



The Juror

George Dawes Green

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This is a psychological thriller about a young woman threatened by the Mafia who must return a verdict of 'not guilty' to ensure the safety of her son. The book has been turned into a movie, featuring Alec Baldwin and Demi Moore.

The Juror Details

Date : Published January 4th 1996 by Bantam (first published January 1st 1995)

ISBN : 9780553504873

Author : George Dawes Green

Format : Paperback 432 pages

Genre : Fiction, Thriller, Mystery, Suspense, Crime

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Viktoriya says

I simply can't continue. I am on page 224 (how ironic that this is Annie's juror number, but trust me, it wasn't my intention) and I simply can't force myself to keep reading. This is not what I thought the book will be. From the synopsis I thought there will be some suspense, maybe a little thriller here and there. Instead, it was simply boring...

Lenny says

Movie was great, the book was even better!

Rob says

The novel started strong, but I struggled to stay with it. There's a strong possibility that the difficulty was more about me being distracted than the story. However, I kept wishing that the author would stay with the main story. To some degree, I also felt like the story was gearing up to focus on one thing (I'm being vague to avoid a potential minor spoiler), which was wrapped up rather quickly. I can't say a whole other story sprouted--it was all related--but it threw me a bit. The ending seemed a bit too convoluted.

Gaby says

Synopsis:

Single mother, struggling sculptor, and newly selected juror Annie Laird doesn't realize her danger when she agrees to participate in the murder trial of mob boss Louie Buffano. This changes quickly enough when Annie meets "the Teacher," a handsome, dangerous and volatile member of Buffano's familia. The Teacher makes it immediately apparent that if she agrees to cooperate, he can help make her career. If she refuses to do so, her life and that of her son may be forfeit. The tension rises as Annie struggles to find a way to save her family without giving in to the Teacher's increasing demands.

Review:

If the plot sounds vaguely familiar, you may have watched the 1996 movie version with Demi Moore and Alec Baldwin. The audiobook is equally fast paced and absorbing without the strength of Alec Baldwin's portrayal of the Teacher and the weaknesses of Demi Moore's Annie Laird. Overall, The Juror is action packed, suspenseful and highly entertaining."

Kathy says

Excellent book! Highly recommend it!

Tammy Downing says

A very engaging novel about a single mother who gets selected for jury duty for a mob boss's murder trial. Very good pacing, atmosphere and detailed character descriptions.

Ingrid Verschelling says

Gelezen in juli 1995

Zeke Gonzalez says

Soaring and poetic, but ultimately predictable, *The Juror* was a decent first showing by George Dawes Green. Having read his later novels, I liked this the least of his works, but I see in it the beginnings of his ornate style and exquisitely delicate character development that become the linchpins and best parts of *The Caveman's Valentine* & *Ravens*. All said, I highly recommend any of George Dawes Green's crime thrillers as genre-breaking, fantastically unique and intricate novels written with an incredibly poetic flair & a profound understanding of humanity

Margaret Bechtol says

Plodding, formulaic, hard to get through.

Fudz says

Novel ini saya baca ketika saya mendapat tugas membuat resensi buku dari guru bahasa Indonesia ketika SMA.

DEskripsi yang digambarkan sang tokoh sungguh menarik, apalagi ketika proses persidangan terjadi. Tokoh wanita di buku ini digambarkan cerdas, enerjik dan menjunjung tinggi kebenaran. Meski tidak luput dari masalah yang pelik. Memang, ada beberapa plot cerita dengan alur dewasa yang menjadi "bumbu" di novel ini. Namun tidak mengurangi ketegangannya.

Menurut hemat saya, novel ini termasuk ok d jadikan referensi. Tetapi ketika sampai bagian tengah cerita, novel ini menjadi membosankan khususnya saya sebagai pembaca...

