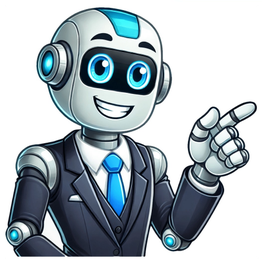
I'm not a bot



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The license may not give you all of the permissions necessary for your intended use. For example, other rights such as publicity, privacy, or moral rights may limit how you use the material. Skip to main content Reddit and its partners use cookies and similar technologies to provide you with a better experience. By accepting all cookies, you agree to our use of cookies to deliver and maintain our services and site, improve the quality of Reddit, personalize Reddit content and advertising, and measure the effectiveness of advertising. By rejecting non-essential cookies, Reddit may still use certain cookies to ensure the proper functionality of our platform. For more information, please see our Cookie Notice and our Privacy Policy. The book was originally published in 1998, and therefore not brand new, but for folks interested in the OJ Simpson civil trial, it's fascinating. Several weeks ago I went into the Commercial Center bookstore, hoping to get an interview. The store owner told me that because his building was scheduled for renovation, he was closing the store at the end of the year. At the time I visited, however, the store was full of used books and before I left, I grabbed one book–for $1. The book I grabbed was Triumph of Justice: The Final Judgment on the Simpson Saga by Daniel Petrocelli with Peter Knobler. I like non-fiction books and I am old enough to remember the O.J. Simpson "incident." I was working at the time and every evening turned on the TV to watch the O.J. criminal trial in action. I was actually in Las Vegas when the verdict came in. I was playing poker, and the game stopped as we all were interested in the verdict. Wow. But this book was about OJ's second trial. Attorney Daniel Petrocelli had been hired by the Ron Goldman family to pursue O.J. Simpson in a civil trial related to the same murders in which the former football hero had been acquitted. Because Petrocelli had paid little attention to the criminal trial, work on the case involved interviews of all the personalities in trial one plus his own experts in trial two. Did I remember the words of Kato Kaelin, A.C. Cowlings, Marcus Allen and others? What did O.J. have to say during 10 days of testimony? How did Petrocelli cope with reporters covering the trial? Every detail was fascinating to me; I was reliving my own history. The book is not short, at 636 pages. And its original publican date was 1998. The paperback edition was published in July 2016. A excerpt from the book: "I took a left out the large courtroom doors, took another left, and there was O.J. Simpson. He and a group of friends and family were crowded in the hallway in a tight circle, saying prayers. Praying to Jesus, I heard, "Lord, give him strength," and "God be with him." "What I found striking about this prayer vigil was how uninvolved Simpson appeared. All the others had their heads bowed, their eyes tight shut. From their body language I could tell they cared with a passion, that it was important to them that this man win. They were intensely engaged, convinced that Simpson was innocent, that he didn't do these terrible things and that God would prevail on his behalf. "I didn't get the feeling looking at Simpson. Although a part of the circle, he seemed apart from it, almost as if he were going through the motions to make his followers happy. Their heads were down in supplication, his was up ad looking around. He saw me catch him in his disinterest. He knew that he had killed two people, he knew his prayer was a fraud, a farce, a charade. H knew he was taking the name of the Lord in vain. But Simpson would do whatever he had to do, including pray to whichever God was expedient, to continue to be O.J." I found Petrocelli's book fascinating and do recommend it. Skip to main content Reddit and its partners use cookies and similar technologies to provide you with a better experience. By accepting all cookies, you agree to our use of cookies to deliver and maintain our services and site, improve the quality of Reddit, personalize Reddit content and advertising, and measure the effectiveness of advertising. By rejecting non-essential cookies, Reddit may still use certain cookies to ensure the proper functionality of our platform. For more information, please see our Cookie Notice and our Privacy Policy. Back when I was charged with generating projects and material, I found comics to be a great way to get folks to understand an idea in a medium that left less to the imagination, so I began hiring artists to help me execute on them. While the well ran dry, Back when I was charged with generating projects and material, I found comics to be a great way to get folks to understand an idea in a medium that left less to the imagination, so I began hiring artists to help me execute on them. While the well ran dry, This is my baby. We got semi-close to making this one back in the old days and the script is still an utter blast. Maybe one day. Below are concepts, photos from our preproduction, and other minutiae. I was Co-Producer on this film, directed by Tom Skull and featuring a cast of young up and coming actors as well as the legendary Glenn Morshower, Rance Howard, and Whitney Cummings. I was a fun time and my band even had a song on the soundtrack. Below is artwork I was Associate Producer on this film directed by Troy Nixey. My mentor Guillermo del Toro took me under his wing for this film and it was a lovely experience I'll cherish until my last breath. Below are official artworks, concept images, and photos I took on the The message boards are back up and running. Read THIS POST for an update. The Wizard's Keys is myself and Stephen Murphy. This is our latest album, a collection of poppy, folksy tunes about cryptozoological creatures and oddities told as pseudo campfire tales. Apple Music - Spotify - YouTube Music The Music of Brownwall Studios · Telling More Lies By The Fire This will soon be the home for my writing, music, previous creations, and more. © 1996-2025, Amazon.com, Inc. or its affiliates O.J. Simpson sits in Superior Court in Los Angeles, December 8, 1994. Photo: Getty Images In the annals of unreliability, there has never been a narrator less reliable than the I who governs the text of If I Did It. In fiction, an unreliable narrator is the product of an author's design, a persona behind whose words the reader has to glimpse a deliberately obscured fictional state of things. In the case of O.J. Simpson's 2007 memoir, we have instead an unstable mix of variously cynical narrative forces that combined to produce what was briefly a best seller and what is now a lost exact opposite of a classic. It is, perhaps, the most notorious publishing story of the 21st century, sleazy enough to make the safe-deposit-box caper that gave us Harper Lee's Go Set a Watchman read like Nancy Drew. The prime mover in the saga of If I Did It — the farcical middle chapter in the trilogy bookended by the tragic murder of Nicole Brown Simpson and Ron Goldman, and the pure pulp finale of O.J.'s incarceration for armed robbery and kidnapping in Las Vegas — was Judith Regan, then the powerhouse of her own imprint within HarperCollins. Regan was a trusted lieutenant of Rupert Murdoch's — if not a News Corp capo at the level of Rebekah Brooks, then one still claiming a similar level of intramural villainy in the media biz. (If you've stopped keeping track, Regan, the former producer of Geraldo and lover of ex-con ex–police commissioner Bernie Kerik, is now the publisher of Regan Arts, an ideologically and aesthetically slippery imprint within the otherwise tasteful L.A.-based art house Phaidon.) Regan signed up O.J.'s conditional memoir with an advance said to be somewhere between $600,000 and just north of $1 million, with the money said to be going to a trust for his two children with Nicole. Regan enlisted Pablo F. Fenjves, a former colleague from their late-1970s stint at the National Enquirer and a witness at the Simpson murder trial (a neighbor of Nicole's, he testified against O.J. about how he had heard Nicole's dog barking that night). (Fenjves says he didn't like the tabloid game, and left it for straight journalism, ghostwriting, and screenwriting; among his credits is the 1995 film The Affair, which happened to star Courtney B. Vance.) Fenjves and O.J. sat together for two days to go over the easy stuff, right up to the night of the murder, and O.J. enjoyed it. But the next day he was "restless and angry" and had "trouble focusing." He complained: "You know what kills me? All the goddamn people who assumed I was guilty before they heard my side." "I'm sorry," Fenjves tells him, "I thought you were guilty then, and I still think you're guilty." O.J. says, "I know you do, motherfucker!" But then his good humor returned, he thanked the ghostwriter for being honest, and they set about the tricky work of writing the infamous chapter six, O.J. insisting all the way that he was describing a "hypothetical" set of occurrences as he provided details that Fenjves thinks he couldn't have invented simply because they're too banal to make up. Did Nicole's dog Kato (I had forgotten that Kato) wag his tail at Goldman and O.J., or just Goldman? Somebody leaked news of the book to the National Enquirer. (Fenjves thinks it was Regan herself.) News Corp. was widely denounced, not least for the slimy synergy of its plan to put O.J. on Fox News for an interview with Regan herself. (Barbara Walters and ABC had passed.) Murdoch stepped in and canceled what he called an "ill-considered project," and then he canned Regan. (It was reported that the cause was that she'd told a co-worker that a Jewish cabal within News Corp. was out to get her; she would sue and win a settlement in excess of $10 million.) It came out that the trust safeguarding the advance for Nicole and O.J.'s children was under O.J.'s control. Regan claimed she'd done it all to expiate her own abuse at the hands of men and "with Ron and Nicole in my heart." "I wanted him to confess his sins, do penance, and to amend his life. Amen." Touché. A Florida bankruptcy court awarded the rights to the Goldman family, to go some way toward what they were owed for the civil decision against O.J. in Ron's wrongful death. They tacked on the subtitle Confessions of the Killer and published the book in the fall of 2007, without O.J.'s name or image on the cover but just in time for his indictment in Nevada. (Their edition was tricked out with a prologue by Fenjves and an afterword by Dominick Dunne; the paperback adds a tedious legal apparatus of the Goldman-Brown family feud, among other matters.) As for the text itself, given the conditional nature of the title, if we were to believe it and accept it without irony, it would seem that O.J. did it because he heard some rather vague rumors about his ex-wife's behavior. In chapter six, these rumors are delivered by Charlie, a fictional character proposed by Simpson and deployed by Fenjves. Charlie is a guy O.J. recently met at dinner with mutual friends and later did some clubbing with. "I liked Charlie — he was one of those guys who is always in a good mood, always laughing — and I told him what I tell a lot of people: Stop by when you're in the neighborhood. I guess he took it literally." Charlie shows up on the fateful night at O.J.'s door just after O.J. and Kato Kaelin go to McDonald's for a burger that isn't going down too well. (Recall Marcia Clark to Kaelin on the stand: "Are you sure you did not go to Burger King?") His good mood has been disturbed at a dinner he was attending with some fellows unaware of his (fictional) friendship with O.J. They were telling bawdy tales of one weekend in Cabo and an encounter with Nicole and her friend Faye. In Charlie's retelling: "There was a lot of drugs and a lot of drinking, and apparently things got pretty kinky." O.J. replies: "Why are you fucking telling me this, man?" Indeed. The actual murder scene, hypothetical or not, is no masterpiece of storytelling. Those who've tracked the account against the evidence presented at the trial think that, Charlie's presence aside, most of it lines up. Telling Charlie, "We're going to scare the shit out that girl," O.J. approached Nicole's condo through its broken back gate. He saw candles flickering inside and heard faint music playing. Then Ron Goldman, a waiter who was returning Nicole's mother's glasses from his restaurant Mezzaluna, where they had dined that evening (O.J. had been invited), also entered through the back gate. O.J. took Goldman for one of Nicole's friends in cocaine and kink, or perhaps one of Faye's "boy-toys," and a shouting match began. O.J. says "motherfucker" a lot. Charlie shows up, wielding the "limited edition" he kept under the driver's seat of his Bronco for dealing with "crazies." Charlie is one moment the devil on O.J.'s shoulder, fanning his rage, the next moment the angel, at one point wisely counseling him, "Let's get the fuck out of here, O.J." Nicole appears and pleads, reasonably, that she can do what she wants in her own house. "Not in front of my kids, you can't!" O.J. accuses Goldman of being a drug dealer. Nicole rushes at him "like a banshee," trips, knocks her head on the stoop, and seems to be unconscious until she starts moaning. Goldman adopts a karate stance, bobbing and weaving. Charlie attempts to insert himself between O.J. and Goldman, but O.J. snatches the knife from him. At the climax of the encounter, O.J. blacks out, then wakes up standing in the same place, covered in blood, as if his own patsy. O.J. and Charlie make a getaway and return O.J. to his house in time for him to make it into a limo to go to the airport. Charlie disposes of the murder weapon and O.J.'s bloody clothes, and O.J. flies to Chicago for a meeting with Hertz. O.J. said he wanted to spare his children any details of how their mother's throat was cut nearly to the point of decapitation: Thus, the blackout. But he gushes through the self-serving 130-page account of the unraveling of his marriage, and that precedes chapter six. Poor O.J. Amid his endless rounds of celebrity golf, pregame shows with Bob Costas, the occasional turn as Norbert to Leslie Neilsen's Frank Dreblin in the Naked Gun movies, his sole aggravation seems to be Nicole's wishy-washy behavior, her halfhearted attempts at reconciliation, her psychobabble about finding herself, her dodgy friends and occasionally inappropriate outfits, her dalliances, including the one she decided to tell him about with her friend Marcus Allen. He spends a lot of time venting that he only ever laid a hand on Nicole once, that time he pushed her out of the bedroom while she was throwing a temper tantrum and she called the cops on him in 1989. (Oh, then there was the night in 1984 when he took a baseball bat to the tetherball tied to the tree, and then, finding that an insufficient anger outlet, bashed up her Mercedes.) There are lots of trips to Vegas and Cabo and New York. When Nicole doesn't want him around for Thanksgiving after their separation, O.J. goes to Detroit to call a Lions game for NBC. One night, when she has a date over at hers, he stops by, peeps at their living-room-couch make-out session, and, to spook them, rings the front doorbell and then drives away. It would all make for a pretty mild episode of Melrose Place if nobody had gotten killed. After chapter six, the text weirdly reverts to innocence mode, and O.J. and Fenjves get sloppier with the details in their version of the low-speed chase in the Bronco, an event so public that the text's omissions and deviations from the record indicate something like malpractice. Perhaps it's another case of O.J. blacking out. He was that day suicidal, supposedly, until he heard Dan Rather talking about him on the radio. During the publishing debacle, Regan told the press the idea for the book had been given to her by a friend who was ex-CIA, who told her that criminals like to confess in the form of hypotheticals. A review of the book in The American Spectator compared O.J.'s conjuring of Charlie to James Earl Ray's confession to Congress that he was accompanied by a man named Raul, who apparently didn't exist, when he killed Martin Luther King Jr. Whether or not he did it, why do we want to think about it again? Do we? The book's first public reader, James Wolcott, found that returning to the ballad of O.J. and Nicole just made him want everyone once again to go away. But alas, they're back on TV. This time we know how it ends, so it'll be easier to turn them off. O.J.'s 'Exact Opposite of Classic,' If I Did It Jump to ratings and reviewsIn 1994, Ron Goldman and Nicole Brown Simpson were brutally murdered at her home in Brentwood, California. O.J. Simpson was tried for the crime in a case that captured the attention of the American people, but was ultimately found not guilty of criminal charges. The victims' families brought a civil case against Simpson, and he was found liable for willfully and wrongfully causing the deaths of Ron and Nicole by committing battery with malice and oppression.In 2006, HarperCollins announced the publication of a book, titled If I Did It, in which