



Treason

Don Brown

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The stakes are high . . . and the entire world is waiting for the verdict. The Navy has uncovered a group of radical Islamic clerics who have infiltrated the Navy Chaplain Corps, inciting sailors and marines to acts of terrorism. And Lieutenant Zack Brewer has been chosen to prosecute them for treason and murder. Only three years out of law school, Zack has already made a name for himself, winning the coveted Navy Commendation medal. Just coming off a high-profile win, this case will challenge the very core of Zack's skills and his Christian beliefs—beliefs that could cost him the case and his career. With Diane Colcernian, his staunchest rival, as assistant prosecutor, Zack takes on internationally acclaimed criminal defense lawyer Wells Levinson. And when Zack and Diane finally agree to put aside their animosity, it causes more problems than they realize.

Treason Details

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Author : Don Brown

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David says

The book was ok. The storyline is relevant and compelling. I almost put it down several times since it felt slow early on. At about 75% of the way through the book it became apparent that everything had been "act I" setting the stage for the trial and storyline billed in press releases and on the covers. I felt like not enough time was devoted to this crucial part of the story. This blockbuster trial kind of came and went and was disproportionately small for the book. I was pulled in by the storyline, and still think it has tremendous potential. In the end, I don't love the book, but I don't dislike it either.

This was my introduction to the author. I believe it is his first book, which may account for some of what I feel is missing. I will read more of his work since the potential is there for the other two stars.

Stephen C Marineau says

Trite, unfailingly predictable. A cloying parade of stereotypes. I usually feel a certain sense of satisfaction when I finish a good read. This book just brought a sense of relief that it was finally over.

Amy says

As far as jingoistic, cliched stereotyping literature goes, this is some of the best. If you like reading about Muslims as nothing more than crazy-eyed, spittle-spewing jerks, lacking human compassion and ready to martyr themselves for a misguided religion, you'll enjoy this novel. Even though I'm a Christian, I didn't really relate much to the Christian characters, especially the one who himself was martyred for his faith. They were kind people, for the most part, centered, balanced, calm and gentle in the face of adversity. They didn't go around calling people infidels and unfaithful dogs, disrespecting women and blowing stuff up. So in that way I did relate to them.

I kept reading the story, however, because I wanted to find out what happened. The plot and character development was perfectly adequate for a political thriller, and I would say it was at least as good as a Mary Higgins Clark novel, although I can't say for sure since I haven't read one in years. I once stopped reading a John Grisham novel 23 pages from the end, so I would say this book was better than that one. Don't plan on reading anymore, however.

ETA: now that all this stuff keeps happening with grown men who want to burn to death a 14 year old girl with Down syndrome, and a 14 year old girl in Pakistan was shot because she wants to go to school, maybe we can just pretend that the Muslims in this book are such extremists.

dennis says

haven't read any books of don brown that were not at least 4 stars or more!

Linda Belknap says

Good read

Fun reading and keeps your attention

Weak ending would have liked some commitment . Good characters could actually see what they looked like

Karen says

This is an OK legal thriller about a young navy attorney named Zack Brewer. Zack's life changes in a hurry when he wins a high profile case and is offered his dream career and another high profile case that is crucial to national security. Terrorists have infiltrated the U.S. Navy to cripple the nation's defenses from the inside and Zack is tasked with trying them in military court.

This fiction was written in 2005, but given recent events, it is amazing how true this story can be. This is a quick, easy read which concentrates on courtroom drama, not character development. Although there is some violence perpetrated by the terrorists, the author does not go into gory details.

The story is good, but there are a few problems I had with the plot. The first half of the book deals with a rape trial and I believe there are some things left unresolved there and the author just moves on to the next trial. The terrorism trial details are glossed over and needed much more development.

I enjoyed the story and wanted to keep reading the book, but the suspense did not wow me.

stormhawk says

Treason is a much better book than I had reason to expect ... I received it as a free Kindle download from amazon.com, which can be a dicey proposition. Much to my surprise and delight, Treason turned out to be a solid courtroom drama novel. The subject matter is extremely topical, and a not unrealistic concern of U.S. Armed Forces members being co-opted or infiltrated by the terrorists they fight.

The only hints that this is meant to be a "Christian" novel are a more than usual amount of praying going on, and the book is published by Zondervan, a well-known Christian publishing house. None of this gets in the way of the story, which remains gripping up until the end.

There was one tiny little thing, maybe it wasn't as intentional as it looks, but two featured characters who have a scene together are named Zack and Awe ...

Jennifer says

A friend recommended Dan Brown as a good read, so I eagerly checked out this book when I found it in the library. Indeed, the first chapters were interesting even though I was unfamiliar with many of the military terms, and the story moved at a nice pace. I also appreciated the reminder of God's redemption and love.