Alfonso escamilla says

una historia que promete mucho pero se termina alargando mas de la cuenta e innecesariamente, la trama original cumple con todo, suspenso, drama, romance y erotismo, policial, algo muy completo, pero una vez que se termina esto, los ultimos capitulos fueron muy forzados y se alargaba y alargaba mas la historia sin ningun sentido hasta llegar a un final muy sencillo y predecible.

es por la ultima parte de la novela que no alcanza una buena puntuacion, ya que descompone todo lo bueno que se presenta en un principio, con una amplia variedad de personajes que de una u otra manera estan entrelazados entre todos, de manera muy breve te explica su estilo de vida de cada uno y entiendes su papel en la obra, sin profundizar mucho, solo lo necesario, al igual en la descripcion de los escenarios, es muy basico, no se enrolla y deja que los mismos personajes describan las situaciones y el escenario donde ocurren los hechos, lo que le permite a la obra tener un gran ritmo, muy rapido, mucho dialogo que te facilita la obra, no hay descripciones fastidiosas de los hechos o las cosas, pero todo esto que digo se descompone en la ultima parte del libro, el autor quiso entrar un genero que no es el suyo, o al menos no en esta obra, quiere meterse en el mundo de la accion, lo cual le quedo muy mal, acciones y decisiones muy forzadas, situaciones que no tienen ninguna salida para los protagonistas y misteriosamente hay soluciones milagrosas que los sacan de los problemas, carece de congruencia y ritmo, (solo por poner un ejemplo, la protagonista viaja a Guatemala y nadie le entiende el ingles en el aeropuerto, pero resulta que en un pueblo mas de la sierra, se puede comunicar perfectamente con los indigenas y hasta consigue un avion, algo ilogico que en un aeropuerto no hablen ingles y en una aldea si) de ese tipo de incongruencias se presentan al final de la obra, lo que reduce mucho su nivel que se venia mostrando.

si la novela hubiera terminado 100 paginas antes, hubiera estado satisfecho y tendria mejor calificacion, pero no cabe duda que se lee muy rapido, me hizo pasar un buen rato agradable y en cuanto a la trama y suspenso, muy bien desarrollada, pero la accion policial, un fiasco.

no la odio ni la amo.

Scribblegirl says

Yawn. So very clichéd psychokiller, trite and predictable. Artist who hates her day job decides to volunteer for jury duty on a mob murder trial. Mob boss sends his cleaner to threaten her if she doesn't deliver not just a hung jury but an entire not guilty jury verdict. Cleaner is a psychopath stalker who becomes obsessed with his target, because don't all professional hitmen and sociopaths fall in love with their victims and then kill everyone the victim loves in order to prove their psycholove for the victim? So predictably, the cleaner falls in love with the juror and then purifies her life for her by killing - or attempting to kill - all her loved ones. Because he lives by a code, man, a pure, violent, taoist code, and he will show her the way, because she is too Bambi-like and pure for this world or some such bs, and her world must be cleansed for her purity to blossom into the true pure form she must attain, yada yada yada. And then she kills him. The end.

I would apologize for spoiling it, but seriously, if you don't see every single mile post along the way loooooong before you get to them, you really need to read more. I recommend chapter books.

Mike says

Readable but shallow. Main character is well rounded but the Teacher is a cartoonish villain and little irritating with his half-baked philosophy. Reading this book is a good way of killing the time on a rainy day, but it's not especially noteworthy.

Robert Beveridge says

George Dawes Green, *The Juror* (Warner, 1995)

George Dawes Green wrote *The Caveman's Valentine*, which netted him the Edgar. He then followed it up with the equally acclaimed *The Juror*, and proceeded to drop off the face of the earth, foiling a carefully-plotted career as a bestselling mystery novelist. Go figure. Based on the quality of his first two books, a whole lot of folks wish he'd come back.

Green's second novel introduces us to *The Teacher*, a part-time mob enforcer, Taoist, and grower of rare orchids whose present job entails tampering with a jury to make sure his part-time employer doesn't go to jail. Problem is, the Teacher starts getting emotionally involved with the juror, and the two of them end up doing a rather dysfunctional dance that ends up with a whole lot of people dying.

