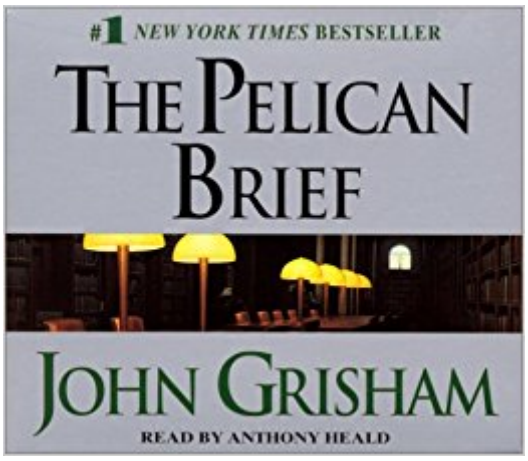
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# The Pelican Brief (John Grisham)




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## Synopsis

Five CDs, 6 hrs.performance by Anthony HealdLate one October night Justice Abe Rosenberg, at ninety-one the Supreme Court's Liberal legend, is shot to death in his Georgetown home. Two hours later Glenn Jensen, the Court's youngest and most conservative justice, is strangled. The country is stunned; the FBI has no clues.But Darby Shaw, a brilliant law student at Tulane, thinks she has the answer. Days of digging through the law library's computers have led her to draft a brief speculating on an obscure connection between the two justicesÃ¢â ¬â •and a most unlikely suspect. Her suspect has powerful friends: one evening, outside a New Orleans restaurant, Darby narrowly escapes an assassin's car bomb. Someone has read her briefÃ¢â ¬â •someone who wants her dead.Alone and frightened, Darby disappears into the anonymous shadows of the French Quarter, where she contacts the investigative reporter Gary Grantham and convinces him that Washington's position on the killings amounts to the biggest cover-up since Watergate. Together they go underground on the run, trying to stay alive long enough to expose the real truth contained in the Pelican Brief.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Anthony Heald gives an uncommonly compelling performance narrating this fast-paced legal thriller. The action begins with the fierce assassinations of two Supreme Court justices. Too unlikely to be coincidental, the murders have no identifiable connection until a young law student uncovers a hidden link, exposing herself and those around her to deadly consequences. Heald uses the

flexibility of his voice to conjure up a large cast of diverse characters. He crafts his delivery expertly, heightening the already substantial suspense and carrying the story to its dramatic conclusion. (Running time: 6 hours, 4 cassettes) --George Laney --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

In this tale of the aftermath of the assassinations of two Supreme Court justices, Grisham delivers a suspenseful plot at a breakneck pace, although his characters are stereotypes. The hardcover was on the PW bestseller list 48 weeks and the mass market was No. 1 last week. Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

This is an oldy, but a goodie...John Grisham does a terrific job with this story about a law student who unwittingly solves the murders of two Supreme Court justices and finds herself on the run from hit men hired by both a sleezy oil prospector and the White House Chief of Staff. She ends up putting her faith (and her life) in the hands of an award-winning journalist in Washington, who helps her gather evidence to prove her theory about the killings and hold those responsible. It's fast-paced, smart and though at times a bit clichÃƒÂ© in its obvious disdain for politics and politicians (not to mention sleezy oil prospectors looking to destroy Louisiana wetlands), still a great story. Well worth the read.

Do I consider myself even qualified to review John Grisham? I suppose as a lay person, I am. Grisham's writings speak for themselves in the sales of them--as the proof of the pudding is in the eating, it is said. All Grisham's writings are tastefully done, to me, with clear cut characterizations. The protagonist of his books is usually a good guy, and a reader can not help but like him/her, and root for him/her, reading to the wee hours of the morning, if possible. Moreover, the romance is tasteful, too (What there is of it)--perhaps a bit more detail for us women readers would be welcome. I recommend Grisham to relatives in Canada, and to anyone else who wants/needs A GOOD READ.

This is obviously the era of Grisham's finer works. The Pelican Brief certainly belongs in that category. Though I do wonder about a theme in the author's books where there's an inappropriate relationship going on (i.e. affairs, suggested affairs.) Here, it's a law student who's sleeping with her professor. Thankfully, she's smart on her own, or I'd really hate this book. So let's delve into Darby Shaw. She's awesome! For starters, I like her name, "Darby". I've never heard it before but it works so well. Like I said, she's smart...exceptionally smart in fact, and that's always a huge plus with me.

The fact that she soon finds herself in peril because of what she knows or might know and is consequently in fear for her life makes her human, and that again is a plus for me. Her dialogue is also witty and worth listening to. We need more female protagonists like her out there. The reporter, Gray Grantham, was good too, though Darby wins. He was smart for sure, but he never showed himself as being as smart as her. I'm absolutely thankful that he wasn't made out to be her hero or knight in shining armor. These two actually work together to expose the conspiracy at hand and I enjoyed every bit of the ride. My main problem, apart from this audio book being abridged, is the villain. I'm completely fine with there being an unseen menace for the protagonists to deal with, but this villain, Victor Mattiece, appears once and only briefly. I'd have liked it better if he never appeared in the book and was only talked about as was the case most of the time. His brief appearance without any encores was just too out-of-place for me. Also, there was a hint of romance in the book, which I could have done without. This book serves as an exception to my dislike of conspiracies where the questions become "how high does this go? and "who can you trust?" I see way too much of that in all of today's media. But this book was done well enough that it barely crosses into the exceptions column, despite all the government-rooted evil depicted in its pages. Go out and read it. Enjoy.

I have read all of Grisham's books dealing with the legal system. I am now going through them again on my kindle while traveling. I enjoyed reading them the first time through and am enjoying them the second time around. His books are an enjoyable read.

I'm a huge Grisham fan but I could tell that this book was one of his first ones. The story line exploded (literally) at first but then it slowed down for much of the book until towards the end when it picked up again. I was wondering when Darby was going to finally let the FBI help her out!

I have recently begun rereading John GrishamÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s novels. I had read John GrishamÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s first novel ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“A Time to KillÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• right after it came out just over 20 years ago and thoroughly enjoyed it. I went on to read many of his novels. When I learned that he had just released a sequel to ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“A Time to Kill,ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• I decided to reread that novel before reading ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“Sycamore Row.ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• After ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“Sycamore Row,ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• I was once more thoroughly hooked on his novels and decided to reread more of his early books.I found ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“The Pelican BriefÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• to be totally engaging and a real page-turner. I

have only a few minor criticisms. It was never clear to me why Grisham included the fire-bombing of the gay movie theaters after the assassinations of the two justices. I did not feel it added anything to the story. The president and his chief of staff were a bit overly caricatured. Although Grisham did tie up loose ends near the conclusion of the novel, I found the explanation of the killing of the assassin Khamel by a Brit under a CIA contract to strain credulity. Even so, I enjoyed the book and would recommend it to anyone interested in legal thrillers.

I loved this book as I do all of John Grishams booksÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â|. They are all completely different stories and keep your interest.

Read it many years ago, read it again. Love it.

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