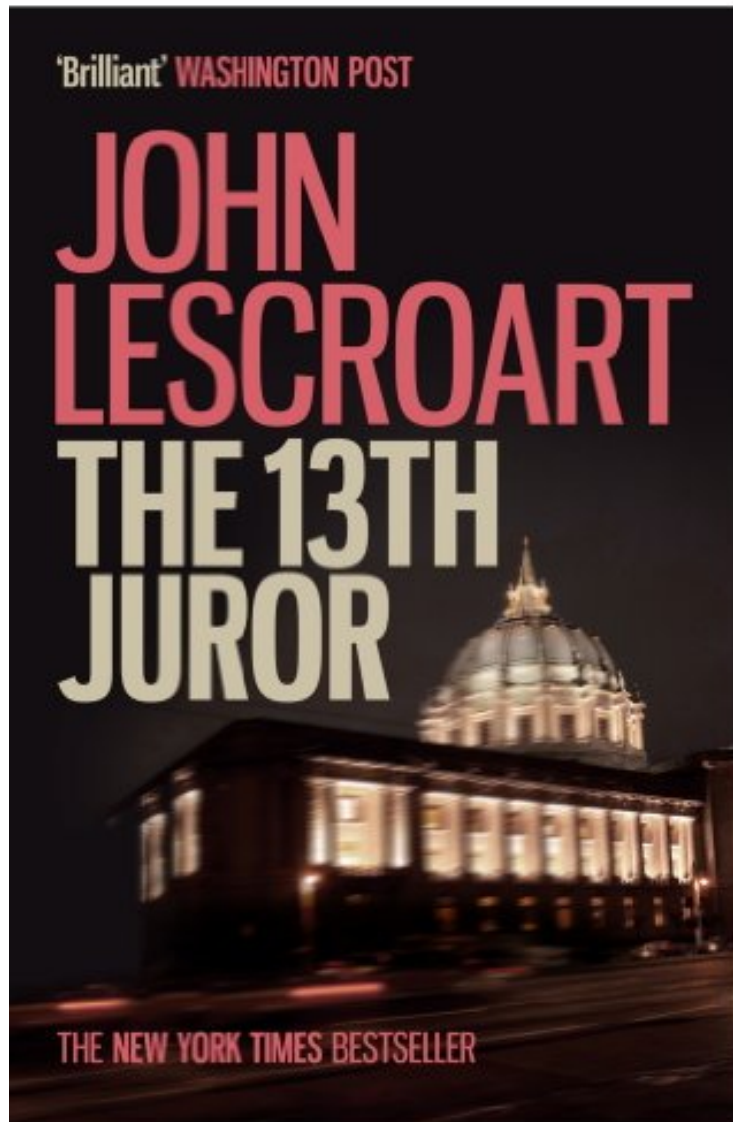


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The Thirteenth Juror (Dismas Hardy series, book 4): An unputdownable thriller of violence, betrayal and lies

Von John Lescroart

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Von John Lescroart : The Thirteenth Juror (Dismas Hardy series, book 4): An unputdownable thriller of violence, betrayal and lies before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Thirteenth Juror (Dismas Hardy series, book 4): An unputdownable thriller of violence, betrayal and lies:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Not as impressed as the everyone else.Von Ein KundeThis is my third Lescroart novel and I have yet to embrace it like I did my first Guilt. That is not to say that this is a bad book. I did like it but not nearly as much.Part of my problem was that I really did not care for the characters. I think Lescroart has a great skill in creating believable people and story lines, it's just that the people are not always people you like or are interested in what happens to them.The only other fault I had with The 13th Juror was that it was not exciting a trial and the resolution came to Dismas a little too easily at the end. All this tension and then and worry and then he figures it out all of a sudden. Not that the reader could not have come to the same conclusion, but you sit there thinking, it can't be that simple. Yes, it can.Still, I have read far worse. I still recommend Guilt.0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A very compelling bookVon Ein KundeMy boss was reading this book and I picked it up one day out of curiosity (she had been talking about how good it was). I read the first page, then the second, and the next thing I knew I had read the entire prologue. Very compelling and chilling - in those few pages, Lescroart delves into the mind of a battered woman and gives real insight into her psyche. Here and throughout the book, he answers the often-asked naive question "Why doesn't she just leave him?" I then bought my own copy of the book (my boss had passed her copy on to her husband). Lescroart takes his time and carefully constructs his characters; the drama builds steadily as the murder trial looms and Hardy tries to convince his client to help herself. When the trial begins, the story starts to race as new evidence comes to light and the plot takes some wild turns (the analogy of a roller coaster comes to mind - trite, but true). This is more than a simple courtroom drama or whodunit - Lescroart really gets into what makes his characters who they are and why they do what they do. I actually found myself forgetting to try to figure out who the killer really was (although until the climax of the book there remains a shadow of a doubt as to whether the wife really did it or not - she's not exactly a warm, lovable gal and she certainly had plenty of reasons to off the guy). This is an intricate, multi-layered story that goes way beyond the basics - there's a lot more to it than the central theme of justice prevailing over injustice. Lescroart explores the grey areas of ethics and morality as his characters interact and their own stories intertwine. This is a fascinating and engrossing book.0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. I am hooked on Dismas Hardy!Von Ein KundeThis book was in a bag of paperbacks my mom (another avid mystery reader) passed along to me a couple of weeks ago. I devoured it cover to cover and have since read two other novels in this series. Hardy makes a very human, very believable hero, and the San Francisco setting could only be painted by a lover of the city. This book draws you in and won't let you put it down! I recommend it highly as well as the rest of the Dismas Hardy series. Note: It is helpful to read these in order, but not absolutely necessary. What a page-turner!

