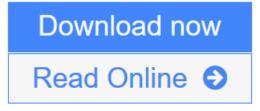


Criminal Intent

Sheldon Siegel



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You can pick your friends, they say, but you can't pick your family. And lately, Mike Daley's family has been keeping him very busy. An ex-priest, ex-public defender, and ex-corporate lawyer, Daley and his former wife, Rosie Fernandez, now run their own San Francisco criminal defense firm. Most of their cases are fairly small-time, which is why it would be surprising that the person accused of murdering movie director Richard (Big Dick) MacArthur is calling them-except that the accused is Rosie's own niece, Angelina. That case is bad enough, but the family problems don't end there: Rosie's brother, Tony, may be on the wrong end of a strong-arm graft proposal; the son of one of the firm's lawyers has just been busted on a drug charge; Mike is having a clandestine affair with a woman judge . . . and Rosie herself has a dark secret that may make all of it seem irrelevant.

An intricate plot, immensely likeable characters, powerful suspense, and more than a touch of humor-these have already become Siegel's hallmarks. Criminal Intent will keep you turning pages until its final, surprising end.

Criminal Intent Details

Date: Published (first published 2002)ISBN:Author: Sheldon SiegelFormat: Kindle Edition 432 pagesGenre: Mystery, Thriller, Legal Thriller, Fiction

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From Reader Review Criminal Intent for online ebook

Sherron L Pace says

Did she murder her husband?

Sheldon Siegel presents an excellent choice in legal thrillers. This case starts out in the first pages and builds to an interesting climax. It's a who done it love story I think it's going to be enjoyed by most people.

Patricia Ibarra says

Mike Daley, a former priest and public defender, now runs his own defense firm with his ex-wife, Rosie. his life is very busy as he is now having a relationship with a woman judge, a dangerous situation that may involve conflict of interests. This new case involves Rosie's niece, charged with murdering her film producer tycoon husband. Things do not look good and every finger points at her guilt. This murder appears to be related to the approval of a millionaire development plan in which several very important businesspeople have invested or are at risk of losing millions of dollars. What I most like about this author is his case development in trials, but when compared with the previous two books, I felt somewhat disappointed with this one. Too much discussion about the millionaire project and family issues.

Alan Zabel says

"Criminal Intent" is #3 in Sheldon Siegel's Mike Daley/Rosie Fernandez legal thriller series. I liked the first two very much. This one, I liked, but not quite as much. The reason is that I was expecting plenty of courtroom maneuvering and drama. I was disappointed that there was very little of that in this book, in contrast to the previous books. The case was interesting, but the story was played out mostly in the investigation. A good story worthy of page turning, but not so much in the courtroom. I was entertained well, however, and will read the next book in the series.

Judy Van Hine says

Great stories

I have read the first three novels and I am hooked! Not only are the accused in each story complicated, the twists and turns involving Mike and Rosie themselves are complicated also. I look forward to reading the next legal/love story in this series. Thanks for writing these books .

Thomas says

Another enjoyable legal murder mystery from Sheldon Siegel. Mike Daley and his partner/ex wife Rosie

Fernandez are called on to defend her niece Angel Chavez, charged with murdering Angel's much older husband, "Big Dick" MacArthur. She was found passed out in a car near the Golden Gate bridge. There was a bag of cocaine on the front seat and an Oscar statuette with blood on it in the trunk. There are a lot of twists and turns in the plot and not until the end did I figure out who the killer was.

I enjoy the author's sense of humor: "My car is semi retired. I can take it up hills only twice a week."

A solid 4 stars out of 5.

deryl taylor says

Ingenious

Siegel is an ingenious storyteller able capitalize on intrigue and suspense. The Daley and Fernandez are competent lawyers who you can't help but root for. You hope and wish that they work out their personal relationship because they seem to be so good together. The curiosity of the ending of "who done it" comes as a sad surprise because of the effect on the lawyers. Siegel hit another home run in the Daley and Fernandez series. I give it 5 stars. A must read. I can't wait to read the next book 4 in the series.

June Ahern says

My first read of Sheldon Siegel's murder mysteries and probably not my last. I'm as close to a native of San Francisco as one can be without being born there. There've been other novels that I've read that take place in San Francisco and besides my own novel, "The Skye in June", Siegel does an excellent job of moving around the city and Bay Area. Mike Daley and Rosie Fernandez. Daley and Fernandez are law partners and former spouses who get along better as colleagues than they do as husband and wife. They share her daughter, Grace and she keeps their relationship close. To the story: A big crisis arises when the police find Rosie's niece, Angelina, past out in her car near the Golden Gate Bridge in the wee hours of the morning after her husband, Richard "Big Dick" MacArthur, has been found dead, she claims to know nothing of it and that she had blacked out after party at their Sea Cliff mansion. It is soon known that Big Dick was bludgeoned to death with his own Academy Award. The police do not believe Angel's flimsy story and they arrest her for murder on the near-eve of her to-be-released move - a comeback to grace for her producer/director, now dead, husband and her debut as a leading lady. I mostly like Seigal's writing style because it is easy to follow, a lot of dialogue (which I like), and moves along smoothly even with all the subplots. I had a hard time at the beginning of this book in a way that Siegel filled in all the necessary information about the characters. Quite frankly I found it boring and thought he could have done it in another way as the story progressed. But I know there's a spot amongst authors to give as much information in the very beginning of the story as necessary, something I don't always agree with the way it's handled. All in all and by the time all of the plots have merged together, Siegel brings the mystery to a surprise conclusion and the happy ending for all those that deserve a happy ending. And for those villains that don't, they get their just desserts. I recommend this book for those who enjoy figuring out killer. The Skye in June

Lynn Pribus says

I've been reading these in order. Unlike Grafton's characters, these people age a year or two between books with subtle changes in relationships, especially the one between the formerly married Mike and Rosie who can be best friends and soulmates, but not spouses under the same roof, despite their love for their daughter.