However, the romance in the second half of the book turned me off. I ended up skimming to the end because I didn't want to read about how JAG lawyer Diane Colcernian wanted her fellow JAG lawyer and trial partner Zack Brewster to touch her hand longer, felt jealous when he hugged a colleague and obsessed about every glance. It felt very adolescent and out of place with the story, and it distracted in a bad way.

I had hopes that this series would feed my need for action, adventure and mystery, but I was disappointed and won't be reading more of this series or author.

Glenn says

Second read through and I still enjoyed the story. For me, it is a good read... Recommended

Ed says

Great novel with lots of action and suspense. This is the third book I have read by Don Brown and I have not been disappointed yet. Looking forward to reading more of his novels.

Brad Yoder says

This was a great book, definitely one of my favorites. I liked the emotion it showed. It had a good moral to the story. You might be a bit confused in the beginning but you'll understand it eventually. Some parts are little gory but not too much extent. Definitely recommend to military/law loving people.

Freda Malone says

The (rape) sexual assault trial of a female Navy Officer, headed by rivals and JAG Lieutenants Zack Brewer and Diane Colcernian, spark some interesting questions not just with the victim and the accused, but with Zack and Diane. (A side note: whenever I read a new sentence with Zack and Diane, that stupid song would start going through my mind - Jack and Diane by Mellencamp. Good grief!) You might find yourself a little confused in the first few chapters because it seems as though one courtroom trial doesn't have anything to do with the other, and well, it really doesn't but it wraps up nicely and leaves room for the possibility of an 'appeals' story later in the series.

The Navy has uncovered a group of radical Islamic clerics who have infiltrated the Navy Chaplain Corps,

inciting sailors and marines to acts of terrorism. Lieutenant Zack Brewer has been chosen to prosecute them for treason and murder. Zack is going up against the best lawyer in the world, literally and he needs a right hand man, or woman. Lt. Diane Colcernian.

Highly conceivable in my opinion and a good military crime to start with. However, I was a bit disappointed in the lack of details inside the courtroom itself. There was no dialogue or in depth interviews with witnesses in the story. How was the evidence produced in front of the jury and what was their reaction? These are my favorite parts of any legal thriller. 3.5 star rating.

This series is written by a Christian author so it was a nice reminder that we all have freedom of religion. Some of the inspiring bible quotes were a warm touch in some of the relationship scenes but I'm too old to go for that sappy stuff. Unfortunately, I've been exposed to the more radical aspect of the Islam religion and it is scary to even think that a bunch of extremists or terrorists would create 'cells' within our military bases, even after 9/11.

I really enjoyed this story. More so the legal and courtroom drama. I just wish there had been more of it.

Nick says

Yes, that's DON Brown, not DAN Brown.

And man, this is a bad book. I got this for free on the Kindle store and I still feel ripped off. This is probably one of the most amateurish books I've ever read - everyone is flat and smotheringly one-dimensional. The bad guys - stock Evil Muslim Terrorists (TM) straight from central casting - all have horribly stilted "My brother, let us destroy this cute kitten in the name of our evil god, Allah" type dialog. They go around doing typical Evil Muslim Terrorist things, such as throwing hand grenades in churches, and assassinating Israeli ambassadors, and, um, serving for years in the United States Navy? Hey, I didn't say it made sense.

Meanwhile, that's just half the book. The other half is a military trial where a SEAL is accused of raping an officer. (What do these plotlines have to do with each other? Nothing! Ha ha!) This part of the book actually has our "hero" in it, a military prosecutor. And what does our hero do? Well, he, uh, prosecutes a rape case and starts dating the victim about two days after the incident took place. This part of the book gets twice as much ink as the other part, and it sure makes a Evil Muslim Terrorist named "John Neptune" throwing a grenade into a church look tightly written when the author takes twice as long to describe a boring dinner date in which nothing interesting happens. Kind of like how getting kicked in the butt is better than getting punched in the face - the Evil Muslim Terrorist sections may be incredibly dumb, clumsily written, offensive, and obvious, but at least something happens, which beats the part of the book that's dumb, clumsily written, offensive, and obvious, and nothing happens.

Overall, I'd give this a B- and a Shows Promise! from a 16 year old in a high school English class. As a finished novel, one star seems generous.

Lillie says

I wish I could say the plot of this fast-paced thriller was far-fetched. Unfortunately, it is all-too-realistic. At

the beginning of the book, there seem to be two unrelated plot lines, but they come together in a dramatic way. Highly recommended.

Sumi says

So!So!

I wish it was less religious. Story in the beginning was so mundane and I skimmed through the pages. I loved the trial and it got better in the end.