O.J. Simpson told how he hypothetically would have committed the murders. In response to public outrage that Simpson stood to profit from these crimes, HarperCollins canceled the book. A Florida bankruptcy court awarded the rights to the Goldmans in August 2007 to partially satisfy the unpaid civil judgment, which has risen to over $38 million with interest.The Goldman family views this book as his confession and has worked hard to ensure that the public will read this book and learn the truth. This is the original manuscript approved by O.J. Simpson, with a subtitle added by the Goldman family and up to 14,000 words of additional commentary.GenresTrue CrimeNonfictionCrimeAudiobookBiographyMemoirHistory 1160 people are currently reading12632 people want to readFormer American football player and actor.Mostly known for being the head suspect of a double-murder including his ex-wife.In 2007, Simpson was arrested in Las Vegas, Nevada, and charged with armed robbery and kidnapping. He was granted parole on July 20, 2017, and then was granted early release from his parole by the Nevada Division of Parole and Probation in 2021.Displaying 1 - 30 of 1,835 reviewsApril 10, 2017What a weird, chilling, strange book. I very much am glad I got to experience this book without any money going to OJ. I still can't wrap my head around why he agreed to do this book if not for the desire to come clean, but in some asinine "fictional" way - this doesn't read like fiction. It reads like a narcissist admitting to something he should have admitted to a long time ago, and still finding ways to blame it on others and pretend it didn't actually happen. My heart goes out to the Goldmans.January 7, 2016I know it seems strange to give this book a 5-star review, but O.J. Simpson's book is compelling and bizarre. Simpson (with the assistance of a ghost writer) begins the book recounting how he met Nicole Brown when she was an 18-year-old waitress at a restaurant and while he was separated from his wife in his first marriage. It continues from there to the conclusion with Simpson's high-speed chase where he was arrested before he was to stand trial for the murder of his wife and Ron Goldman.A couple of odd parts about the book: the book begins with an author's note that reads 'If I did it, this is what happened.' All subsequent events described after the author's note are supposed to be true except for the one chapter about the night of the murder. In that chapter, he attempts to separate the putative fiction from the reality with this brief sentence: "Now picture this--and keep in mind, this is hypothetical." From that point on, he tells how he sneaked into Nicole's house (they were living in different houses at the time) and killed Nicole and Ron Goldman with the help of an accomplice O.J. calls 'Charlie.'Simpson is a very persuasive storyteller. When he writes about the problems he had had with Nicole, with her temper and her excessive drug use, I found myself sympathizing with him and believing his story. He downplayed the allegations that he abused Nicole or that he was jealous and that he wanted her back. He winds up looking like a basically honest guy who was trying to be a good father to his children and handle an ex-wife who was out of control. I will reserve sharing with you my judgment about Simpson's possible guilt or innocence, or the likelihood of Simpson's account with his life with Nicole out of respect for any readers out there who would be interested in reading this book.I confess that I read this book out of curiosity, and I had assumed that the book was going to be awful, either in terms of writing or in terms of detail about the murders. The book was neither, surprisingly. But this was one of the strangest books I have ever read.October 5, 20184,5 ★For me, this book was all about how O.J.'s mind became notoriously affected by the murder of Nicole and Ron. Despite the consecutive debate about whether he's guilty or not, this book was extremely controversial and kinda bizarre in some parts of it. When he talks about his relationship with Nicole, all I could think about was "well, it's easy to say this when the other person from the couple is dead". He repeatedly blame Nicole for being too jealous, too moody and even too whiny by the time their marriage went downhill. I got a lot to think (and read) about before concluding what to believe in all this media circus around two victims and one of the world's most famous athletes. All in all, I do recommend the book if you promise me it won't be the only one you'll read about the case.*Para mim, esse livro foi sobre como a mente de O.J. Simpson se tornou notoriamente afetada pelo assassinato de sua ex-mulher e um amigo. Independente do cansativo debate sobre ele ser ou não culpado, esse livro foi extremamente controverso e meio bizarro em algumas partes. Quando ele fala sobre seu relacionamento com Nicole, tudo que eu conseguia pensar era "bom, é fácil dizer isso quando a outra pessoa do casal está morta". Ele repetidamente culpava Nicole por ser muito ciumenta, muito temperamental e até muito pegajosa/chorona quando o casamento já estava indo ladeira a baixo. Tenho muito o que pensar (e ler) sobre o caso antes de concluir no que acredito diante desse circo que a mídia criou ao redor de duas vítimas e um dos atletas mais famosos do mundo. Apesar dos pesares, eu recomendo o livro se você me prometer que ele não será o único que você lerá sobre o caso.criminologia e-books lidos-2018 August 10, 2021March 6, 2015This is WAY too fucking fascinating and fucked up not for me to write extensively about it in some other context. SPOILER: He did it. July 13, 2011A strange concoction that tries to be a kind of "Hey, to be honest with you, I didn't do it, but supposing I did, Nicole, to tell you the truth, really drove me to it, she was such a slutty cokehead, but I loved her and could never kill her, and besides there's nothing to that domestic abuse shit, but even if there was, she was the heavy, not me, I'm all crippled with arthritis, to honest, but to sell this book here's a hypothetical scenario for your entertainment." That's what I got out of it. If you're doing research on criminal minds, or have a particular interest in the O.J. trial, then this book is could be very worth your while. I can understand why the Goldman family would want to see it in print. But as entertainment, it's a dud. September 9, 2008This book was so revolting that I stopped reading it after about the first 40 pages. OJ continued to assert that he was better than Nicole, and that after they had gotten divorced, she begged to get him back even though he was dating Paula what's-her-name, and that she wouldn't stop phoning him and trying to win him back. It was disgusting. The prologue, written by the Goldman family, was equally foul. They wrote of their desire for vengeance, and while I understand that, seeing that OJ obviously murdered Nicole Brown Simpson and Ron Goldman, give it a rest. They just talked about how much money they stood to get from the proceeds of the book and the trials they kept going through and winning against OJ, and after 10 years, the $19 million that they had won had now turned into $38 million and they were angry that he hadn't paid them. I would be angry, too, but I'm not writing a book about it and telling everyone that I stand to get $38 million.There was also a prologue written by the ghostwriter, who had met with OJ to get all of the details of the 'if I did it', which was supposed to be a thinly veiled 'confession'. I don't even understand how this man could have stood to be in OJ's presence and not wanted to vomit. OJ continued to assert his innocence and that IF he had done it, he wouldn't have been able to do it alone. After the book had been written, the ghostwriter claimed, he sent copies to OJ and OJ wanted him to remove the ENTIRE chapter on the murders, saying that he hated it and that it wasn't correct at all. I was simply disgusted by the few pages that I read, and I don't recommend it to anyone with even the remotest shred of decency.October 10, 2007OJ is a delusional wanker. Does he really expect people to believe he had nothing to do with the murders? The answer is yes...yes he does. Throughout the book he tries to paint a picture of himself as the perfect ex-husband, someone who loved Nicole and could never have committed these crimes. Right. I didn't buy his innocence before and I sure as hell don't buy it now.October 14, 2015First up, fascinating story. You would have to have been under a rock during the early 90s not to know this story, and the trial. Secondly, who on earth would write a book about "if I did it" when you received a not guilty criminal verdict (guilty civil though). Where were his advisers?!But despite all this, I really wanted to read this book. Simpson is an egotist and I have to admit that I came to this book thinking that he did the crime. The book itself is very strangely written. He spends all of the book painting himself in a good light, and painting Nicole in a poor, obsessive, drug-addicted light. It is like he is setting himself up a defence for any resulting actions, or that he never did anything he as accused of. But then, he explains HOW HE KILLED NICOLE AND RON with Charlie in tow. It's simply a book of two halves - he was a nice guy who didn't do it, and then he explains how, even though he was a nice guy, he killed them! It was confusing and odd! Very odd!So, in summary, I still think he did it. And I think this book is filled of rumblings of someone who got away with murder. (my ebook copy was riddled with mistakes and errors; not sure whether this is the same for the print version)crime-and-thrillers ebook-owned like-nothing-i-ve-ever-read January 24, 2008Go right out and get this book because you will be donating to very good causes (battered women's programs) led by the Goldman family. You also won't believe what OJ's ghost writer tells him to his face. You'll get more insight into the Hollywood celebrity lifestyle than you may want, but you'll end up with a much broader perspective of "why he did it", not "if, I did it". Insightful and chilling. I'm glad the Goldmans wrestled with agony of publishing this book.September 17, 2022Just had to laugh at OJ's liesMarch 27, 2017Only someone who brutally murdered two people and got away with it would have the arrogance to write a book detailing how he did it. The book is comprised of only eight chapters, sandwiched between a lengthy introduction by the Goldman family, followed by a preface by O.J.'s ghost writer and ending with an afterword by Dominick Dunne. The first five chapters are delusional and self-serving, with O.J. making himself out to be just this poor sap who had the misfortune of falling in love with an erratic, unstable woman. But because she was the mother of his children, and because he's such a good guy, even after she asked for the separation and the divorce, he continued to be the bigger man; the positive, supportive influence in her life, always remaining the steady voice of reason, regardless of how abusive or irrational she became. Chapter Six is his thinly veiled "hypothetical" confession, described in revealing detail, the night the murders took place, and it's just plain eerie. Chapter Seven includes the interrogation, which doesn't fully make sense, and raises some flags; and in Chapter Eight, O.J. makes himself the victim, describing the infamous police chase, how the media vilified him, and how he felt like the "battered husband or boyfriend". It's hard to rate this book, which is part fact, largely fiction. The fictional chapters were difficult to stomach in far different ways than Chapter Six. The section written by his ghost writer Pablo Fenjves is quite insightful, and he does a great job of capturing the author's narcissistic "voice" throughout. And if you're having difficulty understanding why the Goldmans moved forward with publishing this book after publicly trying to derail it, read their introduction. Regardless of what you thought at the time, it cannot be denied that there is no way O.J. could know such details, or even imagine them, unless he was actually there.3-stars-or-less killer-reading read-in-2016 April 29, 2016May 8, 2016Only read this book if you have a strong gag reflex, because the desire to barf will be intense.July 12, 2016I will post a full review after I recover from reading this book. For now, all I will say is that this book is the worst and the ugliest case of a character assassination I've read or heard about in my life. I would have never read this book if the proceeds of this book would've still be going to OJ Simpson. I admire Goldmans for not giving up the fight for justice.Full review to come...badly-written creepy disturbing February 8, 2018What a pompous, arrogant prick July 15, 2011The book was scrapped for publishing as the Goldman's faught for the rights to O.J.'s book. They won. There is a foreword from Mr. Goldman, Ron's dad and also from the "ghost writer". There is an afterword from Mr. Dominick Dunne who himself mourned his daughter's murder at the hand's of her boyfriend.This book confirms that O.J. Simpson is a narcissistic sociopath. Most of the book is simply OJ explaining how he was the perfect husband and father who was married to a controlling abusive woman. As he described their crumbling marriage he began to lay the blame for the failing marriage more directly at the feet of Nicole.To me, this was very much a confession. He describes the way he felt after killing the two people. He describes the anger that only the killer would feel. And the way he phrases the description of the feelings is what one would think a killer of his personality type would feel. I don't think Simpson could have made up those feelings. I don't think he has that capability. He is not that creative. He is not a mental giant. He is a physical person, not a mental person.Why did he write this book? Because he was there the night Ron Goldman and Nicole Brown Simpson died. He saw what happened.March 13, 2018Pulled this out and reread it after watching the long buried interview version. I bought it originally because the proceeds went to the Goldmans, plus I added it to my large OJ book collection, that I have for whatever perverted reason. I had forgotten just what a bunch of self-serving crap this is. Poor OJ! He was just a good guy, married to that horrible drug addled floozy who beat him up all the time! And just because he had little affairs now and then, didn't she understand that "temptations of the flesh" are everywhere when you are OJ? What a shrew she was! It's just a credit to him that he put up with her as long as he did before she finally just drove him to slitting her throat. He TOLD her...for crying out loud, what did she expect? And then he got all that bad press, and he looked BAD when he showed up in court the first time because he hadn't had any sleep that night! Those pesky guards! Someone does need to tell OJ, though, that in a "hypothetical" situation you can't keep forgetting what happened, because you are just making it up. You cannot "hypothetically" not remember..if you say that, people might think you recounting something that really DID happen. Sigh sigh sigh.oj-trial own-it true-crimeNovember 10, 2010Okay , I DID IT!!! And here is how...but wait, I didn't really do it. I am so glad the Goldman Family fought for the rights of this book. February 1, 2018Spoiler - He Did It.Seriously devoured this in one sitting ... It is a completely narcissistic delusional way for "the killer" to continue to get attention. I am a True Crime fan and remember watching this unfold in the 1990's and followed the trial closely. I am a HUGE fan of Fred Goldman and the entire Goldman family. The way they fought for the memory of their son is heartbreaking and amazing. I felt revitalized by the Foreward that spent time explaining that the story was originally pitched in an effort to financially support "the killer" and to "set him up for retirement. The Goldman and Brown families by this time had won a judgement against the estate of "the killer" and as a result they were able to remind "the killer" that there are consequences to his actions. I can't believe I am going to recommend it but the ghost writer did a great job and I was reminded of the crazy days surrounding the murder of Nicole Brown Simpson and Ron Goldman. WOW.Edited to add: A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Ron Goldman Foundation for Justice.The Girl with the Sagittarius TattooMarch 2, 2025This True Crime NF has been on my radar since, oh, twentyish years ago when word of it first started spreading in the news. In reality, it's underwhelming. It's supposedly a fictionalized account of Nicole Brown's and Ron Goldman's murders, as told by OJ Simpson to Pablo Fenjves. Honestly, the story about the book's genesis - as in, what the fuck was he thinking and who approved its publication - is much more interesting than his "imagined" version of events.I really just wanted to hear how he explained the murders, period. I couldn't care less about the end of their love story - boo hoo, millions of marriages end and hundreds of millions of kids are in a broken