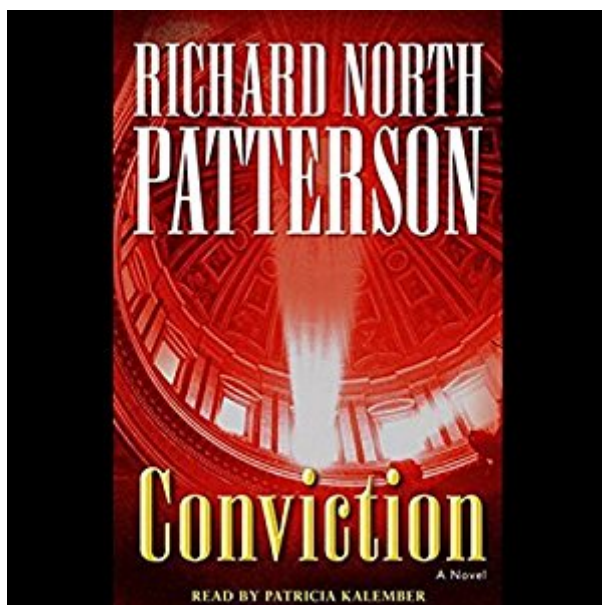


The book was found

Conviction



Synopsis

When the body of nine-year old Thuy Sen is found in the San Francisco Bay, the police quickly charge Rennell and Payton Price with her grisly murder. A twelve-person jury, abetted by an incompetent defense lawyer, is nearly as quick to find the brothers guilty, and to sentence them both to die for their crimes. Fifteen years later, overworked pro bono lawyer Teresa Peralta Paget, her husband Chris, and stepson Carlo, a recent Harvard law graduate, become convinced not only that Rennell didn't receive a fair trial but that he may well be innocent. Racing against the clock and facing enormous legal obstacles, Teresa, Chris, and Carlo desperately try to stay Rennell's execution, taking the case all the way to the Supreme Court, and to an enormously moving and powerful conclusion. From the Hardcover edition. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 17 hours and 30 minutes

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Version: Unabridged

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Audible.com Release Date: January 24, 2005

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

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in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Fiction & Literature

Customer Reviews

The story behind this novel revealed that the justice system is not ever fair those who cannot afford a fair trial. They are getting a bum rap by those who are quick to assume the worse than carefully looking at the facts. This young man who was declared mentally ill and challenged was this unfortunate soul. He was ultimately sentenced again after this proven fact to die by lethal injection. I was disappointed by this decision in this novel. I hope the future readers can overlook the outcome and discuss among others about the mentally ill and how they are treated in the justice system.

Brad Morgan

I was horrified by the complexity of the capital punishment legal system and inexorable fate of this tragic death-row retarded young man, so well described by the author in the person of its main characters. Like you cannot win either way, the laws keep us safe but also kills us. Brilliantly written but left me quite gloomy. Thank God there is no death penalty in my country nor in the rest of the Americas and Europe. Angélica Lussich Montevideo, Uruguay

It was a good book but there was some legal information that was quite hard to understand for non-legal minds like myself. The author does describe it, but I had to re-educate myself about what it was and so at some points of the book I just read it without fully understanding what was going on. When they weren't going into too much legal details, it was a very good book though

Richard North Patterson has given us at least three great novels: *Protect and Defend*, *No Safe Place* and *Caroline Masters*. I suppose it was too much to expect a fourth in the form of a novel in which the primary focus is on the complexities, emotions and injustices of the death penalty and its legal morasses as it is carried out in this country. I have read five of Patterson's novels, though I am not much of a fiction reader in my old age, preferring "faction" in my dotage. But unlike one of the previous reviewers, I find the actions and motivations of the Justice Scalia character, identified as Justice Fini in the novel, completely credible. This is a difficult book, in many senses. I suspect unless you have an overwhelming fascination with the marvels of the death penalty, that most readers, even those like me who have serious reservations about the death penalty as it is carried out in this country, will find it unsatisfying. William F Harrison

To me this was a wonderful book to read and is another example of a great writer of gripping stories. I had a feeling throughout that this was real!! I enjoyed it immensely

I set this one aside, I felt it was pretty violent and couldn't get interested in it enough. I thought it was not nearly as good as some of his other books I've read. I still enjoy reading his stories but this one was just not for me. I feel I can't honestly give it a true review as I didn't finish it.

I have been reading this author for many years---unusual since I usually read romances, cozy mysteries, and non-fiction. I picked up one of his books and became fascinated by his characters and his mysterious ability to put books on the market focused on topics that were being hotly debated in the media at the time of publication. The use of the same characters in various roles

(minor in one book, the major protagonist(s) in another) added a nice touch of familiarity. I purchased this book with the same anticipation I have the others, buying the CD in order to enjoy it while driving. Like the other reviewers--which I hadn't read until now--I was interested in the concept and the protagonists chosen are some of my favorites. Unfortunately, I also became bogged down in the legal arguments--a situation made worse by the fact that I was listening and couldn't skim through pages to skip the boring parts. (I started skipping anyway after I became less afraid of missing something vital.) The arguments of the opposition were the most discouraging as they continued to put the political implications of decisions above the life of the innocent man on death row. I know this is a fact of life in many cases, but I like a little less realism in my entertainment. (I watch the news for the real stuff.) My biggest disappointment was that the "bad guys" continued to win. I had come to expect in these novels that virtue, honesty, and compassion eventually won out over the harsh worlds of law/politics. Call it "hokey" but those victories always left me feeling that sometimes the "right" people can win out over power and greed.

Excellent examination of a difficult subject; entertaining and informative, which is a tough thing to pull off. I especially enjoyed the inner workings of the SCOTUS - timely information in the late spring as all the rulings came down. Good book!

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