It's an absorbing novel, and a quick read. The characters are strongly drawn and identifiable, and the plot is excellently paced. The book's main flaw is that it relies a bit much on coincidences (of the "of all the gin joints in the world..." variety) that stretch credibility too far. But mystery novels rely on coincidence, and so we have to be willing to forgive Green in order to bask in the luxury of his writing. And it is certainly worth forgiving him, as the characters he creates here will be with you long after you turn the last page. *** 1/2

Tantri Setyorini says

Ceritanya seru banget. Meskipun Sang Guru yang punya banyak identitas dan berjiwa sakit ini antihero banget, tapi malah suka aja baca tentang dia. Rasanya kayak gimana simpatiku sama Tom Ripley di *Talented Mr. Ripley*. Obsesi sakitnya Sang Guru terhadap Annie juga malah menciptakan chemistry. Tapi ya memang sudah bisa ditebak dan sudah sepantasnya, kalau antagonis di novel suspense itu memang harus berakhir mati. Pokoknya seru banget. Sayang terjemahannya nggak terlaluluwes. Mungkin lebih enak kalau baca yang bahasa Inggris aja kali ya. Btw, filmnya dibilang jelek ya. Udah gitu Sang Guru dirubah dari Vincent yang jelas-jelas orang Eropa jadi orang AS yang diperanin Alec Baldwin. Tapi om Alec mang cocok sama peran psycho sih, kalau kataku.

Bob says

Never read this author before, but not a bad tale if a little gritty. Mafia head on trial and a mysterious man is orchestrating the suborning of a jury member by threatening her son and friends if she doesn't go for not guilty. This person, "The Teacher" has a very persuasive way about him as well as being quite deadly and rather detached from normal. The mafiosa is acquitted, but the juror is still in fear for her life and her son's life when

the police get wind of the jury tampering. She tries to exact her own revenge, but that backfired and she must race to save her son from the killer.

Troy says

Terribly slow and unbelievable. This is the first book I did not finish in years. I paid \$1 for the hard cover at the library surplus and was way more than the book was worth.

Threw it in the trash rather than taking a chance someone else might pick it up.

Besides being slow the language was crude and totally unnecessary in most cases and the sex scenes more like the fantasies of teenage boy.

Tim Verstraete says

Was a very entertaining read and I would have put a four star on it but I thought the beginning was a bit slow and it took a while before I got interested and then I couldn't stop until the ending.

So 3,5 star would have been better but still ... fun read that's for sure ...

Daryl says

I really enjoyed George Dawes Green's first novel, *The Caveman's Valentine*. If anything, his second novel, the unfortunately titled *The Juror* is even better. Despite the poor title, which makes it sound like a John Grisham knock-off, *The Juror* is a suspenseful, enjoyable, adventurous novel. It tells the story of Annie Laird, an artist and single mom, trying to do her civic duty by serving on the jury of a murder trial.

Unfortunately, she gets targeted by the mob as the juror to tamper with in order to secure a not guilty verdict for the defendant. The novel is much deeper than it sounds from that description, however. The characters are realistic, believable people, whether they're Annie's friends, or mob henchmen, or random people who are encountered. A great character-driven novel. I also loved the storytelling style. A third person narrative, the book switches viewpoints every few pages (probably a dozen different ones in all), but all are easy to follow and cleverly introduced. Definitely a must read!

Wendy Hines says

Annie Laird is Juror 224. A good citizen who has been summoned to what looks like a routine tour of civic duty. But the trial she is called to serve on is a mob trial, whose outcome has been meticulously orchestrated by a man of insidious power and deadly precision. *THE JUROR* is a tour de force of crime and obsession, evil and innocence -- a story that taps into fears so primal they linger long after the last page has been read.

Lolita Davidovich is the voice of Annie and Oliver. Her innocent, soft voice does an excellent job against the mobster and gravelly voice of John Heard. There are 3 cds in this audiobook and at the end of each one, I was scrambling for the next one. The drama unfolds at alarming rate until before you know it, your at the end. Fabulous heart-pumping thriller!!