family. I listened through those chapters anyway. Surprise: OJ paints himself as the reasonable one while Nicole became unstable over time. Although much is made of *the chapter* in both Forewards (one from the Goldmans and the other by Fenjves) and Dominick Dunne's Afterward, it was super disappointing. With OJ's capital letter caveat that "This Is All Hypothetical," he recounts how he and Nicole both attended their daughter Sydney's recital that evening, whereafter OJ went home while the rest of Nicole's family went to dinner at Mezzaluna. Ron Goldman, a waiter at the restaurant, volunteered to drive out to Nicole's house to drop off a pair of sunglasses the group left behind at the table (the family called the restaurant looking for the glasses). Meanwhile, OJ "imagines" that a friend of his, named "Charlie" in the book, stopped by his house and got him wound up with stories of Nicole doing drugs and sleeping around - even though their marriage had been effectively over for quite some time. He "imagines" such a thing would put him in a rage, so OJ and "Charlie" would have driven over to Nicole's house, put on beanies and gloves, and approached the house armed with a "very nice knife." Due to unfortunate timing, Ron was walking up to the front door at the same time OJ and "Charlie" are in the yard, so OJ confronts him. The shouting brings Nicole to the door, and when OJ notices that her dog isn't barking at Ron, he interprets it as familiarity, concluding that Ron was probably sleeping with Nicole. OJ goes into a blackout state with no recollection of any details of the attack itself whatsoever, and the next thing he knows, "Charlie" is saying, "Oh man, oh man, what did you do, OJ?"If you're like what the...? you aren't alone. The whole thing reads like a memoir despite the disclaimers. A responsible adult in OJ's camp should have intervened long before this book became more than just a bad idea.2-stars audiobook dreamy-surreal-weird March 5, 2018Uhm, wow, where to start, what to say? Maybe like this, with the pure technical side: the writing style is good, it's an easy read with a good flow, so, kudos to ghostwriter Pablo F. Fenjves (who also added a very intersting foreword; actually, all the extra texts surrounding O.J.'s "actual report" are interesting, since they offer a lot of what was going on behind the scenes of this book's genesis).That being said, if you're interested in the general topic - the O.J. murder case and/or true crime in general, if you remember what went on back then, the abuse, the murder, the trial - this might be a book for you. I say might because on the one hand, this is completely disturbing and appalling - at the same time, it's weirdly fascinating, in a "shake your head and bang it against the wall because the author really claims this as his truth"-kind of way. I'm still not sure if I feel made fun of as reader or am just confused because O.J. really thought anybody would swallow all of this...?I'm not the one to judge characters of people I don't know. However: even if I came from the moon, had never heard of O.J. and Nicole and Ron before and read this book, I'd knew this makes little to no sense. Painting a picture of oneself as some holy martyr only to then speculate how said person would commit a brutal double murder - hypothetically speaking? WTF?? Why would an innocent person (who - if we continue this fairy tale - lost his divorced yet still beloved wife, was wrongfully judged by literally everybody and their sister, was wrongfully put on trial and narrowly escaped the death penalty) tell such a tale? WHAT? The mind, it boggles and just doesn't stop. A weird book this is. An okay read, fascinating in a strange, almost pervert way, but mainly weird.2-stars-okay medium-book read-author-male-only August 6, 2016OJ's confession - pure and simple. He's insipid and vane. He's narcissistic. He's so full of $h1t. It's painful to read and he paints himself as the victim. He is so guilty. July 4, 2019If I Did It is, undoubtedly, a confession, despite the claims that the murder account is purely "hypothetical" and "fictional". There is no actual reason as to why Simpson would write, publish, and promote a "fictional" account of the double murders he was trialed for. But the very fact that he did, and above all, truly believed the greater mass of people would believe in his innocence after reading this book, is absolutely bizarre. A bulk of this book is a detailed history of O.J and Nicole's relationship, while the infamous Bronco chase, arrests, murders, and interrogations are the very last few chapters. Or, in other words, this is simply a telling of how O.J believed that he was definitely a perfect father; a perfect husband; a perfect man, at the very least, who married a drug addict, adulterer, abusive, controlling, mentally unstable woman. O.J writes this with the knowledge that nothing can be confirmed because the woman in which he slanders and victim-blames is dead.I've always been interested in true crime, particularly the psychology behind them. I don't bat an eye when watching documentaries about serial killers, or viewing their forensics and crime scene photos. But after reading this, I felt dirty. No matter if you believe this man is innocent or guilty, the ways in which O.J reads off as an extreme narcissistic sociopath is chilling. The most awful (and laughable) attempt at sympathy-gaining is when he said the nurse "took lots of blood" and "filled up four or five glass vials"! In comparison to the amount of blood at the crime scene, I felt like I needed to take a shower for a week straight. Goodness.I can only hope that the Goldman and Brown families feel at least an ounce of justice from their additions and rights to this book. I'm glad that they fought for this powerful, strange story. It is not incredibly well-written, but I'd recommend this to anyone mildly intrigued by the case. I just feel grossed out that Simpson is now, 25 years later, prancing around on Twitter and declaring that he has some "getting even to do". I need another shower.January 5, 2012Hmm. This was interesting to say the least. There is no way that I believe that any of this is "hypothetical", and that's what makes it all the more brain bending. I find it almost comical how he describes his and Nicole's relationship. He is always the rational one and she is always the obsessive, out of control one. Hmmm. Pretty hard to swallow. I do think there is some truth though in his perception of their relationship and in the events that took place after the murders. His description of what happens in the Bronco seems reasonable and I would go so far as to say it sounds pretty truthful. I know most reviews said that the chapter on the murders was kind of ridiculous and obviously not the truth, but I beg to differ. I don't think that he doesn't remember killing Ron and Nicole, but his description about how he felt afterward is very telling. How he kind of snaps out of a haze and is wondering what the hell just happened. I think that that is him being really honest. Isn't that how a lot of people describe how they feel after committing murder. Especially when it is a crime of passion. It's like a rage that overtakes them. They feel like a different person and when it is all over, they can't believe that their own hands took the life of someone else. I don't think O.J. is a cold-blooded murderer. I think he is a man who committed a horrific, unforgivable crime and he should have paid the price for it. Unfortunately he didn't, but when you see him now he is a sad, worn-down, fraction of what he used to be. Guilt from killing two people will do that to a man. He's a narcissist and has never thought once about how his actions affect other people. This manuscript is proof of that. But he knows what he did and it eats at him bit by bit and eventually there will be no more of him left. Then he can answer to a higher power.June 27, 2014While I support the efforts of the Goldman and Brown families to bring this book to publication and to bring the truth to light, I don't want to read the sick words of a vicious killer. I sleep better at night knowing that this evil man is behind bars, albeit not for the murders he committed. celebs-shouldnt-write cheap-ploys-to-make-a-buckOctober 13, 2013Reposted with permission from BirdBrianif you see the hydra, repost with the hydra on topCensorship sucks, AND it often doesn't even workLet's get this part out of the way first: I thought the book was poorly written. I thought the grammar was at times awkward, and some of the things said were illogical. I found spelling errors on pages 4, 92, and 9024."If I Did It". Kinda clever what he did there, isn't it? There is really an admission of wrongdoing- even though it describes step by step exactly how O.J. would have committed the crime he was accused of... you know, "if" he did it.Like most people in America, I followed this trial with interest, and I feel confident based on what I learned that O.J. Simpson is guilty of Nicole Simpson and Ron Goldman's murders.My understanding is that O.J. wrote this book to get money to help pay his legal bills from the trial, although most of the money now goes to the Goldman family, because they won a civil case against him. So as I see it, this book was written to help a murderer- who eluded justice- to further profit from his crime ("further" beyond whatever murderous bloodlust of the moment it satisfied.)That makes me really dispise this author's behavior.But of course we all know that I can't just come out and trash the book based on how I feel about the author's behavior. That would violate GoodReads' Terms of Service.Of course If I didn't read the book, and I posted a 1 star review of it anyhow, I'm not entirely sure how GoodReads would know this. And If I wanted to write an excoriating review that appeared to be "about the book", I could skim the brief description on the book's page for a few central points and themes, couldn't I? I could find a few names to drop, and probably cobble together a review that sounded like I had read the book. (If I didn't read the book, but of course I totally did.)Naturally, I'd have to keep the review "about the book". I'd have to say the writing was bad, things didn't make sense, it was boring, etc, etc. But it would be easy enough to do, If I felt strongly enough about it.So what's my point?My point is that back in the GoodReads "Before Censorship Era" (BCE), I could have written a nasty review about the author, and put it on a shelf called "authors who profit from murder". I could have openly admitted that I never read the book, and readers could take that into consideration when they read my review. GoodReaders would see my honest opinions for what they are, and they could make their own mind up about whether my thoughts on the author are justified, and whether they agree, and whether they should avoid the book. Reviews from the BCE were more likely to be open and honest, even if they were exceedingly negative.Now we are in the Censorship Era (CE). If I feel strongly about a book based on its author, there's no way of stopping me from writing a terrible review about it; I just have to keep some rules in mind, to escape detection. With 20 million users on the site, it seems unlikely that GR could realistically track down and identify all the reviews which appear to be about the book, but which are really driven by other motives. Not going to happen. It is an ironclad certainty that reviews like that WILL be posted in the future, and they WILL escape official detection.The thing is, with all of the honesty of the BCE lost, how is anybody to know which reviews are reliable, and which ones are effectively wolves in sheeps' clothing? GoodReads' new policies (or old policies with new implementation practices) doesn't eradicate "because-of-the-author" reviews; it merely drives them underground. And in doing so, it makes ALL reviews suspect.The GoodReads of BCE had some nasty author-reader blowups, but for the most part the reviews everybody had such bad feelings about were easy to identify, and they didn't call the integrity of other reviews into question. In the GoodReads of the CE, EVERY review is suspect. You can't tell which is honest and which is an imposter.It cheapens the value of reviews and thus of the site. While GoodReads/Amazon doesn

killer, the O. J. Simpson of If I Did It is presented as a befuddled bystander, a puppet with broken strings, a fool in a fog. He's a bystander even with his own supposed book, disavowing "The Night in Question" as something slid into place by the publisher and ghostwriter for commercial reasons, thereby sloughing off responsibility for what would have gone out under his name had the project not been aborted pre-launch after the public and media outcry. He wanted his payday and wasn't too particular about it. "Was it tacky?" Simpson said in a recent interview. "Yes, it was tacky, but it was brought to me." He gave ReganBooks some of what they wanted, and the ghostwriter shoveled them the rest. [#image: /photos/54cc01fe0a5930502f5f50b5]|||In the January 2005 issue, Vanity Fair published "The Devil and Miss Regan," a profile of publisher Judith Regan by Judith Newman. Photograph by Amy Sussman/Getty Images.|||Everything is anticlimactic after Chapter Six's hokey crescendo, the legendary police chase of the White Bronco up the freeway devolving into a movable media orgy as Simpson threatens to blow his brains out with a loaded Magnum (changing his mind after hearing Dan Rather on the radio—man, Dan Rather gets blamed for everything), brainless supporters wave go juice! signs at the overpasses, and news choppers swarm like a plague of locusts. If I Did It closes before we get to the trial, thank God, because who wants to go through that circus shit again? As it is, If I Did It betrays a slightly faded rustle, the names of its once everyday-news cast of characters—Faye Resnick, Al Cowlings, Robert Kardashian—jogging the memory like those of the bit players in the Watergate saga, without any clear pictures of who they were forming in the mind. It is a book out of which no one comes off well, its real-life clichéd characters clattering like empty bottles. Nicole Simpson is at least depicted as a complicated person with her own pluses and minuses. Ron Goldman isn't even accorded that much dignity, treated as nothing more than a disposable pretty boy foolish enough to think he could challenge the raging bull of Chapter Six, one more injustice to add to the Simpson file. But justice and injustice have always seemed incidental to the Simpson case, tangential to the cesspool soap opera. After finishing If I Did It, I didn't feel any inward swelling of moral outrage or righteous disgust, didn't hatch any profound insights into sex, race, and violence in America—I just wanted everyone connected with it to go away. Not that they will. Attorney Yale Galanter is reportedly shopping a new book proposal on Simpson's behalf that promises to be a "tastefully" done portrait of the marriage to Nicole. The next ghostwriter will have one hell of an uphill climb.James Wolcott is a Vanity Fair contributing editor. His blog resides on VF.com. 2007 book by O.J. Simpson and Pablo Fenjves If I Did It: Confessions of the Killer 2007 print coverAuthorO.J. SimpsonPablo Fenjves (ghostwriter)[1]Dominick DunneThe Goldman familyOriginal titleIf I Did ItPublisherBeaufort Books (Regan Books/HarperCollins, before cancellation)Publication dateSeptember 13, 2007Publication placeUnited StatesMedia typeHardbackPages210ISBN978-0-8253-0588-7Preceded byI Want to Tell You: My Response to Your Letters, Your Messages, Your Questions If I Did It: Confessions of the Killer is a book by O. J. Simpson, in which he puts forth a hypothetical description of the murders of Nicole Brown Simpson and Ron Goldman. According to ghostwriter Pablo Fenjves, the book is based on extensive discussions with Simpson.[2] Simpson was acquitted of the murders in a criminal trial but later was found financially liable in a civil trial.[3] Although the original release of the book was canceled shortly after it was announced in November 2006,[4] 400,000 physical copies of the original book were printed, and copies of it had been leaked online by June 2007.[5] The book was originally due to be published by ReganBooks, an imprint of HarperCollins, which was headed by editor and publisher Judith Regan. The television network Fox, a sister to HarperCollins via News Corporation at the time, was to also broadcast an interview special with Simpson to promote the book, O.J. Simpson: If I Did It, Here's How It Happened. However, following objections to the special by several Fox station owners, the special was also canceled. Footage from the interview was aired for the first time during a Fox special, O.J. Simpson: The Lost Confession?, in March 2018. In August 2007, a Florida bankruptcy court awarded the rights to the book to the Goldman family to partially satisfy the civil judgment. The book's title was changed to If I Did It: Confessions of the Killer, and this version was published by Beaufort Books, a New York City publishing house owned by parent company Kampmann & Company/Midpoint Trade Books. Comments were added to the original manuscript by the Goldman family, Fenjves, and journalist Dominick Dunne.