



The Defendants

John Ellsworth

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"Fast-paced courtroom drama that makes the pages turn with its depiction of the American Legal Justice System, Mob rule, and the tale of one rookie lawyer who refused to quit!" - American Institute of Justice

Thaddeus Murfee is twenty-five, single, a lawyer of eighteen months, and completely unprepared for the murder case that walks in. While Ermeline was passed out, her date carved his name in her breasts. Heavy, thick letters: V-I-C-T-O-R.

The guilty party is found murdered. Or was he guilty? Ermeline is arrested because she had motive and opportunity. She hires Thaddeus, who makes his debut defending his first murder case in this courtroom drama.

Ilene is a beautiful widow who loves horses. Ilene is introduced to Thaddeus one Saturday morning as he is caring for his own horse. She invites him to Christmas dinner. Soon Thaddeus finds himself in great need of her care and she rushes in to help. Will her love be enough to pull him through this courtroom thriller?

Paralegal Christine Susmann, home from the war in Iraq, uses her military training to help Thaddeus put together the defense. Together they discover the dark forces behind the case and Christine teaches him how to arm himself and how to shoot--a skill he will need. The suspense mounts while alibis fall away and the killer's plot is discovered.

In *The Defendants*, John Ellsworth offers you a courtroom thriller that puts you right on the front row to witness how murder cases are defended. See the politics behind all criminal cases, and how love can grow out of the strangest beginnings anyone could imagine. In the end, Thaddeus is given a split second to save his own life. His reaction is amazing!

Interview with the Author

Q - So, what makes the Thaddeus Murfee series special?

A - It's a mix of things, really. When I set out to write these books, I wanted to create something that mirrored exactly the kind of books I like to read. My top picks are usually legal thriller novels, any of the thousands of courtroom fiction and crime fiction best sellers, and, of course, books featuring your classic lawyer heroes get my vote.

The Thaddeus Murfee books are a great mix of these genres. You'll find the series focuses on legal thrillers and crime thrillers / courtroom drama overall, with one or two medical thrillers thrown in!

Overall, the Thaddeus Murfee series is designed to keep you turning the pages - and I've made sure there's never a dull moment.

Q - What order should I read the books in?

A - I've written the series so you can read the books in any order, and all the story threads will tie up nicely

by the time you're finished. If you do want to read them in order, I'd suggest the following sequence:

- *The Defendants*
- *Beyond a Reasonable Death*
- *Attorney at Large*
- *Chase, the Bad Baby*
- *Defending Turquoise*
- *The Mental Case* (coming soon)

Q - So, why should readers give these books a try?

A - Because the Thaddeus Murfee series is a fast, fun, thrill-ride that keeps you up late! Each of the books has hit the bestsellers list, and each have been featured on Amazon's Thrillers top 100 list.

Ultimately, readers who enjoy fast pacing with a plot that twists and turns all the way to the end will get a kick out of this series.

Q - Can readers get the whole series in one go?

A - First three. I've put together a bundle of 1-3 if people want to save a little money and grab the first three books in one swoop. Check out my author page here at Amazon for more details, and a full list of my available titles.

And thanks for reading!

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Verna Smith:

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Joan Henderson:

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Donald Murray:

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