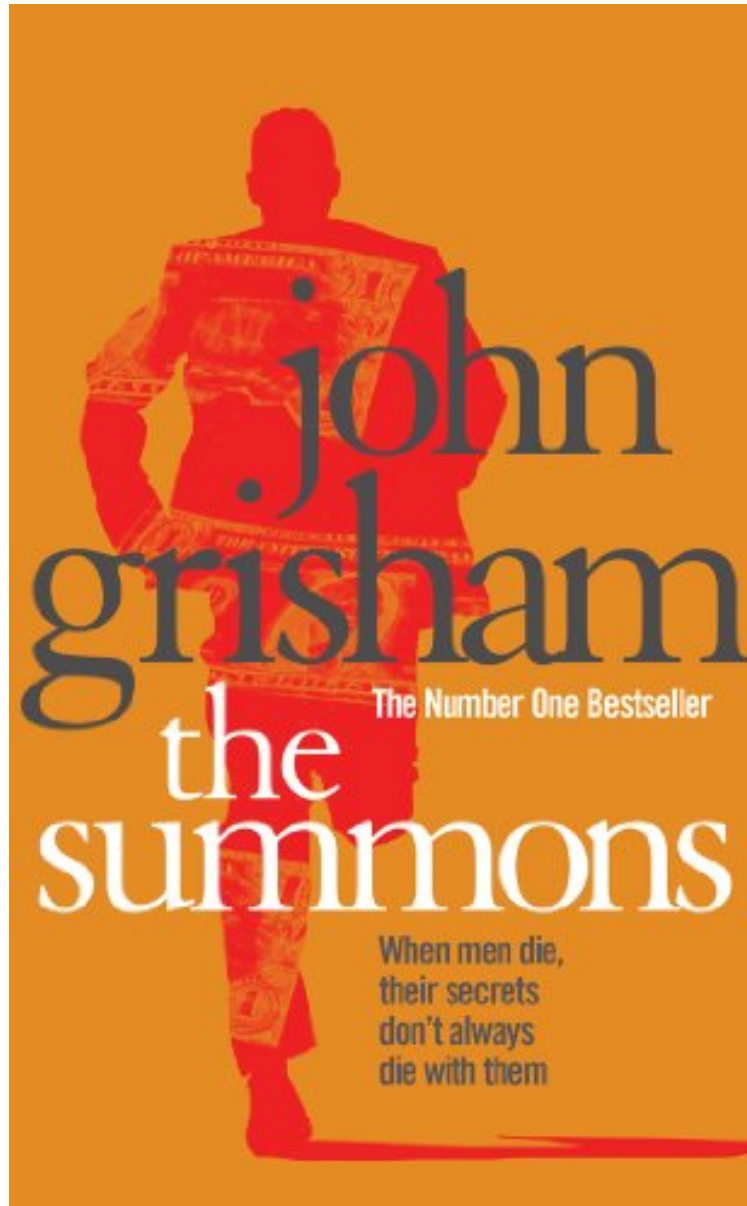


(Download) The Summons

The Summons

Von John Grisham

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Von John Grisham : The Summons before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Summons:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen12 von 12 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. What goes around comes aroundVon Mr. JoeWhat if you stumbled upon Big Bucks and didn't want to share?Ray Atlee, a