[6] The new cover design printed the word "If" greatly reduced in size compared with the other words, and placed inside the word "I", so unless looked at very closely, the title of the book appears to read "I Did It: Confessions of the Killer".[7][8] "Nicole. Jesus. I looked down and saw her on the ground in front of me, curled up in a fetal position at the base of the stairs, not moving. Goldman was only a few feet away, slumped against the bars of the fence. He wasn't moving either. Both he and Nicole were lying in giant pools of blood. I had never seen so much blood in my life. It didn't seem real, and none of it computed." If I Did It: Confessions of the Killer, Simpson, Fenjves (2006), p. 81. The first part of the If I Did It manuscript contains a detailed description of Simpson's early relationship and marriage with Nicole Brown Simpson. The latter part of the manuscript describes details of the events on June 12, 1994, and about the murders as they could have occurred if Simpson had committed them. Simpson's attorney said that there is "only one chapter that deals with their deaths and that chapter, in my understanding, has a disclaimer that it's complete fiction."[9] In Simpson's hypothetical scenario, he has an unwilling accomplice named "Charlie" (a generic name put forth by Fenjves and given to O.J.'s 'friend') who urges him to not engage with Nicole, whom Simpson plans to "scare the shit out of".[10] Simpson ignores Charlie's advice and continues to Nicole's condo, where he finds and confronts Ron Goldman. According to the book, Nicole falls and hits her head on the concrete, and Goldman crouches in a karate pose. As the confrontation escalates, Simpson writes, "Then something went horribly wrong, and I know what happened, but I can't tell you how."[11] He writes that he regained consciousness later with no memory of the actual act of murder.[10] Cover of the recalled edition Simpson's eldest daughter, Arnelle Simpson, testified in a deposition that she and Van Exel, president of Raffles Entertainment and Music Production, came up with the idea for the book and pitched it to her father in an attempt to make money.[12] She testified that her father thought about it and eventually agreed to the book deal.[12] Simpson stated, "I have nothing to confess. This was an opportunity for my kids to get their financial legacy. My kids understand. I made it clear that it's blood money, but it's no different than any of the other writers who did books on this case."[12] The book was originally due to be published by ReganBooks, an imprint of HarperCollins, which was headed by editor and publisher Judith Regan who would also interview Simpson in the planned television special based on the book. Regan was quoted by the Associated Press as saying "This is a historic case, and I consider this his confession."[13] Pablo Fenjves, a screenwriter and witness at Simpson's 1995 trial, ghostwrote Simpson's book.[14] Fenjves stated in interviews that Simpson actively collaborated on the manuscript, and that Fenjves believed Simpson was guilty of murder.[15] Simpson said he had little to do with the book's creation, but Fenjves in contrast said the book was based on discussions he and Simpson had on the matter.[2] The book was unofficially announced in the National Enquirer in late October 2006;[16] this was immediately denied by Simpson's lawyer. The book was then formally announced some weeks later in mid-November 2006 for release on November 30.[17] The first version's cover, as released by HarperCollins, shows a photograph of Simpson with the words "I Did It" in red and the word "If" in white.[18] The Beaufort version had the words "I Did It" in large type and the word "If" written in a tiny font and placed at the top of the "I". Neither version of the book has Simpson's name on the front cover. HarperCollins and ReganBooks had planned to publish the book on November 30, 2006. The National Enquirer made unproven claims in October 2006 that Simpson would be paid US$3.5 million for the book.[19][20] If I Did It ignited a storm of pre-publication controversy, largely due to the perception that Simpson was trying to profit from the two deaths for which his civil suit verdict had found him liable. Sara Nelson, editor-in-chief of Publishers Weekly said: "This is not about being heard. This is about trying to cash in, in a pathetic way, on some notoriety."[17] Patricia Schroeder, president and chief executive of the Association of American Publishers, felt that the book would "stir an awful lot of debate and make the culture take a real look at itself, and that may not be unhealthy".[17] Denise Brown, sister of murder victim Nicole Brown Simpson, expressed her hope that the publisher would take "full accountability for promoting the wrongdoing of criminals and leveraging this forum and the actions of Simpson to commercialize abuse".[17] She went on to say that Simpson's two children would be "exposed to [his] inexplicable behavior and we will provide them with our love and support during this time. It's unfortunate that [O.J.] Simpson has decided to awaken a nightmare that we have painfully endured and worked so hard to move beyond."[21][22] The proposed book also outraged the family of Ron Goldman, who criticized the publisher for "helping a murderer get his voice out there".[23] According to lawyers for the family, they planned to attempt to garnish any earnings Simpson might get from the book. Fred Goldman, Ron's father, was awarded $33.5 million by a jury in 1997 for the wrongful death of his son; however, Simpson never paid this judgment due to a California law that prevents pensions from being used to satisfy judgments, and the fact that the bulk of his income comes from his NFL pension. Goldman described the book and television interview as "an all-time low" and "morally reprehensible to me ... to think you are willing to give somebody airtime about how they would murder two people."[21] The day after the announcement of its publication, an online boycott encouraged Americans to ignore the book and complain to publishers and booksellers.[24] Similar boycotts were held in Australia and Europe.[25] Within four days of the book's announcement, over 58,394 people had signed an online petition developed by Goldman's family, DontPayOJ.com,[26] declaring their opposition to the book.[27] Bookshops were divided about stocking the title in their stores. Numerous independent stores said either that they would not sell it or would offer limited copies and give away the proceeds.[28] Borders Books and Waldenbooks said they would donate any profits made from the book to charities which would benefit victims of domestic violence, and a Borders spokesperson said they "believe it is the right of customers to decide what they read and what to buy, but we will not discount the title or promote it".[29] Several stores in Canada said they would only order it for customers, but not stock it.[30] In the days following the book's announcement, pre-orders put it in the top 20 of Amazon.com's bestseller list; it fell to No. 51 when the book's cancellation was announced.[31] Legal experts theorized that Simpson might be able to avoid paying the Goldmans or Browns any money. Lawyer Tom Mesereau said Simpson might have profits "paid into a trust offshore or a corporation in a different name, and commented: "I think it's going to be difficult if [Simpson] arranges to have [book profits] deposited abroad. It's one thing to enforce a judgment in America, and another to enforce it overseas."[32] Fox, an American television network that was a sister to HarperCollins via News Corporation at the time, was to air a related, two-part, taped interview with Simpson, conducted by Regan, in which Simpson describes how he would have committed the 1994 slayings of Nicole and Goldman, "if he were the one responsible". As in the book, Simpson also mentions an unwilling accomplice named "Charlie". The interview was scheduled to air on November 27 and November 29, 2006, timed to coincide with the book's release. The program was being produced under Fox's alternative programming department, headed by Mike Darnell, and not under the auspices of Fox News Channel.[33] NBC said that it was approached to air the interview, but declined, saying, "This is not a project appropriate for our network."[34] On November 16, 2006, Regan issued a statement claiming that her reason for recording the interview and releasing the book was an attempt to find closure after having been a battered woman herself. She said: "The men who lied and cheated and beat me – they were all there in the room. And the people who denied it, they were there, too. And though it might sound a little strange, Nicole and Ron were in my heart. And for them I wanted him to confess his sins, do penance, and to amend his life. Amen."[35] Over a dozen Fox affiliates refused to carry the special, or decided to air it, but devote local advertising time to public service announcements. KSFX-TV in Springfield, Missouri,[28] WPGH-TV in Pittsburgh, and WWCP-TV in Johnstown-Altoona-State College, Pennsylvania area, were the first to turn down the special on November 17, 2006,[36] along with KAYU-TV in Spokane, Washington,[37] and WDRB in Louisville, Kentucky.[38] Pappas Telecasting also planned to pre-empt the program on their Fox stations in four markets,[39] along with Fox affiliates KNDX in Bismarck-Minot, North Dakota;[40] KMPH-TV in Fresno, California; KPTH in Sioux City, Iowa; KTVG-TV in Lincoln, Superior and Grand Island, Nebraska; and KPTM in Omaha, Nebraska. Fox affiliates KCPQ in Seattle—owned by Tribune Company—and XETV in San Diego/Tijuana—were both reportedly undecided; each indicated that if they aired the special, they would not sell local ad time, instead giving that time to local domestic violence groups to air public service announcements.[41] The interview was later aired for the first time as O.J. Simpson: The Lost Confession? in March 2018.[42] Intense public criticism led to the cancellation of the book's publication and a related television interview, both from divisions of News Corporation (Fox and HarperCollins, of which ReganBooks was an imprint). On November 20, 2006, News Corporation issued a statement saying that the book and television special had been cancelled. In the statement, News Corporation chairman and CEO Rupert Murdoch said, "I and senior management agree with the American public that this was an ill-considered project. We are sorry for any pain this has caused the families of Ron Goldman and Nicole Brown-Simpson."[43] The Associated Press called the book's cancellation "an astonishing end to a story like no other", noting that a publisher's withdrawing a book for its content "is virtually unheard of".[31] According to a Newsweek story, all 400,000 printed copies were recalled for "pulping", except for one, locked away in a vault at News Corporation.[44] A copy later appeared in an auction listing on eBay in September 2007; it eventually sold for over $250,000.[45] James Wolcott of Vanity Fair also obtained a "pristine hardcover" copy of the book for a review published in January 2007.[46] On November 21, 2006, Denise Brown accused Fox of trying to stop the Goldman and Brown families from criticizing the project by offering millions of dollars for their silence surrounding the project. Brown said: "They wanted to offer us millions of dollars. Millions of dollars for, like, 'Oh, I'm sorry' money. But they were still going to air the show. We just thought, 'Oh my God.' What they're trying to do is trying to keep us quiet, trying to make this like hush money, trying to go around the civil verdict, giving us this money to keep our mouths shut."[47] Brown told NBC's Today that her family's response was "absolutely not". Fox confirmed that the Brown and Goldman families were offered profit participation deals for the projects but denies that it was hush money.[47] News Corp spokesman Andrew Butcher said: "Last week, when concerns were raised by the public that we were profiting from this guy's story, we tried to work out some arrangement with the family. Never was there any suggestion of them being barred from talking about it. We would never suggest that."[48] The rights to the book were held by Lorraine Brooke Associates, a shell corporation set up in the name of Simpson's children.[49] Fred Goldman, Ron Goldman's father, sued the corporation for the book rights in order to help satisfy the $33.5 million wrongful death civil suit judgment against Simpson. After a California judge ordered the rights to be auctioned off and the proceeds to go to Goldman, Lorraine Brooke Associates filed for bankruptcy in April 2007.[49] Fred Goldman then pursued the matter in bankruptcy court. In June 2007, a federal judge ruled that Goldman could pursue the publishing rights to Simpson's book.[50] In July 2007, a federal bankruptcy judge awarded the rights to the book to the Goldman family. As part of the agreement, the Goldmans must pay 10 percent of the first $4 million in gross proceeds to a court-appointed trustee, with most of that money going to the Brown family.[51][49][52] The Brown family had opposed the deal, asking for a larger share of the proceeds.[49][53] After Goldman had won the rights to the book, he arranged to publish it under the new title If I Did It: Confessions of the Killer.[2] The Goldman family's lawyers also announced intentions to pursue new publishing, film, or TV deals in order to receive some of $33.5 million awarded to them in the civil case.[49] On August 14, 2007, it was reported that a literary agent for the Goldman family, Sharlene Martin, had made a deal to publish the book with the new subtitle "Confessions of the Killer".[54] All of the original text was to remain intact, with the addition of "key commentary". This version of the book was published by Beaufort Books, a New York City publishing house owned by parent company Kampmann & Company/Midpoint Trade Books and was released about a month later, on September 13, 2007, coincidentally the same day Simpson participated in an armed robbery. Some of the proceeds benefit the Ronald Lyle Goldman Justice Foundation, which was planned in 1995 to fund civil legal action against Simpson.[55] Denise Brown, sister of Nicole Brown Simpson, opposed the publication of the book and called for a boycott.[52] Since the interview existed on tape, executives at Fox said it was likely to turn up somewhere or be leaked.[56] Nearly twelve years later, Fox announced that it would air a special entitled O.J. Simpson: The Lost Confession?, on March 11, 2018. It featured footage from the interview, as well as analysis and discussion by host Soledad O'Brien and experts. It aired with limited commercial time, which was used to broadcast public service announcements addressing domestic violence.[57] In one portion of an interview Regan said to Simpson, "You wrote, 'I have never seen so much blood in my life.'" Simpson responded, "I don't think any two people could be murdered without everybody being covered in blood."[58] Simpson initially used conditional phrases like "I would" and "I'd think" in his hypothetical description of the event but later moved to using first-person indicative phrasing with sentences like "I remember I grabbed the knife", "I don't remember except I'm standing there", "I don't recall", and "I must have". Due to the change in phrasing, these comments were interpreted by many as being a form of confession, which stirred strong reactions in print media and the internet.[59][60] "I Admit", a 2018 song by R. Kelly ^ Murr, Andrew (March 3, 2008). "A Friendly Ghost". Newsweek. Archived from the original on January 15, 2010. 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He lays out the mountains of evidence; rebuts the defense; offers a thrilling summation; condemns the monumental blunders of the judge, the "Dream Team," and the media; and exposes, for the first time anywhere, the shocking incompetence of the prosecution.GenresTrue CrimeNonfictionCrimeHistoryLawBiographyMystery 287 people are currently readingAmerican attorney and author, best known for prosecuting Charles Manson and his followers for the murder of Sharon Tate and others.In his books he claimed that O.J Simpson and Lee Harvey Oswald were guilty of the crimes they were accused of.In his latest book he states that George W. Bush should be prosecuted for murder.Bugliosi lived in Pasadena, CA.Displaying 1 - 30 of 201 reviewsSeptember 24, 2024Why can't Vincent Bugliosi masturbate in private like normal people do? Outrage: The Five Reasons Why O.J. Simpson Got Away With Murder, is 500 pages of Mr. Bugliosi telling the readers how great, smart, and amazing he is. If he had been the prosecutor none of this would have happened. If he had been the Judge he would have done things like that. If he had been in the defense team he would have demanded O.J. simply confess. If he had been in charge of the media no one would have even covered this case. Vincent Bugliosi seems to think he invented the practice of law and he and only he knows how to properly practice it. Everyone including the reader is a brain dead idiot compared to him. Mr. Bugliosi is what I call a "Well actually person". I'm sure most of us know someone who no matter the subject knows everything about it and will talk over you make their point. Another term for this might be Mansplaining. Mr. Bugliosi is most certainly a mansplainer.As I said in one of my updates Mr. Bugliosi was so irritating that I found myself wanting to defend O.J. Simpson, a double murderer(allegedly) and all around terrible person. Mr. Bugliosi spends a lot of time being incredulous to the fact that the defense team actually put up a defense based on the innocence of their client. Mr. Bugliosi argues that 1. No lawyer should defend a guilty person. 