for unspeakable revenge. Matthews, ruthless and hell-bent, will destroy anything that inhibits his plans. When their daughter disappears, Tate and Bett reunite in a desperate, heart-pounding attempt to find her, and to stop Matthews, a psychopath whose gift of a glib tongue and talent for coercion are as dangerous as knives and guns. Featuring an urgent race against the clock, gripping details of psychological manipulation, and the brilliant twists and turns that are trademark Deaver. Speaking in Tongues delivers the punch that has made this author a bestseller. It will leave you speechless.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Deaver's skill at weaving a crafty and intriguing suspense story is sound. He has the bare bones of the work down to a science, and when it comes to most of his tales, the bones themselves are strong, hearty, and glistening white. In this case, however, those bones have virtually no muscle. This tale is about Tate Collier, his ex, Bett, and their kidnapped child, Megan. The villain for this tale, a slick-tongued psychiatrist named Aaron Matthews, is a man of such skill that he can talk virtually

anyone into anything, a talent that rivals that of our protagonist, Tate, a lawyer who once wielded the same verbal weapons in the courtroom. As I said, the story itself has some intriguing twists and turns, as all suspense tales should, and it offers up satisfying obstacles and the usual mysteries, but they fall flat for a number of reasons. 1. When the crux of your tale lies on creating characters of uncanny persuasive abilities, the heart of your novel must lie within the dialogue those characters utilize. In this case, neither Matthews or Collier ever speak convincingly enough, in my opinion, to warrant their being labelled as men who "speak in tongues." And although a lot of interpretation must be allowed for the written medium, it still doesn't seem like Matthews' talent for conniving others is as plausible as the novel would like it to be. 2. The book falls prey to a pretty major pitfall for literature of this type, and that is over-elaborate explanations for key motives and behaviours. We even get treated to a cliched moment of having the bad guy reveal his whole plot to the good guys before actually going through with the plot. 3. Implausibility.

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