KurzbeschreibungHe is obsessed with her innocence. He will be destroyed by her guilt...John Lescroart writes a gripping courtroom thriller delving deep into the life and mind of the suspect in The Thirteenth Juror, the fourth novel in the Dismas Hardy series. Perfect for fans of J.J. Miller and John Sandford. 'I double-dare you to begin reading John T. Lescroart's new suspense trial novel and put it down... This one is on the money' - Larry King, USA TodayDismas Hardy, lawyer/investigator, undertakes the defence of Jennifer Witt, accused of murdering her husband and their eight-year-old son as well as her first husband, who had died nine years earlier from an apparent drug overdose. While preparing his case, Hardy learns that both of Jennifer's husbands had physically abused her. But Jennifer refuses to allow a defence that presumes her guilt. She is not guilty, she claims. Hardy is now driven to seek an alternative truth a jury can believe. As the trial progresses, the complex truth itself begins to change, to bend, to fade in and out of focus as the clock keeps ticking on Jennifer's fate, until there seems only one person left to convince, and she is 'the 13th juror' - the judge. The 13th Juror is a stunning and suspenseful novel of moral ambiguity, of good intentions, bad judgements and the tortuous path to ultimate justice.What readers are saying about The Thirteenth Juror:'Intricate, multi-layered story that goes way beyond the basics'It was hard to put this book down!'Keeps you on the edge of your seat until the end'From Publishers WeeklyFurther evidence that Lescroart (Hard Evidence) can hold his own among legal-thriller writers comes with this taut novel about an abused San Francisco housewife who is arrested for shooting both her seven-year-old son and her physician husband, a control freak. Narrator Dismas Hardy, defense attorney and hero of four previous Lescroart novels, has plenty of suspects and issues to grapple with. First there's his icy, recalcitrant client, Jennifer Witt, who refuses to go with a battered-wife defense; Jennifer's aloof psychiatrist, who may or may not be her lover; some financial shenanigans concerning the victim's business that provide plenty of motive for high-stakes murder. Then there's the problem of Dismas's grandstanding boss, whose flamboyant, hit-or-miss style leaves Dismas constantly scrambling for higher legal ground. Finally, there's Dismas's wife, who resents the time her husband spends on the case but who insists on striking up a friendship with the accused without telling her husband. The story gets off to a slow start, and sometimes Lescroart belabors the obvious. He also comes close to telegraphing the solution to the mystery, and much of his writing about the characters' personal lives is hamfisted. Despite these flaws, however, an intricate story and satisfying courtroom scenes carry the day. Fans of the genre should find the second half of the book, which covers the trial, especially engaging. 60,000 first printing; major ad/promo; paperback

rights to Dell; audio rights to Bantam Doubleday Dell; large print rights to Thorndike; Literary Guild and Double Day Book Club featured alternates. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Booklist After a fizzled career as a prosecutor (lately chronicled in the author's 1992 *Hard Evidence*), Dismas Hardy works the other side of the street as a defense attorney. His first case seems hopeless: Jennifer Witt is accused of killing her husband and son, and plenty of witnesses place her near the bloody scene. The woman denies all, but it seems obvious it's all over except for the gas chamber. So Diz works "other dude" theories--finding who else could have pulled the trigger. Fruitful avenues of inquiry open up that Diz pursues with a diligence bordering on obsession, exasperating his wife and frustrating himself as the leads peter out. But he discovers that the victim was far from perfect, a wife-beater in fact, who also may have been entangled in some financial shenanigans at his medical practice. So what was the motive? Jennifer acting in self-defense? A Mob hit? Perhaps Jennifer's violent father popped the doc, and there's something fishy about her psychiatrist, too. All questions stay alive in the author's skillful hands, as his alter ego presents his theories to a tough-but-fair type of judge (the juror of the title). The suspense meets the minimum demands of mystery addicts: the domestic violence motif, the San Francisco locale, and the publisher's big promotional plans may increase Lescroart's modest following. Gilbert Taylor