2. If they do take the case they should do the bare minimum to win the case. Now I'm not a lawyer but I'm pretty sure everyone even the guilty are entitled to competent defense. I'm sure Mr. Bugliosi was a great prosecutor but he really came off in this book as more a prick. In fact he seems like a huge prick. No rec.february-2018 true-crime tv-seriesBren fall in love with the sea.February 8, 2025"The choice I had was to be candid or not to write the book at all".Outrage: The Five Reasons Why O.J. Simpson Got Away with Murder (Paperback) by Vincent Bugliosi My old review is below if you'd like to read it. In view of Simpson's passing, I decided to revisit. I really wrote quite a tiny review of this. So I thought I would expand on it.Bugliosi was a man I'd like to have met, to have known. A brilliant legal mind he was but also he struck me as having that coveted thing we all want and that is wisdom.Had Bugliosi prosecuted Simpson, I've no doubt, he'd (Simpson) have been found guilty and easily.In addition to the compelling legal argument, what I adored about this book and did not express (which is why I felt I had to edit this review) is his outlook on life.Bugliosi speaks about incompetence in this book at great length and why so many are continually upset with the quality of well -- just about everything.Think about it. HOW many times have you been hung up on by a robot while trying to call a computer company, a TV company, a phone provider, a healthcare company, ETC?Buglioso explains his outlook on competence and trust me, it is hysterical (and true.) Expect nothing and be quite satisfied when competence comes around.I read this so very long ago but never forgot it and that is as much for Bugliosi's personality as much as his legal theories. If you are looking for an absorbing as well as a fascinating book on the prosecution of Simpson, this is it. I loved this book, not just because of the compelling case Bugliosi makes but because of his musings on life which I found to be utterly delightful and a few of which I have taken to heart.This is a really good book for Non Fiction readers. It really lays out the case and shows how the trial was so bungled. It is long and rather wordy as his books tend to be but it is a great book and I'd highly recommend it.all-different-types better-or-worse-than-expected crime October 14, 2011Bugliosi is completely insufferable. I don't think I've ever seen so much ego dripping off the page. I agree with his take on the trial, but still, I found the entire book to be an unpleasant, unseemly, self-serving screed.June 18, 2009For a case that was overly saturated in the media, and with an abnormal plethora of books written about it, to have one book stand above all the rest is quite a feat. "Outrage" is not a rehashing of the crimes themselves, nor a step-by-step recounting of the criminal trial. It is master prosecutor Vincent Bugliosi's views on the five main reasons that Simpson got away with murder. And Mr. Bugliosi spares no one. From his biting critique of the prosecutors' weak arguments to amazement at the defense's blatant race card tactic to disgust at the media-obsessed judge and disappointment at the weary jurors, Bugliosi pulls no punches in stating flat out that due to bungling all around, a murderer walks free among us. Bugliosi is best known for being the prosecutor to put Charles Manson and several members of his "Family" behind bars and he is well equipped to write this scathing tome. Finishing the book, it is clear that the prosecutors would have done themselves a favor by hiring Bugliosi as a consultant. If you're going to read a book about the Simpson criminal trial, choose this one . . . or at least read this one first. November 17, 2007As an attorney, this was the first and last book I read on the OJ Simpson prosecution (if it can be called that)... Bugliosi's treatment shreds the LA District Attorney's Office for their incompetence just as convincingly as he lays out the facts that prove (to this reader) Simpson's guilt - beyond reasonable doubt.December 30, 2012I "sorta" read Bugliosi's most famous work "Helter Skelter" as a kid (meaning I skimmed it a lot). This one came up in an online forum I was reading and I thought it could be an interesting read, as I was one of the millions who followed the trial on TV as it happened. The good parts of the book are pretty much the five reasons that the author lays out. He does a good job of explaining how the lousy jury, the inept prosecution, and the bizarre judge botched this case, which should have been a slam dunk.The reason the book is just "OK" and I only gave it two stars is that it was written pretty soon after the verdict came down and Bugliosi is just SPUTTERING mad in all of it. Nothing wrong with that, except I think that it made his writing suffer. He launches personal, snarky, sometimes downright petty jabs at the players in this show so often that it starts to make HIM look bad. An overarching theme of the book is that most people are really stupid and I'm very clever and this is how I would have done it. With a few years "cooling off" time, maybe he could have told the story in a more measured, less childish tone.January 12, 2017Excellent explanation of what went wrong with the OJ Simpson case and how the justice system is still flawed...July 28, 2008I suppose some readers may find Bugliosi's tone and style a little off-putting. I rather liked it. It's so different from what I'm accustomed to reading. Stern, vigorous, and uncompromising. I can see why Bugliosi was such an extremely effective prosecutor. To be honest, I never really cared all that much about the Simpson case, and I still have no particular interest. The value of this book, for me, lies in its powerful, scathing, commonsensical critique of the lawyers' performances in the case. Even if it is Monday-morning quarterbacking, I think that this book has value as a lesson in how one constructs, organizes, and presents a case. I do not agree with all the points made in the book, but I found it pretty useful.December 14, 2019I recently watched the new mini series about the OJ Simpson case, at which point I read the Toobin book and went searching for another. I had read Bugliosi's book on the Manson murders, so was excited to read his take on the case.Unfortunately, the book was terrible. Bugliosi has gotten cantankerous in his old age, and it shows. This was not an objective review of the case and evidence -- he views everything through the lens of Simpson being guilty and uses that as circular logic about why other pieces of evidence are believable or not. He is also insufferably sexist and egotistical. I honestly can't believe I stuck it out and read it until the end.As an example of how off the rails this book went, there is an entire section on why Bugliosi doesn't believe in God, and how messed up God would have to be to let Nicole and Ron get killed, and then let OJ get away with it. For the record, I think Simpson is guilty. I just expected a more articulate and objective review of the case from someone of Bugliosi's stature. I can't believe his publisher let this go to print.September 20, 2015I really enjoyed the first half of this book. But about halfway through the 5th reason, it seemed to feel like Bugliosi was more intent on himself. His previous cases. And how he would have questioned witnesses, or opening and closing statements he would have made. You have your five reasons that he was found not guilty. Stick with that. I realize that Bugliosi has amazing experience in criminal trials. He's extremely knowledgeable. I don't question that. By the epilogue I was just skimming. I don't know where some of his random thoughts in the epilogue came from. I don't even mind the way he rages about the prosecution, the judge, and the defense. I'm horrified by the evidence the prosecution didn't give. I had forgotten what a media who're Ito was. I just really wish that the entire book couldn't have been more focused on the fact, and there had been less preaching by Bugliosi. the last part of the book kept me from giving this the 4 stars I had originally planned.August 6, 2012If you liked "Helter Skelter," don't assume you'll like "Outrage." Rather than police investigation story, Outrage is a very long-winded criticism of the L.A. County's handling of the O.J. Simpson trial. Bugliosi's criticism isn't just reserved for the police department, however, he's got lots to say about the Prosecutors office, the Defense and the jury.Bugliosi does mention in his forward that he's going to be criticizing, so I won't say he didn't deliver what he promised. And deliver it in plenty.February 12, 2017This "true crime" book doesn't simply go by the blueprint set by Truman Capote's "In Cold Blood". You may or may not agree with Bugliosi's take on the trial (and Bugliosi's voice, for better or worse, is much too loud and clear throughout the book: it's either his way or the highway), or even the title of this book itself, but in its own way I find it original. Much more original than, say, Bugliosi's own "And the Sea Will Tell."October 31, 2013How do you take a fascinating case like the O.J. Simpson murder trial and make it boring, offensive, and tiresome? Hire Vincent Bugliosi to write a book about it, of course.I have read quite a few books on the O.J .Simpson case. I strongly believe he is guilty. But I was very curious about this book because I was interested to hear Bugliosi's take on it. The glowing reviews on Amazon convinced me I was about to read a brilliant rhetoric on how and why the state lost the Simpson case. Instead, what I got was a bitter diatribe about how literally everyone (not just those involved with this case) is intellectually inferior to the author. Bugliosi attacks the media, the defense team, the prosecution, the judge, the jury, and even the talking head legal analysts in his furious rant on the case's outcome. He presents himself as morally and intellectually superior to everyone, even going as far as to attack the courage and characted of a soldier in the Bosnian War, who was described in the media as an American hero for surviving a plane crash deep in enemy territory. Was this necessary? No. Did this have anything, anything at all, to do with the book's topic?. No. But in his desperate need to paint himself as so much better than everyone else, he will allow anyone - even a courageous soldier - to fall on his sword. It was unnecessary at best and nasty at worst. But at least it clearly shows the character of the author to any critical reader who is not blinded by his accomplishments.Not only does he arrogantly place himself on a stool - make that a throne - above the rest of society (while tearing down those whom he considers to have over-bloated re

no college degrees.) Nicole had only worked a few weeks -- as a waitress and as a shop girl -- when O.J. met her. I also didn't know how much domestic violence Nicole had suffered in her relationship with O.J. And when Nicole tried to get help, she found that she couldn't rely on Los Angeles police, because they would always defer to O.J.'s celebrity. It's telling that just a few days before Nicole was murdered, when she was concerned O.J. was stalking her and was going to harm her, she called a women's shelter for help, rather than the police. Even though O.J. and Nicole had separated at that point, O.J. was still trying to control her life and her finances.*Look, there's no doubt that police detective Mark Furhman said some horrible racist shit years ago, but there's no way he planted evidence at O.J.'s house. It's absurd.*Oy vey, the race issue. The O.J. case fed into the whole history of racial injustice in America, and specifically it became a referendum on the LAPD. What a mess. *I listened to Toobin's original book on audio, but I also checked out an updated edition of the paperback, which had an afterword on the civil trial that Goldman's family filed against O.J. It was interesting to learn how arrogant he was during the civil trial, even when more evidence was found against him. This time, the jury found him guilty and he was ordered to pay millions in damages. By then his celebrity status had been lowered to one of social pariah, and O.J. couldn't afford (or refused) to pay. In a bizarre twist to this tragic tale, O.J. is currently in prison for an unrelated burglary incident in 2007. This was my first Toobin book, and he's such a compelling writer that I'm interested in reading his other works. Highly recommended for true crime fans, and also those interested in racial issues involving police.Good Passage"Simpson's friends often used the same expression to describe him: 'He loved being O.J.' That was, in many respects, his occupation -- being O.J. By 1994, he was long retired from his days of football glory. He had modest visibility as a sports broadcaster and some minor success as an actor in occasional self-mocking roles in the Naked Gun movies. He judged beauty contests. He shilled for Hertz. He pitched in an infomercial for an arthritis cure. At the time of his arrest for murder, Simpson had only a vaporous, peculiarly American kind of renown: He was famous for being O.J."audiobooks nonfiction sociology-psychology May 10, 2016A woman and her male friend were brutally murdered just outside her home. There was practically a trail of blood leading to her ex-husband's house. The ex had a history of domestic violence against her and no alibi. A mountain of physical and circumstantial evidence including DNA, hairs, footprints, and a bloody glove found on his property all point at him as the killer.You didn't need Sherlock Holmes to solve this one, but I doubt that even an amazing lawyer like Perry Mason or Atticus Fitch could have gotten a conviction considering everything that happened next.I thought the interest I had in the OJ Simpson murder case had been buried in a shallow grave back in the '90s along with some grunge CD's, my flannel shirts, and any lingering belief that the legal system actually worked as advertised. That's why I was surprised to find myself getting so wrapped up in the excellent TV mini-series from FX based on this book that I wanted to read it. While the show was a gripping dramatization that highlighted social issues that we're still grappling with today this is more of a straightforward look at the case, but it's still fascinating to get a step-by-step account of what exactly happened.Jeffrey Toobin was a lawyer turned reporter who covered the trial starting with a story leaked to him by Simpson attorney Robert Shapiro that was the first seed of what would become a defense based on the idea that OJ was framed by racist cops. Toobin doesn't even pretend to entertain the notion that Simpson might have been innocent and instead focuses on the legal strategies and mistakes that happened along with a bit of biographical info about the major players and their personalities. He also highlights what a media circus the entire fiasco became and how that became a factor for everyone in the court room.The book delves deeply into exactly how Simpson's legal team, led by the brilliant Johnny Cochran, exploited the racial tensions of Los Angeles just a few years after the Rodney King beating and riots. Cochran had been hoping for a hung jury at best and basing much of his strategy on pointing a finger at the detective who found some of the key evidence, Mark Fuhrman*. After tapes of Fuhrman using racial slurs and bragging about abusing minorities as a cop surfaced that proved he'd lied under oath a delighted Cochran realized that he'd gotten the chance for a full acquittal and pressed hard for it.OJ's defense was helped along by the prosecution which had an almost unerring instinct for shooting themselves in the foot at critical moments. For example, one strong piece of evidence was that the type of gloves used by the killer were a specialty item of which only 200 pairs had ever been sold. Investigation showed records that Nicole had purchased a pair of these in OJ's size while they were still married, and the prosecution had a strong witness in a sales rep for the company to explain this. Yet rather than simply pointing out how unlikely it would be that Nicole Simpson was murdered by someone else who had bought these rare gloves Christopher Darden let himself get distracted and baited by the defense into having OJ try them on. This led to the famous incident of OJ struggling to put on the gloves and Cochran's later assertion that, "If it doesn't fit, you must acquit."