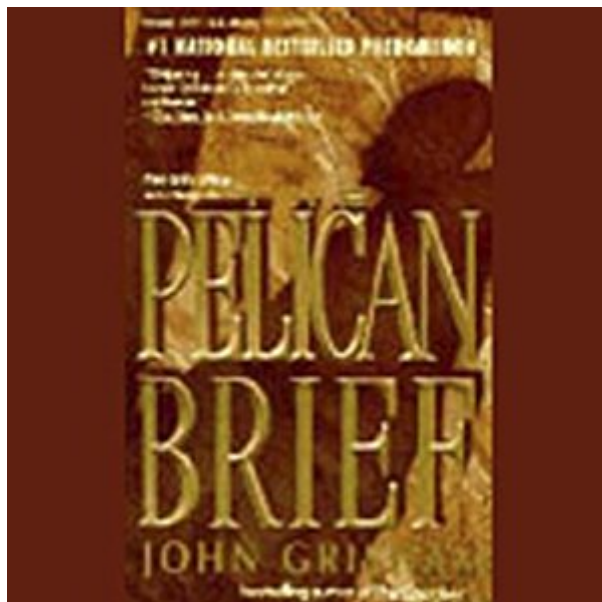


The book was found

The Pelican Brief



Synopsis

This is a series of simplified stories, designed as an introduction to literature. The series offers classics, best-sellers, film-titles and original stories. Each book has extensive exercises, a detailed introduction and information about the syllabus. They are published at six levels: level 1 - beginner (300 words); level 2 - elementary (500 words); level 3 - pre-intermediate (1050 words); level 4 - intermediate (1650 words); level 5 - upper intermediate (2300 words); level 6 - advanced (3000 words). The series is designed to be suitable for students of English as a foreign language, for students of English as a second language and for reluctant readers. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 5 hours 40 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Abridged

Publisher: Bantam Doubleday Dell Audio

Audible.com Release Date: December 15, 1999

Language: English

ASIN: B0000544YB

Best Sellers Rank: #43 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Mysteries & Thrillers > Legal Thrillers
#335 in Books > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Thrillers & Suspense > Legal
#394 in Books > Reference > English as a Second Language

Customer Reviews

This is an oldy, but a goodie...John Grisham does a terrific job with this story about a law student who unwittingly solves the murders of two Supreme Court justices and finds herself on the run from hit men hired by both a sleazy oil prospector and the White House Chief of Staff. She ends up putting her faith (and her life) in the hands of an award-winning journalist in Washington, who helps her gather evidence to prove her theory about the killings and hold those responsible. It's fast-paced, smart and though at times a bit clich   in its obvious disdain for politics and politicians (not to mention sleazy oil prospectors looking to destroy Louisiana wetlands), still a great story. Well worth the read.

Do I consider myself even qualified to review John Grisham? I suppose as a lay person, I am.

Grisham's writings speak for themselves in the sales of them--as the proof of the pudding is in the eating, it is said. All Grisham's writings are tastefully done, to me, with clear cut characterizations. The protagonist of his books is usually a good guy, and a reader can not help but like him/her, and root for him/her, reading to the wee hours of the morning, if possible. Moreover, the romance is tasteful, too (What there is of it)--perhaps a bit more detail for us women readers would be welcome. I recommend Grisham to relatives in Canada, and to anyone else who wants/needs A GOOD READ.

This is obviously the era of Grisham's finer works. The Pelican Brief certainly belongs in that category. Though I do wonder about a theme in the author's books where there's an inappropriate relationship going on (i.e. affairs, suggested affairs.) Here, it's a law student who's sleeping with her professor. Thankfully, she's smart on her own, or I'd really hate this book. So let's delve into Darby Shaw. She's awesome! For starters, I like her name, "Darby". I've never heard it before but it works so well. Like I said, she's smart...exceptionally smart in fact, and that's always a huge plus with me. The fact that she soon finds herself in peril because of what she knows or might know and is consequently in fear for her life makes her human, and that again is a plus for me. Her dialogue is also witty and worth listening to. We need more female protagonists like her out there. The reporter, Gray Grantham, was good too, though Darby wins. He was smart for sure, but he never showed himself as being as smart as her. I'm absolutely thankful that he wasn't made out to be her hero or knight in shining armor. These two actually work together to expose the conspiracy at hand and I enjoyed every bit of the ride. My main problem, apart from this audio book being abridged, is the villain. I'm completely fine with there being an unseen menace for the protagonists to deal with, but this villain, Victor Mattiece, appears once and only briefly. I'd have liked it better if he never appeared in the book and was only talked about as was the case most of the time. His brief appearance without any encores was just too out-of-place for me. Also, there was a hint of romance in the book, which I could have done without. This book serves as an exception to my dislike of conspiracies where the questions become "how high does this go?" and "who can you trust?" I see way too much of that in all of today's media. But this book was done well enough that it barely crosses into the exceptions column, despite all the government-rooted evil depicted in its pages. Go out and read it. Enjoy.

I have read all of Grisham's books dealing with the legal system. I am now going through them again on my kindle while traveling. I enjoyed reading them the first time through and am enjoying

them the second time around. His books are an enjoyable read.

I'm a huge Grisham fan but I could tell that this book was one of his first ones. The story line exploded (literally) at first but then it slowed down for much of the book until towards the end when it picked up again. I was wondering when Darby was going to finally let the FBI help her out!

I have recently begun rereading John Grisham's novels. I had read John Grisham's first novel "A Time to Kill" right after it came out just over 20 years ago and thoroughly enjoyed it. I went on to read many of his novels. When I learned that he had just released a sequel to "A Time to Kill," I decided to reread that novel before reading "Sycamore Row." After "Sycamore Row," I was once more thoroughly hooked on his novels and decided to reread more of his early books. I found "The Pelican Brief" to be totally engaging and a real page-turner. I have only a few minor criticisms. It was never clear to me why Grisham included the fire-bombing of the gay movie theaters after the assassinations of the two justices. I did not feel it added anything to the story. The president and his chief of staff were a bit overly caricatured. Although Grisham did tie up loose ends near the conclusion of the novel, I found the explanation of the killing of the assassin Khamel by a Brit under a CIA contract to strain credulity. Even so, I enjoyed the book and would recommend it to anyone interested in legal thrillers.

I loved this book as I do all of John Grisham's books. They are all completely different stories and keep your interest.

Read it many years ago, read it again. Love it.

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