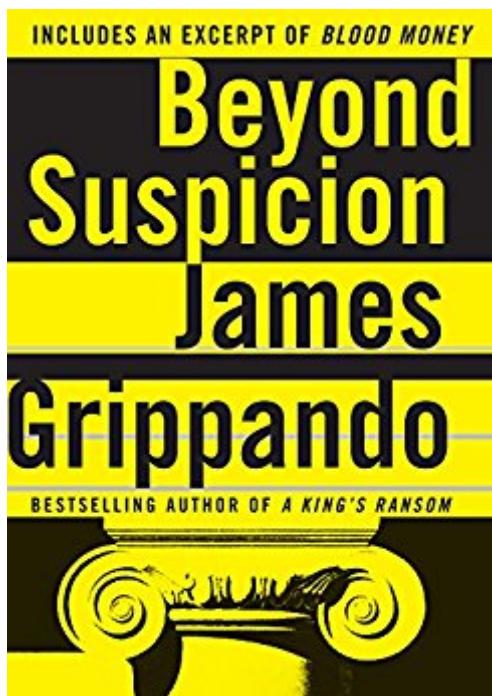


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Beyond Suspicion (Jack Swyteck Book 2)



Synopsis

After six exciting thrillers in seven years, bestselling author James Grippando is at last bringing back the main character from his blockbuster debut novel, *The Pardon*. Criminal lawyer Jack Swytek doesn't handle many civil cases. But this one is different. His client, Jessie Merrill, is a gorgeous ex-girlfriend who's being sued. At the trial, Jack pulls off a brilliant victory and Jessie gets a hefty settlement. But then Jack finds out it was all a scam. Two days later, Jessie's body turns up floating in Jack's bathtub. As the evidence mounts against him, Jack finds himself on a collision course with dark secrets from the past and a possible killer is beyond suspicion.

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Customer Reviews

so you may be wondering if this book is worth your time. 'Beyond Suspicion' is a quick-moving book and is a sequel to Grippando's first published novel 'The Pardon'. I read 'The Pardon' many years ago, but reading the first book is not a necessary requirement - Grippando sets the stage very well in this book so it can be a 'stand alone' novel. I shot through this book very quickly - the plot drags you in pretty well and Grippando's writing style keeps the book moving along at a quick pace. The main character is fairly average and his world is suddenly turned upside down by one case and its

connections to the underworld. Murder, mayhem and one family crisis after another keep it interesting. Grippando fills this novel with a multitude on interesting characters, any one of which would be strong enough to be the main character in a book. A good solid read - a great summertime novel.

BEYOND SUSPICION is not your ordinary legal thriller. The fast paced action and interesting characters kept me reading at a feverish pace. With a lull in my reading last month I was looking for a new author to read. I read the inside flap of the latest James Grippando book, BEYOND SUSPICION, and I was hooked. The second book in the Jack Swytek series (THE PARDON being the first), BEYOND SUSPICION starts out with Jack defending his ex-girlfriend, Jessie Merrill, in a case worth 1.5 million dollars. He wins the case and soon after Jessie ends up dead, in Jack's own bathroom. Suddenly Jack Swytek is the prime suspect in her death. Jack teams up with Theo Knight to attempt to uncover the details around the death of Jessie Merrill and the action kicks in. More than just a legal thriller this book has some great story lines. Jack's wife Cindy Swytek is having nightmares from her troubled past. She is my favorite character in the whole book. I felt the author did a wonderful job creating the tension around Cindy. She is dealing with the fact that Jack is the suspect in the death of his own ex-girlfriend, her troubled back-story with Esteban, and her past coming to her in dreams. All of which are sewn together seamlessly. There are some other good characters that play integral parts as well. Yuri, a ruthless thug, and Katrina an insider who has her own demons to deal with, are two of my favorites. If you're looking for a new book to read I suggest you pick up BEYOND SUSPICION. It brings a diabolical mystery, wonderful side stories, fast paced action, and a twist at the end that will leave you wanting more! I recommend it along with THE PARDON.

Viatical Settlements: A terminally ill patient signs his life insurance benefits over to a group of investors; in exchange, the investors pay an immediate lump-sum cash settlement to the patient, usually about one-half of the value of the policy. The patient gets the money now, and the investors get the full value of the policy at the patient's death, thus doubling their investment. I never heard of viatical settlements either, until I read "Beyond Suspicion" by James Grippando. Jack Swytek unwisely, as it turns out, decides to represent a former lover in her case against an investment company who bought her policy when she was diagnosed with a terminal disease (ALS), and now wants the money back because it turns out she doesn't have ALS and she isn't going to die anytime soon. Jack wins the case for her, and almost immediately begins to discover that the whole thing

might have been a big fraud. That's a great plot twist, and there are plenty more in store for the reader. Things are never what they seem to be, and Jack finds himself dealing with bigger problems than just an angry group of investors. For starters, he is immediately implicated in the fraud case, and in the process is alienated from his wife, because it looks like he was in it with his former lover. And it just keeps on getting better. I've always enjoyed James Grippando's works, and I think this is one of his best!

I read and enjoyed THE PARDON so it was on to BEYOND SUSPICION, James Grippando's second Jack Swyteck book. Glad I did. The story has a simple premise and it gets so twisted and good. The book is fast moving and really interesting. Swyteck gets drawn into a deep mystery and it gets harder and harder to escape. **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED**

Very good read. The plot and the subplots mingled well, I liked the characters, who were well-drawn, and the ending was a complete surprise. I don't rate books well that are something of a pain to stay with but which compel me to do so because I want to know what happened. That kind of book does not make an evening go down well. This book is a pleasant read even though the tension is there throughout. The only thing I did not like is a frequent complaint these days. A bad guy--I won't say why because that would give too good a clue--is a church-going Christian, obviously an evangelical, who does very bad things in his secret life. Being a retired preacher, I have known a few of those in my life, but it seems to be a too-easy caricature. As often as this is done in all kinds of media these days, it projects an unfair image of evangelicals, and it has become so trite that it reduces the quality of the story. I suspect a lot of people out there agree on this. But still, I strongly recommend the book.

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