** What should have been a solid piece of evidence against OJ instead became a moment that was a complete disaster.Still, Toobin documents the prosecution probably had no chance to convict no matter what they had done once the jury was chosen. From the focus group research done before the trial to the mindset of the of jury during the proceeding to their very brief deliberations the book makes a compelling case that they jury had their minds made up almost from the start, and that OJ's fame as well as the LAPD's history of racism both played a large part in that. I don't think that's actually unique to the OJ jury. I've been reading a lot in recent years that has convinced me that people are hardwired to believe what we want, and this applies to politics, religion, conspiracy theories, and even the scams of con men. Human beings are just crappy about accepting facts that contradict what we think we already know, and we will come up with any absurd reason we can to justify this. That's a big part of the reason why a judicial system based on believing in the common sense and objectivity of average everyday people is fundamentally flawed. And democracy doesn't work either. (OK, I'm kidding about democracy. Sort of. Maybe. Maybe not. Ask me again in November 2016.)There were a couple of small issues I had with the book. I listened to the audio version of this which hasn't been updated in quite some time so the wrap-up at the end was pretty dated. It doesn't include the deaths of some key players like Cochran or that OJ lost a civil suit to the Brown and Goldman families during which more evidence of his guilt was presented. OJ only paid a fraction of the millions they were awarded and is currently in prison for another crime he committed years later. I've also seen that Marcia Clark has disputed some details of Toobin's account recently, but I'm not sure how much of that is because he consistently places much of the blame for prosecution failures on her for being arrogant overall and sometimes hostile to witnesses when it wasn't called for.At the end of it all Toobin effectively spells out that African-Americans in LA during the mid-'90s had ample reasons to mistrust the police force. The LAPD having a racist like Mike Fuhrman be a cop at all was the kind of thing which created the environment that allowed a wife-beating narcissist whose favorite hobby was playing golf with his rich white friends at his country club to successfully exploit a very real racial problem to get away with double murder.* Fuhrman had tried to get a stress disability pension in the early '80s and essentially admitted misconduct while claiming it was the stress of the job that caused his behavior. The LAPD thought he was faking to get an early pension and put him back on the street. So either Fuhrman was a guy admitting that he was unstable and unfit to be a police officer, or he was a liar trying to get off the job. Neither one of these would seem like the kind of cop you'd want to keep on the payroll, and yet they did.**Toobin provides a detailed explanation as to why the form fitting gloves which were coated in dried blood wouldn't easily slide on over the latex gloves Simpson was wearing, and OJ did one of his finest acting jobs ever by pretending to struggle with them. Marcia Clark also pointed out in a recent interview that while claiming innocence OJ didn't seem bothered at all by trying on gloves coated in his ex-wife's blood and mugging for the cameras and the jury while doing it.2016 crime-mystery lawyers-guns-and-money June 24, 2017This book was soo good. After watching the FX show that was based off of this book I became completely obsessed with all things O.J. & since I was 8 yrs old when it was happening I had never really given it much thought. I now completely understand why its called "The Trial of the Century" its almost too ridiculous to be true but it is. The book like the trial itself was gossipy & sordid. I LOVE THIS BOOK. Also O.J. totally killed Nicole & Ron.best-non-fiction trashy-good true-crime October 7, 20173.5 stars. The Run of His Life is interesting but feels dated. Jeff Toobin provides a detailed account of the OJ Simpson criminal trial for the murders of Nicole Brown and Ronald Goodman. He gives the back story on the investigators, Judge Ito and many of the lawyers involved. He explores the jury dynamics. And he delves into Simpson's life and the victims' lives. Toobin has a lot of criticism about how the case was handled by all involved, and he spreads it generously. He explores what he sees as many of the prosecution's ineptitudes and gaffes. He looks at the dynamics within the defence team, almost describing them as vain peacocks struggling to get centre stage. He doesn't spare Ito, depicting him as overly excited about being in the limelight. Ultimately, he states bluntly that the evidence was overwhelming against OJ Simpson, and that the predominantly African American jury was overly influenced by race in its not guilty verdict. To me, the book felt dated because Toobin's discussion of the role race played seemed simplistic and not particularly respectful of the jury members involved. I also felt that his depiction of Marcia Clark was especially harsh, verging on sexist. This was written almost right after the trial. The civil trial and verdict against Simpson had not yet occurred. It was interesting, but I suspect there's a far better and more nuanced book to be written about the same events with the benefit of the passage of time.I listened to the audio, which was well done.December 4, 2016There might not have been a better time in the past 20 years to read a book about the O.J. Simpson trial than in 2016. Not only is there an acclaimed dramatization and and an acclaimed documentary, but the questions of race, class and celebrity highlighted by the trial remain as unresolved and relevant as ever.I was 13 and in eighth grade when our teacher wheeled in the school's shared TV set so we could watch the verdict given live. I still remember being stunned as the words "not guilty" were repeated by every juror as they individually confirmed their votes. How could a jury have reached such a conclusion based on the evidence we had all seen and read about – evidence that overwhelmingly pointed to Simpson's guilt?In Run for His Life, Jeffrey Toobin tries to explicate the seemingly inexplicable. He makes no bones about Simpson's guilt – but he also makes no bones about the police incompetence, prosecutorial missteps and savvy (or cynical) defense efforts that led to Simpson's acquittal. It's an honest, in-depth dive into the details of the most famous murder case of our lifetimes. It's clear, well-written, informative and interesting. I came away with a much better understanding of how Simpson was acquitted despite murdering his ex-wife and her friend.Toobin spends a good deal of the book talking about race, as anyone discussing the Simpson trial must do. The defense moved quickly to make the trial a referendum on the Los Angeles Police Department's long history of flagrant racism. Simply put, the defense understood – and the prosecution took too long to understand – that African Americans in Los Angeles were simply not inclined to trust the LAPD's case against a black man. In that sense, the police reaped what they sowed, and compounded their problems with sloppy work in the investigation of the crime scene and, ironically enough, overly deferential treatment of Simpson.On top of that, Johnnie Cochrane applied a thick layer of civil rights language that polarized the case nationally. This is how a middle-class white kid from Connecticut could be so out of touch with middle-class black friends and neighbors. And, from my perspective, that remains a deeply problematic legacy of the Simpson trial. Simpson was no civil rights pioneer; indeed, he abandoned his roots and did all but deny his racial heritage as a rich football star. Further, as Toobin notes, Simpson was almost certainly guilty; the evidence really was overwhelming. In this case, Cochrane used the language of civil rights to free a man who had brutally murdered two people and paint this pampered, wealthy, narcissistic man-child as a victim of a system that lavished him with privilege denied to most other men of his race and background. The result, in my opinion, was to set back the cause of civil rights, not advance it, assuming that one of the goals of the civil rights movement is to encourage buy-in from all people and not just African Americans.Toobin does not go so in depth; I would have liked to see a deeper exploration of these questions, though that probably would have stretched a book that already feels a tad too long beyond the breaking point. A more significant failure is that Toobin fails to broach the questions of class and celebrity. Simpson was acquitted because he was black, which is an odd twist to the usual machinations of the justice system, but he could not have afforded attorneys like Bob Shapiro, F. Lee Bailey, Cochrane and the rest of the "Dream Team" were he not incredibly wealthy; likewise, his acquittal owed a great deal to his celebrity – his smiling visage was well known from football, movies, Hertz ads and other TV appearances. Simpson's race was only an advantage because the fame and money he had accrued allowed him to hire the attorneys who could manipulate the trial the way they did. Beyond discussing Simpson's celebrity and how it allowed him to abuse Nicole Brown for years essentially with impunity, Toobin misses the role these other factors played in the trial – and still play in American society. (We should also mention that the attitudes about domestic violence and the defense's sexist portrayals of Brown also contributed to the acquittal; one can't help but wonder if Simpson would have had a harder time if he had simply murdered Goldman.)In the end, thanks to Toobin's book, I understand much more clearly how I could have been so shocked at Simpson's acquittal – and I can understand, too, what the jurors who acquitted him were thinking. I still think they made a mistake, and Toobin clearly does too, but he should be commended for taking the time and effort to shed light on a complex situation, rather than merely heat. On the subjects of race, gender, class and celebrity, 2016 has taught us we need much more light than we thought we did.October 18, 2014Toobin covered the OJ trial for the New Yorker, so he knows his -ish: he was there, watching the trial every day, and The Run of His Life is his comprehensive account of it. I appreciate that Toobin doesn't hide behind a facade of objectivity: he lays out his thesis in the introduction. Toobin firmly believes that OJ was guilty, yet was acquitted because the (1) defense team succeeded in making the trial a referendum on the racism of the LAPD (2) the prosecution made some serious errors (3) the trial judge let chaos reign, resulting in a trial that lasted an entire year (producing 50,000 pages of transcript!). I would modify (1) slightly, in that the defense lawyers also highlighted how the investigators exhibited shocking incompetence and non-compliance with the Constitution. Toobin is fair: I didn't always agree with his characterizations, but he is fairly clear in separating his direct observations with his opinions, which means as a reader you don't always have to have your guard up. His book does 3 things very well: it documents what happened in the courtroom, what happened outside the courtroom (the drama between OJ's team of big-ego defense lawyers is fascinating), and provides some basic legal analysis of various arguments and rulings (Toobin's a Harvard Law grad who practiced for a few years before journalism-ing).The trial itself provides great fodder for a book, with seemingly everyone a larger-than-life character. Clark and Darden, the outmatched prosecutors battling a super-team of defense attorneys; Cochran, the star trial lawyer; Scheck, the DNA-expert lawyer, founder of The Innocence Project; Dershowitz, the motion-filing-and-arguing law professor; Shapiro, the frustrated egotist, losing his control over the case to Cochran; F. Lee Bailey, the veteran cross-examiner; and Judge Ito, the overwhelmed referee. And that's leaving aside the witnesses, such as Mark Fuhrman, who were mercilessly picked apart by the attorneys. Toobin gets many of the key players to talk to him (many of them are either media-savvy or media-obsessed, depending on one's perspective), providing an inside scoop into many of their thoughts about each other. This, along with Toobin's background research into each of their pasts, help adds context to everyone's actions at trial.As for the bigger questions--Did OJ do it? Should he have been convicted?--Toobin answers Absolutely Yes and Yes. He's convincing on the first one, but not on the second. In fact, after finishing the book, I'm left thinking that should he have been convicted, an appellate court might very well had to reverse said conviction. Although controversial, the Supreme Court has interpreted the 4th Amendment to require exclusion of illegally obtained evidence, and some of the prosecution's best evidence was (arguably) illegally obtained: when police found out OJ's ex-wife had been murdered, they went to his house to tell him in person, and (according to them) when he didn't answer, and they saw what looked like blood on a car parked outside his house, they became worried that perhaps the "killer" was after him, too, so they jumped the fence and (looking for him, ostensibly) searched around his property, finding a bloody glove, among other things (34-38). Among this group (in fact, the one who saw the stain in the car, and the one who hopped the fence) was detective Fuhrman, who knew that OJ had a history of domestic violence with his ex (53-56). Basically, if the officers didn't reasonably believe that there were actually worrisome "exigent circumstances" (e.g. OJ getting attacked by whoever attacked his ex-wife)--and this normally requires much more than a hunch, e.g., hearing a scream--then they were required to go get a search warrant from a judge before snooping around OJ's property. And for those who think the defense played the "race card" out of nowhere, remember that Fuhrman had said many shockingly hateful and racist things, and eventually had to plead the 5th Amendment after the defense team showed that he had lied on the witness stand, and even uncovered evidence (and presented it to the jury) about his prior boasts about beating up and planting evidence on black suspects (many pages). (Toobin's rejoinder is that there is ample evidence of OJ receiving sickeningly preferential treatment due to his celebrity (see especially the history of non-arrests for repeated complaints of domestic violence by his ex-wife when they were still together), so he's an unworthy beneficiary of the jury's understandable and justified outrage about racism in the LAPD.)This book chronicles a famous and divisive trial, and I think includes enough facts supportive of either side (one more inclined to believe he should have been convicted vs. one who believes the LAPD reaped what it sowed) to escape the adjective "biased." While Toobin has a viewpoint, he doesn't let it affect every sentence of the book. And I appreciate his passion, because I think it makes the writing more energetic; he's opinionated and still scrupulous, which makes it a best-of-both-worlds account of the trial.BAM doesn't answer to her real nameOctober 14, 2016GUILTY! GUILTY GUILTY GUILTY GUILTY ok, now that I've gotten that off my chest , I'll share my thoughts. Darden is a buffoon Ito is a media hungry fool Cochran could argue race discrimination in a trial of any crime ANY or really he doesn't need a crime, he just needs a soapbox (or should I say needed) I had such respect for Scheck because of his Innocence Project, but he just twisted tye DNA evidence here. He knew that juries in the 1990s would never comprehend the science. Makes me wonder what would happen now that so many watch CSI... For example, the infamous glove of Rockingham would have required Fuhrman to do all of the following to have planted DNA evidence: take the glove with all of the residue from the murder scene (hair, blood and fibers from Nicole and Ron) to OJ's house, find some of OJ's blood somehow and wipe it both on the glove as well as on the inside of OJ 's LOCKED Bronco, all of this already knowing OJ had no alibi. The flashbacks to the wearing of the glove during the trial were immediate. It was as horrific to read as it was to watch. I was impressed by the description of Cochran's opening statement, though-"a Potemkin's village of assertions", most of which never were brought to fruition during the defense. They only served to cause doubts on jurors' minds from the get-go. OJ, we now know, perfectly fits the author's portrait as "an uneducated, semiliterate, ex-athlete who barely understands the legal proceedings against him". The jurors should be ashamed of themselves. It saddens me that a murderer can go free simply because the race card is played. I almost think the 90's were the beginning of this new wave of race hatred being expressed. african-american-interest