In this one, Rosie's movie-star niece is accused of murdering her philandering , movie-mogul husband. Of course, we know it will all turn out OK in the end. Or will it? No spoilers here~~~

Joc says

+++ I was really surprised by the ending. Talk about cold. Did not see that coming. There was a lot of pointless running around and subplots in this book. All the other suspects just seemed to lie for their own benefit. Just chasing whispers. There is no actual courtroom drama in this book which is what attracted me to the series in the first place so I was disappointed by that.

Rosie and Mike - I don't know what to think about them anymore. They are told by everyone they should be together but yet they rarely seem to be apart. I guess I don't really care much either so that is a bad sign. The series like the books are uneven and not gripping enough for me.

Abbie says

Wow! Amazing, twisted tale

Sheldon Siegel is a master storyteller, hands down one of the most entertaining novelists I've read in years.

With an ever candid flowing inner mind commentary, Michael Daley conducts business with his law partner and ex wife Rosie Fernandez. They are criminal defense lawyers in San Francisco just working hard to defend their clients and live their lives. Rosie's niece, Angelina needs their help. She's been accused of murdering her husband. They can't not help, but what are they getting into?

The tale bears reading itself. I never give spoiler reviews. This author is so great I'm off to read another. Hope you enjoy this one.

Nancy says

Nancy 3 stars; Ron 3 stars

Pontiki says

Great mystery. I was guessing all along, and still got it wrong. Someone kills a Hollywood director with his

Oscar, and everyone he knows could have done it.

Love the way Mike narrates with his own comments in and amongst the dialogue. Rosie seems real, independent, but the voice of perspective.

Pete is still my favourite-cynical, smart, and unstoppable in ferreting out information. I like Kaely Joy, his sidekick in this book, too.

I actually really liked Ellis and Petrillo, for some reason. Oh, and Tony was brilliant in how he dealt with the bribe/threat against him and his business.

Great characters, many stories with layers and interconnections. Really good.

KU

Michael Turashoff says

Another entertaining book in the series. Even though I wouldn't rank this one up there with the previous two books in the series, which is because I didn't think the mystery end of it lived up to my "Whodunit" level, I still enjoyed the characters, the attention to detail and the way the author always adds what Mike Daley is thinking before he says anything. I think that is a definite plus for the story.

Also, aside from some of the glaring mistakes in grammar, I feel the books are really well written and I'm enjoying Mr. Siegel's books enough to, so far, plan on reading the whole series.

I don't mean to say readers should pass this one up, I still thought it was a page-turner, I'm just being brutally honest as I would expect from my readers. So another excellent courtroom mystery/thriller from a gifted storyteller and a must read for lovers of a good mystery.

Malcolm says

This series is going downhill. I thought Special Circumstances was one of the best legal thrillers I'd ever read, and certainly the best one I'd read in years. Unfortunately, the second book was nowhere near as good and now we have Criminal Intent which is quite possibly the worst legal thriller I've read.

It started off with a decent premise, and the writing was strong throughout, though it could have been tightened up in a couple of places. The sense of mystery as to who really killed the victim was maintained right up until the end. It's too bad that was long past the point where I cared about who might have done it. And that's where the issues begin.

This book had one main problem: the protagonists were completely incidental to the plot. Everything would have unfolded in exactly the same way if they weren't there. Mike spent the entire book running from one place to the next, effectively doing nothing and finding no new information. He (and the reader since this is told in first-person) knows the same information in chapter 47 that he knew way back in chapter 1. Then everything's wrapped up off-camera by a minor character. The big reveal at the end was very much anti-

climactic by that point. Very poorly done.

And did the victim really have to be called "Big Dick?" Seriously? That name alone nearly ruined the entire story. It's hard to take anyone seriously who calls themselves Big Dick. Was his son supposed to be Little Dick? Gee, I wonder why that nickname never caught on.... What makes this worse is that the author could have changed it. The nickname added nothing to the character, and if it was meant to give the reader insight into the victim's personality then it fell flat.

Next we have the subplots. The troubled teen who's a really good kid but just did something dumb, the corrupt political scheme that starts off with arson and threats and dissolves into a quiet chat amongst friends, and the doomed romance. Ugh. None of it mattered in the end. It all just ended. It was almost like the author had a convoluted, interwoven plot, and gave up on it halfway through the book.

As for the characters... Since we're told at least once every chapter in each of the first three books that Mike and Rosie are completely incompatible with each other, why don't we ever see it? Maybe because they're the two characters with the least depth to them. Mike's thoughts are often witty and sharp but his speech isn't. Rosie doesn't do much of anything. She's given cancer in this book, but even after three books I still don't care about her so it's hard to muster any sympathy. Leslie was the most well-rounded character in the book. The suspects were all interchangeable with each other.

Special Circumstances was a wonderful book. It's a shame that the quality hasn't carried through. I'll probably try the next book in the series but this one is worth skipping. As other reviewers have pointed out, there's no courtroom drama here. The book would have been infinitely better if there had been.

Rich says

I thought it was another good novel in the series, I will read the next one. This one was a little different in the fact that there was really no court room scene but more investigative instead. That does not mean it was bad just different. I feel that the novel had a good ending to it. I also enjoy the direction the main character. are going . I would say read it