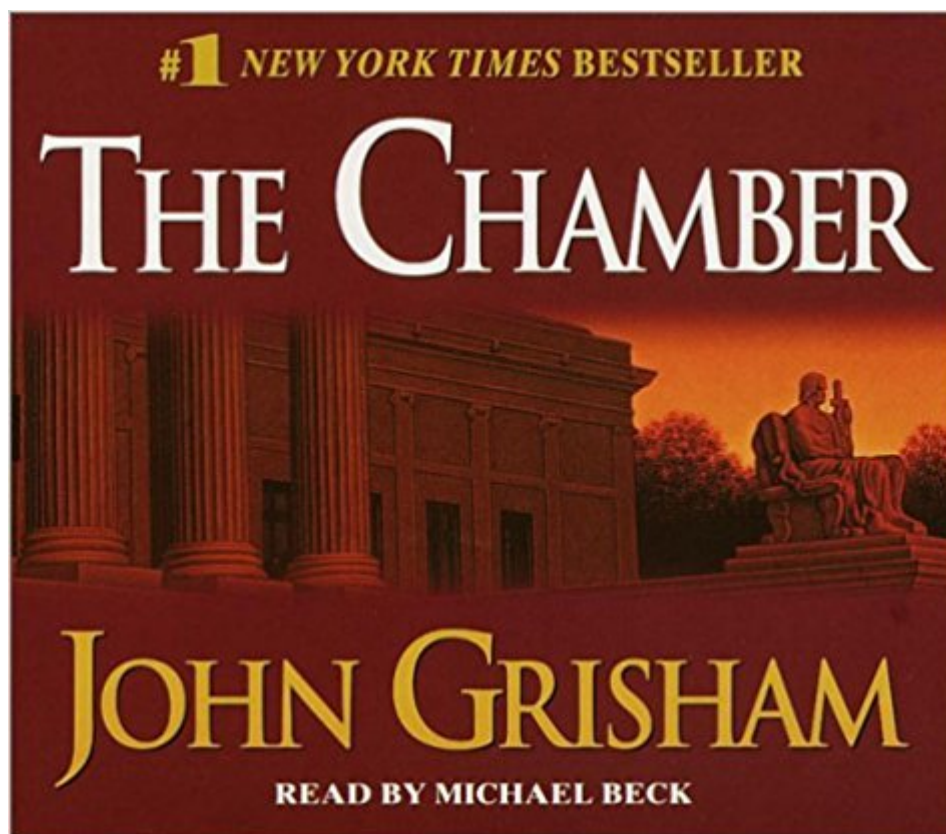




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The Chamber (John Grisham)



Synopsis

Five CDs, 6 hrs. Performance by Michael Beck In the corridors of Chicago's top law firm:

Twenty-six-year-old Adam Hall stands on the brink of a brilliant legal career. Now he is risking it all for a death-row killer and an impossible case. Maximum Security Unit, Mississippi State Prison: Sam Cayhall is a former Klansman and unrepentant racist now facing the death penalty for a fatal bombing in 1967. He has run out of chances -- except for one: the young, liberal Chicago lawyer who just happens to be his grandson. While the executioners prepare the gas chamber, while the protesters gather and the TV cameras wait, Adam has only days, hours, minutes to save his client. For between the two men is a chasm of shame, family lies, and secrets -- including the one secret that could save Sam Cayhall's life...or cost Adam his.

Book Information

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Audio CD

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Customer Reviews

"The decision to bomb the office of the radical Jew lawyer was reached with relative ease." So begins Grisham's legal leviathan *The Chamber*, a 676-page tome that scrutinizes the death penalty and all of its nuances--from racially motivated murder to the cruel and unusual effects of a malfunctioning gas chamber. Adam Hall is a 26-year-old attorney, fresh out of law school and working at the best firm in Chicago. He might have been humming Timbuk 3's big hit, "The Future's So Bright, I Gotta Wear Shades," if it wasn't for his psychotic Southern grandfather, Sam Cayhall. Cayhall, a card-carrying member of the KKK, is on death row for killing two men. Knowing his uncle will surely die without his legal expertise, Hall comes to the rescue and puts his dazzling career at

stake, while digging up a barnyard of skeletons from his family's past. Grisham fans expecting the typical action-packed plot should ready themselves for a slower pace, well-fleshed-out characters, and heavy doses of sentimentalism. --This text refers to the Mass Market Paperback edition.