american-nonfiction e-book March 5, 2016So like many I remember watching (parts of) OJ Simpsons murder trial, the case where it seems the majority of people believe he was guilty and got away with it. I was interested therefore to read this and see the entire picture so to speak, hopefully told without too much legal speak and I went in with my mind open to see what was what.The book is excellent – it looks at every layer of the trial, the people within, the ups and the downs, where it all went wrong for the prosecution and gives a huge amount of insight into the US legal system and was interesting and fascinating throughout.There were a lot of twists and turns within that most famous of cases – Jeffrey Toobin looks at them all, giving perspective and reality to the outward drama, his own professional insight into the nuances, the things that happened behind the scenes, the picture painted by the defence – there are a lot of facts in here that I had zero knowledge of before reading this book. I like the way Mr Toobin writes, he assumes intelligence in his reader but also allows for the fact that most of them will not be legal eagles, therefore this is a very accessible resource for anyone interested in the case.Truth is stranger than fiction. Having read this I can see why the jury went with an acquittal, yet am still with the majority of people in my own beliefs. To say this was an interesting real life drama would be to put it very mildly. However Mr Toobin never loses sight of the fact that right back at the beginning of it all, two innocent people lost their lives and despite all the bells and whistles that came afterwards, to date nobody had been brought to justice for that terrible act. This, as much as anything, should not be forgotten.Highly Recommended for anyone interested in this case or indeed in real life cases generally. Well written and informative.highly-recommended life-novels non-fiction-faves May 20, 2016actually I'm happy to read this book and to know more about o.j. simpsonJune 26, 2020I was too young to know anything that was going on when OJ Simpson was arrested and tried for the murder of his ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson and her very unlucky friend Ron Goldman. I remember it being all adults talked about (most of it going way over my head). I remember the night of the car chase, because it interrupted T.G.I.F. on ABC, and I was trash for T.G.I.F. as a nine year old, even though it was June and all my shows must have been in re-runs. Watching that Bronco drive endlessly down the highway is my earliest memory of TV-related fury. This is so boring, bring back Urkel! Honestly one of my most vivid childhood memories. And I remember sitting in music class almost a year later when the verdict was read. They played it over my (private, Catholic, very white) school's intercom! Why? I don't know! That's just the kind of thing that happened in 1995.All that to say, I certainly missed the nuances of this case at the time, but I'm not really alone there, as most of America seems to have as well, so caught up in the pageantry and the tabloids and the endless news cycle over the most trivial new bit of evidence, not to mention the incompetence and arrogance of the prosecution, who botched one of the most obviously guilty murder trials ever to have occurred, and the scummery of the defense, who used (real) racial issues and the (justified) hatred and frustration Black people had (have) with the LAPD to mask the brutality and narcissism of their obviously guilty client. (When I got to the part where it described how Nicole was murdered, his boot on her back, holding her head up by her chin so he could slit her throat, I swear half the contents of my stomach threatened to crawl up my esophagus.) The victims of these murders were almost completely lost in the everything else of the "trial of the century."It was a very compelling book.Toobin reported the case at the time, was in fact the one to break the story in the New Yorker that Robert Shapiro and the defense team were planning on using a race-based defense, and afterwards interviewed hundreds of people over the course of the two years he spent writing this book. He is up front in his beliefs that OJ is guilty, so the book isn't about proving that guilt. That's a given here. Instead, this book is about the investigation and the trial, and how so many people's agendas collided with the mass media and racial tensions in LA and corruption in the LAPD, and a handsome, once beloved professional football player who famously once said, "I'm not black, I'm O.J." He focuses particularly on the dual forces of the prosecution and the defense, how the prosecution could have lost so badly, and how the defense turned around their case and managed a victory when all they hoped for at the beginning was a hung jury at best.If you're a true crime fan, this book is a feast, but it's also frustrating. I found myself shouting back in time at many people in this book out of sheer frustration. I also found it fascinating to see a time I lived through in such a different perspective. Things I recognized (the glove, for instance) suddenly meant something entirely different. The world is a very different place when you're a sheltered white nine-year old. And I am sorry to say that I agree with my parents about Johnnie Cochran, as much as it pains me to admit that. It honestly made me so angry to read about how he used the real, legitimate concerns of the Black community to help a murderer go free, and to make money and bolster his own reputation, knowing full well OJ was guilty as shit and the police did not frame him for murder. They played "the race card, from the bottom of the deck," as Shapiro later told the press (unethically, as it should have been protected by lawyer/client privilege). Much of this book felt extra relevant to what's currently going on America, especially the chapter on police brutality. I felt like I was reading an echo. All in all, highly recommend this one, and now I'm finally off to watch the FX show from a couple of years ago.americana behind-the-scenes class-gender-race August 15, 2008Having enjoyed two of Toobin's other books, I had long wanted to read this one. What prompted me finally to pick it up was John McCain's accusation that Barack Obama had "played the race card" by saying that Republicans would say that Obama didn't look like all of the other presidents on the dollar bills. McCain's indignation was entirely hypocritical, since he'd in fact run an ad in June that mocked Obama by putting his face on a $100 bill. And as many commentators noted, McCain's accusation itself was a kind of reverse-English way of playing the race card. Adam Serwer, in an article in the American Prospect quoted on Hendrik Hertzberg's blog, had this astute analysis:"The McCain campaign's apparently race-neutral approach, and its subsequent accusation that the Obama campaign is playing the race card, is a well-thought-out strategy—it is pure Nixon. In his recent chronicle of conservative political history in The New Yorker, George Packer describes Pat Buchanan's plan for exploiting political divisions, particularly ones of a racial nature. Buchanan's assessment was that they could 'cut the Democratic Party and country in half; my view is that we would have far the larger half.'"In a dispute about race, the McCain campaign knows it will end up with the larger half. For the most part, most white people's experience with race isn't one of racial discrimination. They can only relate to racial discrimination in the abstract. What white people can relate to is the fear of being unjustly accused of racism. This is the larger half. This is why allegations of racism often provoke more outrage than actual racism, because most of the country can relate to one (the accusation of racism) easier than the other (actual racism). For this reason, in a political conflict over race, the McCain campaign has the advantage, because saying the race card has been played is actually the ultimate race card."I don't recall hearing the term "race card" before the O. J. Simpson trial, so I thought I'd read Toobin's book to get a deeper sense of the origins of the term. Toobin reported on the trial for two years for The New Yorker, interviewed over 200 people, and read virtually everything related to the trial. His book is fascinating in its meticulous detail, riveting in its narration. Toobin's thesis, which seems to have become the commonly accepted understanding of the trial, is that O. J. Simpson was clearly guilty, but that the defense team played the "race card" in order to make the trial a referendum on racism in the LAPD, which was real and significant. The prosecution's arrogance and missteps also caused them to blow their chance to win Simpson's conviction.Twelve years later, it seems to me that the Simpson trial remains a significant setback in American race relations. As Serwer notes, most white Americans can relate to the idea of racism most easily through the fear of being unjustly accused of racism. The O. J. Simpson trial, I think, has become the paradigmatic example of opportunistic charges of racism. (The reality of the situation, as Toobin convincingly argues, is that there was real racism in the LAPD, most shockingly in the example of Mark Fuhrman, but that racism played little role in the O. J. investigation. If anything, O. J. was granted special favoritism because he was a celebrity who'd long been buddy-buddy with LA cops.)But "the race card," as a term, it seems to me, has come mainly to imply a spurious charge of racism. The Simpson trial was a travesty of a civil rights trial, one that demeaned the ongoing struggle for racial equality. It's made all charges of racism subject to being undermined. And that's exactly what McCain did by accusing Obama of playing "the race card." Moreover, McCain accused Obama of playing the race card "from the bottom of the deck," which I was startled to realize is another direct reference to the Simpson story. Robert Shapiro, who basically concocted the race card defense early on, gradually became alienated from the rest of the defense as Johnnie Cochran usurped his role at the center of the defense team. Additionally, his white friends gradually came to see the race-baiting defense as abhorrent. Shapiro began to make negative public comments about the defense during the trial, and afterwards he did an interview with Barbara Walters in which he told her, "Not only did we play the race card, we dealt it from the bottom of the deck." McCain's accusation, then, seems clearly designed subtly to resurrect white Americans' memory of the O. J. trial and their outrage at Simpson's acquittal, and to turn that resentment on Obama.It's an entirely dispiriting story, yet Toobin's masterful writing makes for a deeply satisfying read. His level of detail is stunning, and he's organized the story brilliantly. Along the way, he provides fascinating little set pieces about LA and the justice system and biographical back-stories for all of the major players. The book is like a great New Yorker article that goes on for 450 pages.May 15, 2016Decades ago, when he was reporting on the Simpson trial for The New Yorker, Toobin came across in his "as it happens" articles like an elitist, racist jerk. In this book, his snotty, arrogant, dismissive, airily white-supremacist worldview gets a much fuller airing. I don't argue that Toobin is wrong about Simpson's guilt. Rather, the obnoxiousness of his authorial voice and his clear presumption that the way he—a wealthy, connected, white man—saw the facts was the only way they could have been seen, doom the endeavor. His meager attempts to give lip service to "understanding" why black people might have been predisposed to distrust anything and everything the LA police department said or did in those years ring deeply hollow and, in fact, are all but drowned out by the constant reinforcement of his belief that anyone who did not share his position on Simpson was "blinded by race." He, of course, was clear-eyed throughout. The result is an odd and disturbing take on the claim that white people like Toobin are above "seeing color." And yet arguing that others can't see beyond their race—when your own race is so critical to your perspective—is far from convincing. Toobin has sharp and critical words for just about all the principals, which only adds to the sense that Jeffrey Toobin and only Jeffrey Toobin was smart enough to see things the way they really were. If Toobin had been the prosecuting attorney, I'd have voted to acquit Simpson, too—perhaps for no other reason than to protest the fact that Toobin is an obtuse and grating tool.March 7, 2024I enjoyed Toobin's The Nine, RE the Supreme Court, much better. Toobin's background : trained attorney + author. He interviewed > than 200 people for this book. This book explored many egos, that of : the author, the judge, prosecutors, defense, jury, police, expert witnesses and media, all of whom took part in the 1994 OJ Simpson double murder trial. Prosecutors used the domestic violence to murder strategy, & the defense race: they alleged the LA cops and crime science guys didn't process the evidence carefully/ correctly in a timely manner. And may have planted a glove to frame OJ. Time of death for Nicole Brown Simpson & Ronald Goldman was never established, as the coroner examined them hrs after their bodies were 1st discovered. Judge Ito neglected to put a "gag order" on the prosecutors, defense, witnesses, the end result: some discussed the case outside of work or with the media. Even Ito gave the media an interview! He allowed a camera in his courtroom. He neglected to set time limits IE 1 expert witness was grilled 2 weeks on the witness stand!! Both the prosecutor anddefense engaged in "discovery failure"& withheld docu-ments the other side was entitled to receive. The Judge permitted OJ to mutter, start a running dialogue or respondto witness testimony. From OJ's seat at the defense table. What judge would allow this? OJ had on his jail visitor list 52 people. Ironically many on OJ's defense team + others who worked for team thought OJ guilty! Marcia Clark never should have used Det. Fuhrman on the witness stand. He served on the OJ case less than a day! Shouldn't the prosecutors have had background info on each witness? Toobin was best at discussing the domestic violence aspect of this case & the preferential treatment the LA cops gave to celebrities. Nicole Brown Simpson re-ported OJ to the police 56 times for stalking, slapping or beating her & the police never arrested him !!!(Ironically attorneys Cockran & Kardashian were each accused of domestic violence by their wives. Both denied this) For years OJ was friends w/ LA cops, & allowed them to use his tennis court & swimming pool, & hosted some cook outs for them. Toobin included irrelevant info IE about Marcia Clark her parents + her 2 husbands, & Barry Scheck and his birthfamily. I learned the hair & fiber samples proved OJ murdered these 2 people. But by then the jury was way too exhausted to listen.February 12, 2016 Read Harder Challenge 2016: Read a biography (not memoir or autobiography) (Spoiler alert. He totally did it.)With thirty pages left in this insider's account of the Brown/Goldman murders and subsequent trials, I watched the criminal trial's verdict announcement on YouTube. When I saw OJ Simpson, I experienced that involuntary rush of tears and sweat and adrenaline that communicates fear. Yes, FEAR. As I recoiled from Simpson's entitled smirk, Kim Goldman's hollow wail, and Marcia Clarke's emaciated frame, I remembered watching this monster, my childhood Boogyman, get away with murder in my seventh-grade classroom during recess. Two decades later, Simpson still scares the shit out of me.It was challenging to read about this case in the context of our current racial climate. While reading the transcripts of the Mark Fuhrman tapes, for example, I thought about Beyonce's "Formation" video, which features a young black boy dancing in front of riot police and a spray-painted plea to "stop killing us." Though he really doesn't deserve the credit, I despise Simpson for using race, a construct so unbelievably raw and real, to avoid the consequences for taking two lives. And enter Steven Avery, a man who was totally framed by the police. Well, maybe? The dream team's explanation of the forensic evidence was absurd... yet isn't that exactly what the REAL dream team wants us to believe happened to Avery, hmm? Tricky, tricky.If you ever time travel to the mid-nineties, consider catching Johnnie Cohran's closing argument. At one point, he puts on a knit cap and exclaims, "I'm still Johnnie Cochran in a knit cap!" His point--that witnesses would have recognized Simpson the night of the murders--leads the jurors to forget Simpson's hair was found INSIDE the knit cap found at the murder scene. WTF?! And the best part? Toobin's thorough, thoughtful, and well-written account of the murders and their aftermath provided WTF?! moment after WTF?! moment. Reading this was a freaking delight, and I'm eager to explore his other work.read-harder-challenge-2016March 15, 2017Credo di avere ricordi "autentici" (cioè contemporanei agli eventi) del famoso caso O.J. Simpson (il duplice omicidio dell'ex moglie di Simpson, Nicole Brown, e di un amico di lei, Ron Goldman, il 12/6/1994 a Los Angeles, per cui O.J. Simpson, ex campione di football americano e attore, fu accusato, processato e infine assolto con molte polemiche): forse qualche immagine al telegiornale del celeberrimo inseguimento della polizia all'auto bianca di Simpson in fuga per one nei dintorni di Los Angeles. Tuttavia, l'eco che ebbe qui in Italia il processo è nulla di fronte al gigantesco impatto sulla società americana di quello che sarebbe stato definito addirittura "il processo del secolo", uno psicodramma nazionale, visto che finì per toccare temi sensibilissimi per gli americani.Tutti temi - la violenza sulle donne, la brutalità delle forze dell'ordine verso i cittadini afro-americani (una realtà vergognosa che però, nel caso di O.J., fu, totalmente a sproposito, abilmente sfruttata a favore dell'imputato dai suoi difensori), l'influenza dei media sulla percezione della "verità" dei fatti - che, già roventi negli USA nel 1994-1995, non hanno certo perso di attualità oggi, anzi. Hanno dimostrato dunque grandissimo acume i produttori televisivi che nel 2016 hanno deciso di trarre una serie TV dalle vicende del processo a O.J. Il risultato, American Crime Story: The People vs. O.J. Simpson, è una serie strepitosa e giustamente pluripremiata: gli attori fanno a gara a superarsi in bravura, il ritmo è incalzante e la tensione altissima persino in una storia di cui... si sa già tutto (specialmente la fine!).Ancora rapita dalla bellezza della serie, saputo che gli sceneggiatori avevano tratto gran parte del materiale da questo saggio, opera di un giornalista che seguì la vicenda fin dal principio per il "New Yorker" e uscito nel 1996, ho voluto leggerlo. Sembra in effetti di ripercorrere le puntate di American Crime Story, ovviamente con più approfondimenti e con più rigore (qualche dettaglio in TV è stato pur aggiustato per esigenze di spettacolo), e anzi averla vista prima mi ha aiutato a visualizzare meglio le scene, a comprendere meglio i passaggi-chiave della vicenda giudiziaria, nonché ad avere più chiari termini e procedure legali. Anche YouTube, dove si trovano numerosi spezzoni di telegiornali dell'epoca e di sedute del processo, mi ha aiutato a rivivere "in tempo reale" quello che leggevo sulla pagina.Un bellissimo libro, e una bellissima serie che ora, quasi quasi, mi sta venendo voglia di rivedere dall'inizio.ebook english lingua_inglese June 8, 2016If I could, I would give this book a 3.5. I liked it, but I didn't consistently like it. At first, I could not get enough. I was so hungry for all the details this book provides. And Toobin leaves no stone unturned. The evidence quickly convinced me that OJ is actually guilty of those murders. But by the end of the book, I felt like one of the jurors in the criminal case. I just wanted it to be over. I became so irritated by the same attention to detail that I initially loved. Sometimes I was also bothered by Toobin's handling of the race issue. I do agree with Toobin that Cochran was not an emblem for civil rights. He clearly exploited the institutional racism within the LAPD, and his career and this case benefitted from it. Cochran's conduct has very little integrity. I definitely disagreed with Toobin's analysis of the Time magazine cover, though. Because editors of the cover didn't mean anything by darkening OJ's mugshot, he believes it is actually racist of the critics of this cover to interpret it as racism. Um, hello, Toobin. Colorism is a real thing. All he has to do is look back at all those Spanish paintings that classified people by like 15 different races depending on how light skinned or how racially mixed people were. Or take a critical media literacy class that points out how media uses darkness as a symbol of something sinister. Whether intentional or not, the editors of that magazine cover perpetuated a racist stereotype. Anyway, there were other moments where I just wanted to tell him, Toobin, it's not as easy for everyone (like the jurors, for example) to forget race, be "colorblind," and not factor it in as it seems to be for you. In the end, Toobin did create a pretty comprehensive and authoritative book on the OJ Simpson case. I would still recommend this book to folks. Specifically those that watch lawyery shows or have an interest in murder cases. February 24, 2016I read this book with equal parts fascination and revulsion - it was an extremely good example of the power of the good legal representation and an example of turning the conversation from the murder of two innocent people to something much more politically charged - a classic case of diverting attention until you don't even remember what started the whole thing. To see the evidence so clearly spelled out and yet have that evidence play such a small role in jury deliberations is so sad. To hear some of the quotes in the courtroom and to see the clear injection of race into every argument to simply be able to win it was really hard to read. Whether you believe the verdict was the right one or not, I think you could agree that the way the final result was reached wasn't about trying to find out what happened to two people who were brutally killed, but instead served as a larger referendum on race, politics, police action and celebrity. OJ Simpson was the immediate beneficiary of that bait and switch. On another note - to the author, find a synonym for paradigmatic, I beg you.June 28, 2016This is a fantastic book from start to finish. Completely engrossing and very very truthful. 'The People v. O.J. Simpson tells the whole story, from the murders of Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman to the ruthless gamesmanship behind the scenes of the trial of the century.'The author, Jeffrey Toobin, was an assistant US attorney before becoming a staff writer at 'The New Yorker'. He is a graduate of Harvard Law School.Toobin just picks apart the testimony, O.J., the jury, the judge, the LAPD, the prosecution, the defence and anyone who has anything to do with the trial.September 8, 2012An absolutely fantastic read and the definitive account of the OJ Simpson trial in my opinion. Attorney Toobin does a brilliant job of delivering inside information and taking the reader through the case. As someone who followed the both the criminal and civil trials closely and who has read as much as he could find about the case, I wholeheartedly recommend this book to anyone interested in the case specifically or how a high profile case travels through the justice system.January 2, 2022We are informed by the ruling elite that this is the best book on the OJ Trial. And it certainly is a comprehensive look at the legal procedures involved in a murder trial. But Jeffrey Toobin is a mediocre journalist at best. He has no real feeling for language, and no empathy for people. He's also a moral coward, a privileged white male with an obvious interest in upholding the racial status quo. He is in fact exactly the kind of man who would write "important" journalism for an "important" magazine like the New Yorker, published by and for the wealthiest members of the white elite. What all this means is that you'll hear an awful lot of tut-tutting about those childish black jurors, and their primitive need to protect their own. But you'll hear very little about the racism of the LAPD. Mark Fuhrman, we are given to understand, is a bad apple, a rogue cop, an aberration. And when Marcia Clark condemns him (at long last) we're supposed to stand up and cheer. But the real truth is that cops like Mark Fuhrman take orders from lawyers like Marcia Clark, and Jeffrey Toobin. And in the end, they're the ones who should be on trial, not for Nicole's murder but for the tens of thousands of state-sanctioned murders of black men, women and children (going back generations) that never made it into the news. Some brilliant points about how everyone in LA is crazy about celebrities. November 2, 2018I was 18 and in between high school and college when the OJ case broke. I watched a few minutes of the chase and listened to my ex's mom offer her conviction that he was innocent. Two years ago, the FX series reignited my interest in the events I mostly avoided the first time around, and I got curious. Toobin's book is exhaustive but fascinating. It reads like a novel, and it provides an in depth look at the evidence of the case as well as the climate of LA and the nation at the time. If you're a fan of the FX series, it's worth it to read the book upon which it's based if only to see what was left out of the show and what made the series. Some of the most important characters in the TV series hardly factor into the book.March 21, 2016I've been wanting to read Jeffrey Tobin's take on the O.J. Simpson trial for a long time. With the miniseries being broadcast on FX, it seemed like the opportune moment to follow along with Toobin's commentary.I was a kid in grade school when the Simpson trial was the talk of the nation for over a year in '94-'95. I remember the the Bronco chase and the magazine covers and nightly news analysis and late night jokes. I remember adults--seemingly every adult--having an opinion on O.J.'s guilt or innocence. And I vividly remember the verdict and side-by-side reaction shots of news networks emphasizing the role of race in the trial.But aside from the glove (and Johnnie Cochran's famous line) and a few other stand-out moments, I realized a few years ago that I didn't know much else about the trial, let alone enough to form my own opinion on whether or not O.J. killed Nicole Brown and Ron Goldman.What I loved about this book is Toobin's brilliant way of weaving together legal and scientific analysis with the soap opera elements of the trial. In between passages on '90s DNA crime technology and courtroom regulations are anecdotes of Robert Shapiro's histrionics and Marcia Clark's harrowing experience of misogyny on the national stage and Cochran's sheer brilliance in mastering the media.To be clear, there are no heroes in Toobin's outlook on the case. Clark and junior DA Chris Darden may have had the moral upper hand, but they took an overwhelming win and blew it through their own incompetence. Cochran, F. Lee Bailey, Shapiro, et. al., may have scored the win, but at what cost? Not through good legal work so much as pushing a frankly bullshit narrative of a racist cover-up.And yet, I respect Cochran's strategy. The LAPD was a racist institution (still is in many aspects) and after case after case of racist police brutality, Cochran used their own Gestapo tactics against them. Yeah, maybe it wasn't so accurate in this case given that O.J.'s friends were white, he had an amazing relationship with the LAPD, etc. (all things Toobin explores at length), but the LAPD's bigoted operations--a modern-day KKK--was what ultimately screwed them over. Cochran just aptly led them to the cliff so they could drive themselves off. Toobin has a lot to say about race in LA at the time, and much of it makes for one of the more interesting aspects of the book, especially in our own era when #BlackLivesMatter has renewed the fight against our racist criminal justice system.All in all, it's difficult to think of how Toobin could have written this better. You will get a detailed analysis from before the murders to the process of the investigation to the trial to the aftermath with mini biographies of all the major players sprinkled throughout.You will also get an utterly convincing argument that O.J. Simpson is guilty, so if you're still a fan or in denial, be forewarned. Is it the same as the series? In most ways, yes, but there are some clear artistic manipulations taken by FX. For example, Clark and Darden did not have anything approaching an affair in Toobin's book although this is frequently hinted at in the series. Still, it's incredibly informative and entertaining, and if you're looking to get the whole picture of this huge chunk of '90s news and culture, I highly recommend it. March 5, 2017Everyone has a character flaw that is their undoing. People are shamelessly exploitative and cynical. The average person is easily duped and not very bright. Lawyers are at best a necessary evil. Cops are an unnecessary evil. Systemic racism is real, and it's hard enough to get people to notice it without trying to pretend it's something and somewhere it's not. It's extraordinarily easy to defame and slut-shame dead women. Celebrity and money will shield you from consequences.america-fuck-yeah embarrassing-guilty-pleasures favorites May 12, 2016Reviewed on www.snazzybooks.com Everyone – unless you never used to follow current affairs back in the 90's or you've very young- remembers the trial in which O.J. Simpson was accused, tried and ultimately adquitted of murdering his ex girlfiend Nicole Brown and her friend Ron Goldman in 1994. All the evidence pointed to Simpson's guilt- in fact, ridiculously so- and so it was a shock to many when, in 1995, he was found not guilty. I had heard about the case and knew a fair amount about it...or so I thought.Turns out, there was so much I didn't know about! In The People VS. O.J. Simpson, author Jeffrey Toobin completely opened my eyes to just how much manipulation of the jury and the American legal system Simpson's lawyers managed during this trial. It's a real eye opener, and it's packed full of facts and information about the whole rigmarole, starting from when the murders happened leading through to Simpson's ultimate acquittal- and even afterwards, including the civil lawsuit the victim's families filed against him afterwards (something I wasn't really aware of)!The level of detail in this book is astounding. At times I felt there was almost too much to take in; the book certainly could, in my opinion, have benefited by being cut down by about 50 pages or so. Despite usually being a really quick reader this took me ages to read- it's a pretty long book and there's a lot of detail to take in! However Toobin managed to include information about the jurors, the prosecutors, the defense team and Simpson himself, leaving the reader feeling like they've really learn a lot- the majority was hugely interesting stuff, too.One of the key themes in this novel is, of course, race and racial relations between the Police and the black community in America at the time. Though the author is evidently completely convinced of Simpson's guilt, he manages to convey a fairly even, balanced presentation of the murders and subsequent trial. He effectively shows how the Police's past behaviour towards black residents in the area ultimately damaged what should have been an 'open-and-shut' case. He doesn't seem to really blame the jurors for ruling against what the prosecution wanted, either, due to errors in the presentation of the case and the slick expertise of the defence team. All topped off, of course, by the celebrity effect- and how someone famous can change the way even the most level-headed people act.I don't tend to read a lot of non-fiction, but I really enjoyed this. Like many others I am planning on watching the incredibly popular TV show (I'm a bit behind the times, I know, but I missed it when it was initially on TV!) so really wanted to read this beforehand. I'm really interested to see how it translates onto the screen- it'll be truly gripping, I'm sure, judging by how interesting this book was!Definitely recommended, particularly for fans of true crime!* Many thanks to the publisher and Netgalley for providing a copy of this novel in return for an honest review *November 25, 2019Think you know everything about the O.J. Simpson trial...nope! The behind the scenes frenzy was CRAZY. We all knew it was a media craze, but there was so much more to it then that. Prosecutorial issues. Defense team issues. Evidence not overturned. Attorneys fined for illegal actions during the trial. The fight to be at the top by all. Judge Lance Ito and his desire to be recognize by the media. The attorneys fighting for the fame. The jurors who also wanted fame and lied to get on the jury. How the case got off track from being about the evidence/crime to being about race. The fraud on both sides. Crazy. It was wild. With such a long trial to end with a 2 hour verdict was mind-blowing. This very well-researched book brings a lot to light without taking a side. It shows the faults of both sides and what went right and what went wrong all both sides. It was all about celebrity status for all, the involvement of celebrities, yet in the end the trial ended up destroying the lives, reputation, and careers of most involved. This book was so engaging. The things that happened and few know about. It's the case everyone should remember where they were when the verdict came in, but the frenzy behind the scenes is revealed thoroughly in this book! Tired of hearing about OJ? I thought I was. This book will bring in so much new info you didn't know about and your interest in the OJ case will be renewed. Displaying 1 - 30 of 877 reviewsGet help and learn more about the design. edit descriptions of this character

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