

HOW THE DEAD DREAM 10733
 by Lydia Millet (CounterPoint) 0.33

There's no heaven in *How the Dead Dream*, just a House of Pancakes in the sky. In any other novel the motif would signal another snarky entry in the ultrahip class of satire criticizing our ugly modern ways. Lydia Millet has so much more to offer. Her sixth novel, which is elegantly written and



intellectually sophisticated, is a heartbreaking examination of humanity's troubled relationship with the natural and unnatural worlds. The protagonist, T., who even as a child possessed a preternatural affinity for money and lying, dreams of perfect expanses of asphalt

and longs for communion with wild animals. It's a frightening and gorgeous vision of human decline.

—Julie Hanus