professor at the Virginia School of Law, is summarily summoned home to Mississippi by his cancer-ridden father, a former state Chancery Judge. Ol' Dad has never been close to Ray or his younger brother, Forrest. Both call him "Judge". On arrival back at the decaying, family mansion, Ray finds the old man peacefully dead on a sofa. In obvious view is a recently written will naming Ray the estate executor. Both sons are to split the estate's assets even-stein. There isn't much, though, beyond the house and \$6,000 in the bank. Mississippi doesn't pay its judges much, and Judge Atlee was famously generous to any and all charities and good causes. So, how about that 3.1 million dollars - cash - stashed in a bookcase behind the sofa, huh? That'll buy a lot of Moon Pies and Yoo-hoo. To call THE SUMMONS a thriller is an overstatement. The action, such as it is, proceeds at a sedate pace as Ray shuttles back and forth between Virginia, Mississippi, and New Jersey and grapples with the questions: 1. Where did the money come from? 2. Is the cash marked, or counterfeit? 3. Should he share it with Forrest? 4. Does anyone else know he has it? Ray decides almost immediately not to declare the money as part the Judge's estate, or share it with his brother, a chronic substance abuser who's been in and out of rehab for twenty years. After all, Forrest would only kill himself with so much wealth, wouldn't he? The reader also learns early on that at least one other is aware of the horde when Ray receives an anonymous note cautioning him not to spend the windfall, and that the IRS is only a phone call away. THE SUMMONS is basically a morality play about the consequences of banal greed. I say banal because Ray is excruciatingly ordinary, and his decisions regarding the cash stash are probably the same ones you or I would make under similar circumstances. Until the last twenty pages or so, I was disinclined to award more than three stars. However, author John Grisham closes with a twist that, while not one that elicits an "Oh, wow!", at least satisfyingly makes the point that what goes around comes around and poetic justice is occasionally served (at least in fiction). 10 von 10 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. What a boring book ! Von Ein Kunde It was worse, because I had just finished a Steve Martin novel, one that does not let you go to sleep until you finish it. And I was so anxious to read the new Grisham ! The plot is slow, without any thrills, not really intelligent (rather borrowed from plots which we've all seen) and the end is plain, unimaginative and flat. You get sick and tired of Ray running around after 30 pages or so and it does not get better. I read a lot and I try to find something good to say about most books, but what a WASTE of money this is! 8 von 8 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. John, take a break Von Peter Berlin This is another of Grisham's novel with a lawyer background. After "The Farm" - his unfortunate because unsuccessful attempt to charter into new territory - he is back to the area where his strength seems to lie - or should I say where it used to be. There is a very slim story in this novel - maybe a short story, but definitely not much more - that stretches over way too many pages. It keeps you going but in the end, after finishing the novel, I felt this was just a lot of hot air and no substance - quite honestly a let-down after the built-up which wasn't very steep to begin with. Quite frankly, I think Grisham needs to take a break from writing, maybe two or three years, recharge his batteries and then surprise us readers with a wonderful novel again. He seems to have run out of steam, almost desperately clutching at straws and inventing rather feeble plot lines that never deliver. He still makes it to the top of the bestseller list but not on the strength of his current novel but he is resting on laurels of novels published long ago. I think after all the let-downs he offered to us in the last couple of years, I will be more critical about his next effort and wait for the response that I find here in the readers' review section. This one I don't recommend. It is not worth the trouble.

Kurzbeschreibung Suspense storytelling at its best and thrilling to the very last page, an American classic from the No. 1 bestselling master thriller writer. Ray Atlee, a Professor of Law at the University of Virginia, is forty-three and newly single. His father, a very sick old man who lives the life of a recluse in the ancestral home in Clanton, Mississippi, was once a beloved and powerful official who towered over local law and politics for many years. With the end in sight, Judge Atlee issues a summons to Ray to return home to Clanton, to discuss the details of the family estate. Ray reluctantly heads south, but the family meeting does not take place. The Judge dies too soon, and in doing so leaves behind a shocking secret which Ray believes only he knows. Until it becomes clear that someone else knows too.... deLaw professor Ray Atlee and his prodigal brother, Forrest, are summoned home to Clanton, Mississippi, by their ailing father to discuss his will. But when Ray arrives the judge is already dead, and the one-page document dividing his meager estate between the two sons seems crystal clear. What it doesn't mention, however, is the small fortune in cash Ray discovers hidden in the old man's house--\$3 million he can't account for and doesn't mention to brother Forrest, either. Ray's efforts to keep his find a secret, figure out where it came from, and hide it from a nameless extortioner, who seems to know more about it than he does, culminate in a denouement with an almost biblical twist. It's a slender plot to hang a thriller on, and in truth it's not John Grisham's best in terms of pacing, dramatic tension, and interesting characters (except for Harry Rex, a country lawyer who was the judge's closest friend and in many ways is the father Ray wishes he'd had. He's so vivid he jumps off the page). But Grisham's legions of fans are likely to enjoy The Summons even if it lacks the power of some of his classic earlier books, like The Firm, The Brethren, and The Testament. --Jane Adams.co.uk An intelligent, low-key thriller, The Summons continues John

Grisham's exploration of the common decencies of a strain of American commercial story-telling in literature and film that we often link to the work of Frank Capra or O Henry. He is not afraid of parable or of setting up situations that are at once archetypal and attractively specific. This is a tale of two brothers--one is righteous, more or less, and one is not--and a question of their inheritance. Ancient Mississippi judge Atlee summons his two sons to his deathbed, but dies before he can explain himself, leaving Ray, who arrives on time unlike his drunkard brother Forrest with the difficult problem of the three million dollars in used notes which are lying around the house in shoe-boxes. Ray worries about his father's posthumous reputation, about the Inland Revenue Service and about how quickly Forrest could drink himself to death with unlimited funds. Grisham is very acute indeed on how the best of intentions lead Ray not to any significant crime or atrocity but to quietly unconscionable behaviour. And then he realises he is being followed... Grisham can build suspense out of remarkably little and has a real gift for understanding the quiet anxieties of an ordinary man. --Roz Kaveney