Tie-in edition with the forthcoming movie starring Gene Hackman and Faye Dunaway. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Mass Market Paperback edition.

The way Grisham develops each character and the raw emotion he paints these scenes with is simply mesmerizing. I literally felt like I was in the story being escorted through each scene like my own personal tour of life on death row all the way to the final moments leading to the execution. Just an awesome book. I actually felt myself grieving for this man as I read the final few chapters, praying for a miracle just like his lawyer/grandson. This is a winner that does not disappoint....enjoy!

This is a real page turner which I expect from John Grisham novels. There is some racist language, but the characters who say it are the villains in the novel. I am in a minority and was not offended by the language. To have "washed" the language to avoid offending people would have made the characters artificial and vanilla. Bottom line, if you are easily offended and prefer your books politically correct, John Grisham already is not your favorite author. However, if you prefer your characters to seem real, you will enjoy this book.

I've been stuck on John Grisham's books for awhile now. I can't remember how many I have read now, but I do know that I have yet to find one I didn't like. The story lines and characters are so well thought out. I really enjoyed the chamber with the main story line of a young lawyer trying to save his grandfather that he never met. The back stories are excellent. John Grisham does an amazing job in showing the characters progress, such as how the main character on death row goes from being a hateful bigot to feeling and showing remorse for his past sins. Anybody that loves to read period, I would recommend this book and any other book by John Grisham.

More of a journal of events and too much detail about sports. What I found devastating was the injustice of the legal system - just unbelievable in the way it operates, how it can be manipulated and how it doesn't protect the very citizens in the way it's supposed to. I'm sure it is not peculiar to the US but I can say (from an inexperienced eye) that I have not come across this dreadful state of affairs in Europe - but I'm sure it must exist in one form or another. The book made me angry along

with other emotions. Extremely well written and documented, it must have taken a 100 years of research. But... I was looking for a final round up of persecution of the guilty, new reforms and procedures that have been put in-place to, at the very least, put roadblocks on manipulations, contrivance, hiding of evidence and such like

This is John Grisham's best book. He tells the story of a man who tries to take advantage of his athletic ability, fails, then is diagnosed with mental illness. After that he is convicted of murder due to a crooked prosecution and spends 12 years on death row. This is a true story.

Before I read the Author's note at the end of this book, I have totally no idea that's a true story. Primarily it is a result of my ignorance before I bought the book, but as an ugly fact, it's also because such a story is so beyond our normal perception. Not only the life of Ron before his trial was so up and down, but more importantly the total derail of justice in one of the most advanced country like USA for its area of protecting human rights. It alerts me that Justice is a game, it's a very fragile game with a set of rules that's so complex and biased to the state by their almost absolute power during any criminal investigation. When a defence can only find the truth by objecting the result of an investigation with a purposeful incrimination on a person, I feel innocence until proven guilty in court is more like a notion than a practical principle. Police are so dangerous if they are only equipped with the resource and force, but not a straight value of their work. Sadly, with Ron, Dennis, Tom and etc, seem it's somehow more than a knowledge for people who live in the less civilised part of the world, but it does happen all over the world even in our modern age...

A non-fiction by John Grisham tells the story of Ron Williamson, a budding baseball star from the small town of Ada, Oklahoma, who was framed by the Ada police for the murder of Debbie Carter. Convicted, sentenced to death and almost executed, Ron spent close to 20 years on death row until he, and his co-accused, Fritz, were exonerated through DNA evidence. This is a horrific tale of wilful miscarriage of justice and the mental destruction of Ron Williamson. Grisham's deeply researched book lays bare the travesties of justice, life in death row and mental illness. Can this happen again, the sad answer is, most likely.

I read quite a few John Grisham books after college and just recently started reading his books again. This book covers a lot of territory. It gives you a look at the way things were decades ago regarding the mistreatment of blacks and the agenda of the KKK. I could have lived without all the

legal jargon but it definitely made me think about the death penalty more than I ever have before. I also enjoyed the friendship/relationship that grew between son and grandfather over the short time they had together. Overall a great book and one that you wanted to keep reading at the end of each chapter.

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