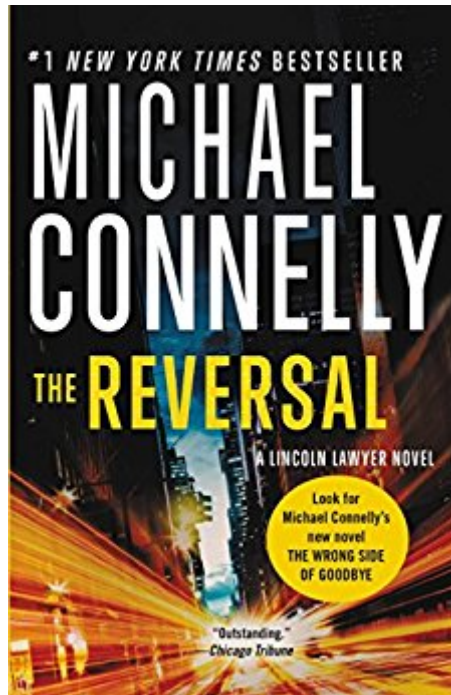


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The Reversal (Mickey Haller Book 3)



Synopsis

Longtime defense attorney Mickey Haller is recruited to change stripes and prosecute the high-profile retrial of a brutal child murder. After 24 years in prison, convicted killer Jason Jessup has been exonerated by new DNA evidence. Haller is convinced Jessup is guilty, and he takes the case on the condition that he gets to choose his investigator, LAPD Detective Harry Bosch. Together, Bosch and Haller set off on a case fraught with political and personal danger. Opposing them is Jessup, now out on bail, a defense attorney who excels at manipulating the media, and a runaway eyewitness reluctant to testify after so many years. With the odds and the evidence against them, Bosch and Haller must nail a sadistic killer once and for all. If Bosch is sure of anything, it is that Jason Jessup plans to kill again.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I like reading a series of books with one main character. I get to know them. I have therefore read all of Michael Connelly's books centered on the Detective Bosch. Because I finished all of them I tried other authors with less success and then returned to read some of his other books of Connelly's centering on other characters. I like Bosch the best (when he was active in the police department),

the Lawyer Haller was good, and the the reporter was McElroy was also ok. This book however, which is really about the lawyer Haller is the best of all because it engages several of the characters I have come to know. Haller is the focus of the book of course, but Bosch has a major roll and the FBI profiler makes a major contribution. The book was detailed enough in its story that you knew what was happening and it felt possible, it had sufficient character interactions and development to hold interest beyond the story, and the story ended with the unexpected. My favorite of his books so far.

I've been catching up on past Connelly's and was excited to get to this second Lincoln Lawyer book but it was a big disappointment. Too much legal procedure and endless details about things that didn't become important in the story. There was also very little suspense or drama (the big "drama" there was, was totally predictable and at the same time just over the top) and --worst of all -- there were questions left hanging at the end. I don't know if it was a set up book for the next installment and whether those questions will be answered, but rather than intrigue me, it just fatigued me. This book was easy to put down and hard to finish. Sorry to be so negative but this one really felt as if Connelly was on a tight deadline and just threw stuff on the page to get his word count. Can't recommend this one.

This is not one of Connelly's best but it's still readable enough. One of the complaints is that there are no surprises here, no twists and turns. It's just a mildly interesting story about an incarcerated man being re-tried for a murder he committed years before but contains no real element of suspense or mystery. The unusual element of the story is the fact that defense lawyer Mickey Haller is picked as an independent prosecutor, whatever that means. This is really silly as well as wildly improbable, if not actually impossible. What the point of it is I'm not sure, unless it's just a device to have Bosch and Haller work together. Whatever the reason, it makes no sense at all and doesn't work on any level: no DA on the planet would pick someone like Haller -a sleazy defense lawyer who cares nothing about justice, about right or wrong, and who happily frees guilty men on any technicality he can dream up- and in any case he would refuse the job, as the publicity would lose him his credibility and most of his clients. In the first two Haller books we see Mickey with grave doubts about the morality of his profession and even deciding to quit, yet at the end of this one he is relieved to leave the side of justice and return to 'the mission'! WHAT? In spite of this the story plods along agreeably enough until the end, where it simply tails off limply. Connelly's is a good writer but this is one of his poorer efforts. Mildly enjoyable but ultimately falls flat

Even though this is a fictional story, Connelly has a knack for making it seem that he's writing from personal experience. I can feel the emotionalism in his characters. Bosch is a Pitt Bull who never gives up, and relies on his experiences and mms maintains a soldiers sixth sense. Haller and Maggie are cut from the same sheet. Opposites attract, but not in this case since they are painted as true professional lawyers who care about their jobs and that the verdict is the right decision. I would recommend this for readers of suspense, action and drama.

Connelly can do much better. If you're a Bosch fan there's too much Haller; if you're a Haller fan there's probably too much Bosch. Either way one seems to put a dampener on the other. For me there's too much time dedicated to courtroom parlance, which always ultimately becomes repetitive and predictable. If the defence is the underdog the prosecution is always eventually verbally outdone, and vice versa if the underdog is the prosecution; and all the while minimal, if any at all, real action takes place. The ending, too, did little to enhance the read. It was as though the author ran out of room and had to finish where he did while there was so much scope for a more exciting finale.

I have been reading Connelly's Bosch series from beginning to end. I came next to the Reversal, which is primarily a courtroom drama featuring Mickey Haller. But Bosch is the case investigator. So he features prominently in this book. First of all, it's a Michael Connelly novel -- that about says it all. He has a crisp writing style with rich character development and a tight and complicated plot that keeps the reader engaged and guessing to the end. It is so entertaining to read how a legal case is handled, the many manipulations and tactics that have to be employed by both sides. In this novel, that is particularly seen since Haller (a defense attorney) is asked to prosecute this case. So you end up seeing both sides of the case. It also gives the reader a good idea of how cops investigate these cases in preparation for trial. This is a great plot. One that takes a big twist at the end. I highly recommend all Connelly books and especially the Harry Bosch series (though the Haller series is no slouch either). I recommend reading the series in order to get the most from the character development from one story to the next.

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