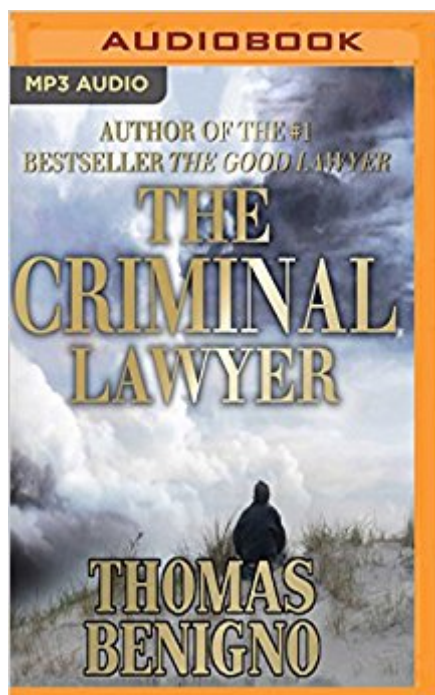


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# The Criminal Lawyer: A Novel



## Synopsis

#1 CRIME FICTION BESTSELLER! Inspired by real crimes. From the author of the number-one best-seller, *The Good Lawyer*. A serial killer is littering the South Shore beach of Long Island - the bones of his victims stuffed into burlap bags. Nick Mannino, *The Good Lawyer*, is living off the ill-gotten gains of his deceased mobster uncle, when, without warning, a brutal serial killer turns on him, and worse, his family. As much a thriller as it is a mystery, with an ending as riveting as that in *Silence of the Lambs*, *The Criminal Lawyer* is also a love story, a novel of family secrets, and crimes beyond forgiveness.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

KIRKUS REVIEW: "In the end (we) eventually confront the killer in a scene that's relentless in its ferocity...Wisely, Benigno doesn't save every twist until the end; indeed, one or two happen early on, and even when the case seems all but resolved, there are still a couple of doozies to come...in this surprising thriller." --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

WHY I WROTE *THE CRIMINAL LAWYER*...My first novel, *The Good Lawyer*, was inspired by my experiences as a Legal Aid Attorney in the South Bronx in the early 1980's. In *The Criminal Lawyer* I write about crimes that have occurred within miles of my home, near a beach that has always been a source of peace and serenity ever

since my family moved from Brooklyn to Long Island when I was 13 years old. In 2010, four sets of human remains were discovered in burlap bags in the marsh along Ocean Parkway, a stone's throw from the Atlantic shore. A serial killer had made his mark there--on my Long Island, and worse, on my Jones Beach. I was angry. I wanted justice. I read all that was available about the crimes. And so in my 2nd novel I explore those dark urges and motivations of the serial murderer, along with the hopeless fear of his victims, while The Criminal Lawyer, saddled with his own emotional baggage, goes on a terrifying quest to not only catch a psychopathic killer, but avoid being another of his victims in the process. Don't hesitate to give the author feedback at: [tombenigno@aol.com](mailto:tombenigno@aol.com). Website: [facebook.com/TheGoodLawyer/](https://www.facebook.com/TheGoodLawyer/) Twitter: @thomasbenigno Instagram: ThomasBenignoauthor Book clubs don't hesitate to email the author at [tombenigno@aol.com](mailto:tombenigno@aol.com) for an appointed video conference with your club anywhere in the world, or an in-person talk in and around the New York City, Long Island or Westchester areas. Thank you in advance for your interest. Thomas Benigno

I have to agree with some other reviewers, we want more books! I read his first book and immediately bought the second. Very hard to put his books down. The story line is well developed and hold you through the entire book. Thank you for these 2 books but please note how many of us are waiting for the next one.

Nick Mannino, the former South Bronx Legal Aid Attorney born into a mobster family featured in Binigno's first novel, A Good Lawyer, has aged some 20+ years and become an interesting, complex and compelling character in this exceedingly well written thriller mystery. Abandoned by his wife, Mannino and his two, young adult children have become the targets of a serial killer, requiring that he put his legal career on hold. While attempting to protect his children as well as discover the identity of the killer, Mannino uses his inherited Mob wealth to retain a very resourceful investigator; together the closer they get to tracking him down, the more danger they encounter.

Suspense, some parts very scary, some love and sadness. I thought I knew who the murderer was. I was so wrong. There was another twist to the ending I totally didn't expect. Hope the author is planning on another book soon.

The sequel to The Good Lawyer is even better, and I loved Benigno's first novel. This book is so

much richer in textured character development, Yet the mystery and its culmination left me literally breathless. The story is based on an actual serial killer but Benigno has created a fictionalized version of it with his idealistic and compulsive protagonist. Nick Mannino is so well crafted that the reader believes he knows this man-at least I did. ( absent his troubled parental history) I loved his vulnerability, his love of family, and his courage. He and his PI partner Paul Tarantino create a chilling investigation that equals any you will ever read. I just loved this book, and I hated for it to end. Nick is now sixty and I hope there is still more excitement left for him unless Eleanor(Nick's wife) puts her foot down.

All of these crime novels are somewhat predictable; however this one is about characters that are well developed and hold your attention. The author does not dwell on the graphic torture of the victims, but writes just enough to give you the choice to imagine more or just let it go. A rather nice option in today's world, where these crime are no longer rare. And again, no graphic sex scenes, but the dinner date with the doctor was sensuous despite being interrupted. Mobster Uncle was what he was, not made glamorous. I enjoyed this book, and isn't that what novels should be about. All in all a good read. And just so I do not sound like an easy grader with my 5 stars, it is five for this category of novel.

The only problem I have with this author is he doesn't crank out books as fast as I would like him to. He is right up there with Grisham. With each of his books, once you pick it up it is hard to put down. So keep them coming Benigno, your fans will be waiting.

This story had me hooked from the first chapter. The characters were very relatable. I laughed, I cried and held my breath at various times while reading this book. The end was very captivating. I found that I read a couple the last chapters twice. If you enjoy being totally entertained, read this book. I read it in one day, I could not put it down.

Wonderful book and Well written. Love all the action throughout the story. I thought this was a court room story but much to my surprise it was totally different.

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