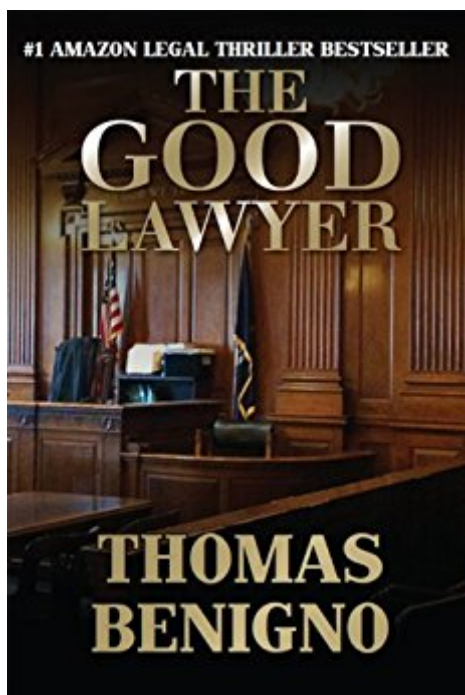


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The Good Lawyer: A Novel



Synopsis

#1 THRILLER BESTSELLER!Â INSPIRED BY A TRUE STORY. A young, ambitious lawyer is eager to prove he is better than the mobster dominated family he grew up in. Working as a Bronx Legal Aid Attorney he learns how to twist the system, how to become an unbeatable defense lawyer. But it's 1982. The Spiderman rapist is on the loose and New York City is a city in fear. When an outraged victim commits suicide right before his eyes, searching for absolution and determined to prove his client's innocence, he knocks the pegs out from under the prosecution's case. Digging deeper, horrifying revelations about his family's past collide with the true identity of the sadistic sociopath behind the real Spiderman's rampage. In the process, this good lawyer comes face-to-face with his greatest conflict and deepest fear: to win, really win, must he sacrifice every principle he believes in and embrace his family's mafia past to become judge, jury, and executioner?

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Customer Reviews

This book almost ended up in the garbage after reading the first 25 pages. I'm not an English

teacher by far, and in college I got A's in most classes EXCEPT English. But I was extremely annoyed many times while reading this book. Spelling mistakes, missing or incorrect use of commas, and story line errors. It's like no one proofread this book before publishing it. Examples of the mistakes: Shiela on one page, Sheila the rest of the book; barley instead of barely; inn instead of in; curcumstances instead of circumstances; not using commas and quotation marks around "the judge said" in a dialogue sentence; confusing descriptions of the three little boys; and mentioning Nick's previous visit to see Dr. Terkel when there was no such previous visit in the book. I am surprised that no other reviews mentioned the large number of mistakes in this otherwise good book. If you're the type of person who is annoyed by such things, consider yourself warned. When you spend good money on a book (not a free Kindle version), you have expectations that it will be free of distractions such as these errors. That being said, it was a very good book. It held my attention, which is saying something considering how many times I was frustrated by blatant mistakes. The story line keeps moving and has some nice twists. Good character development and it builds suspense nicely. I hope to see more from this author and maybe he will be able to get a book deal with a publisher that has professional editors.

I enjoyed this book. For some reason, I knew from the beginning who the Spiderman rapist would be, but it didn't dilute the fun of reading the book, because it took some twists. I liked that it was set in the early 80's when surveillance cameras and cell phones were non-existent. Those times required a lot more true detective work. I did get a bit bogged down in who was who, sometimes. There were a lot of side characters - attorneys, criminals, family, friends...past and present - all with names. "Now who is Ventura? Who is Ryan? Who is Tedeschi? Who is Charley? Who is Joey? Who is Farkas? Who is..." One last point - the author needs a better editor. There were some spelling errors.

"I asked myself what it was I feared most: that I was sitting across from a diabolical killer, or that I wasn't..." It's sometimes hard to find a good legal suspense book at times, and happy to have read this one knowing the sequel should be released soon. Maybe not quite the suspense level of books by John Grisham or Scott Pratt (superb twist two-thirds way in was worth waiting for), but even now I'm wanting to reread it to see just how cleverly the story line was woven together. Had enough of a love interest for my taste, recently revised (which should be in BOLD letters either in the title or book description) and I, for one, will be waiting in line with others for the sequel "Criminal Lawyer" once it comes out. One final passage I keep coming back to, ' "I live this job pretending I don't know what I

know and selectively forgetting where I got it from." Repella laughed. "The people's lawyer!"

Overall, the story line and characters are well developed. There is a natural narrative flow. BUT! this book needs a more detailed oriented editor: grammar; syntax; spelling. Just as bad: it needs a background / history researcher. E.G.: Uncle Rocco's fiancée is depicted as a Columbia University undergrad living on campus, in the 1950's. Well, Columbia was the last university to go co-ed and didn't do so until 1983! I enjoy reading the genre and this book would make a great contribution, were it not for the polishing it still needs.

This debut legal thriller is about a young lawyer's crisis of conscience and is by far more than just courtroom scenes peppered with legalese jargon hard to understand. This book is a fractionized account of some of the grittiest cases Mr. Benigno dealt with during his time practicing as a Legal Aid Attorney in the South Bronx. In a nutshell: Told from the main character's perspective, Nick Mannino, a young legal Aid attorney tells how he is given the opportunity to defend a teacher's assistant accused of child molestation. Zigzagging is the hunt and apprehension of Spiderman, a rapist and the excitement begins when Nick pieces together all the parts and a connection is made with other cases. This is only a very broad outline of a complex and believable plot that includes a mob connections and a necessary tad of romance. I like the depiction of the main player, you can feel Nick's ethical dilemma when he uncovers several more heinous crimes and is unable to reveal that his client is behind them. The author slowly introduces his co-conspirators in a crafty manner developing each one and weaving them into the main story till everything is neatly tied up in the end. We do have audacious twists some are easily guessable while others less but all add excitement to a very captivating story. This is a story that keeps a steady pace throughout and is written in a clear and dynamic narrative. I zipped through this thriller in no time and enjoyed every single moment I spent with it. Well done.

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