

 Get Print Book

Sycamore Row: A Novel (Jake Brigrance Book 2)

By John Grisham



Download



Read Online

Sycamore Row: A Novel (Jake Brigrance Book 2) By John Grisham

#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

Don't miss an original essay by John Grisham in the back of the book.

John Grisham takes you back to where it all began. One of the most popular novels of our time, *A Time to Kill* established John Grisham as the master of the legal thriller. Now we return to Ford County as Jake Brigrance finds himself embroiled in a fiercely controversial trial that exposes a tortured history of racial tension.

Seth Hubbard is a wealthy man dying of lung cancer. He trusts no one. Before he hangs himself from a sycamore tree, Hubbard leaves a new, handwritten will. It is an act that drags his adult children, his black maid, and Jake into a conflict as riveting and dramatic as the murder trial that made Brigrance one of Ford County's most notorious citizens, just three years earlier. The second will raises many more questions than it answers. Why would Hubbard leave nearly all of his fortune to his maid? Had chemotherapy and painkillers affected his ability to think clearly? And what does it all have to do with a piece of land once known as Sycamore Row?

Look for special features inside. Join the Random House Reader's Circle for author chats and more.

Praise for *Sycamore Row*

"Powerful . . . immensely readable . . . the best of his books."—*The Washington Post*

"Welcome back, Jake. . . [Brigrance] is one of the most fully developed and engaging characters in all of Grisham's novels."—*USA Today*

"One of [Grisham's] finest . . . *Sycamore Row* is a true literary event."—*The New York Times Book Review*

From the Trade Paperback edition.

 [**Download** Sycamore Row: A Novel \(Jake Brigance Book 2\) ...pdf](#)

 [**Read Online** Sycamore Row: A Novel \(Jake Brigance Book 2\) ...pdf](#)

Sycamore Row: A Novel (Jake Brigance Book 2)

By John Grisham

Sycamore Row: A Novel (Jake Brigance Book 2) By John Grisham

#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

Don't miss an original essay by John Grisham in the back of the book.

John Grisham takes you back to where it all began. One of the most popular novels of our time, *A Time to Kill* established John Grisham as the master of the legal thriller. Now we return to Ford County as Jake Brigance finds himself embroiled in a fiercely controversial trial that exposes a tortured history of racial tension.

Seth Hubbard is a wealthy man dying of lung cancer. He trusts no one. Before he hangs himself from a sycamore tree, Hubbard leaves a new, handwritten will. It is an act that drags his adult children, his black maid, and Jake into a conflict as riveting and dramatic as the murder trial that made Brigance one of Ford County's most notorious citizens, just three years earlier. The second will raises many more questions than it answers. Why would Hubbard leave nearly all of his fortune to his maid? Had chemotherapy and painkillers affected his ability to think clearly? And what does it all have to do with a piece of land once known as Sycamore Row?

Look for special features inside. Join the Random House Reader's Circle for author chats and more.

Praise for *Sycamore Row*

"Powerful . . . immensely readable . . . the best of his books."—*The Washington Post*

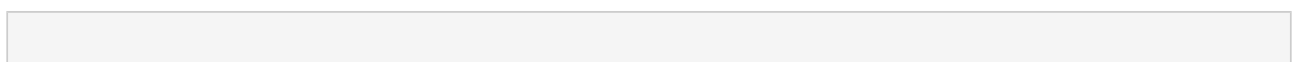
"Welcome back, Jake. . . . [Brigance] is one of the most fully developed and engaging characters in all of Grisham's novels."—*USA Today*

"One of [Grisham's] finest . . . *Sycamore Row* is a true literary event."—*The New York Times Book Review*

From the Trade Paperback edition.

Sycamore Row: A Novel (Jake Brigance Book 2) By John Grisham Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #6294 in eBooks
- Published on: 2013-10-22
- Released on: 2013-10-22
- Format: Kindle eBook



 [Download Sycamore Row: A Novel \(Jake Brigance Book 2\) ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Sycamore Row: A Novel \(Jake Brigance Book 2\) ...pdf](#)

Editorial Review

Review

Praise for the novels of John Grisham

"John Grisham is about as good a storyteller as we've got in the United States these days." —*The New York Times Book Review*

"John Grisham is exceptionally good at what he does—indeed, right now in this country, nobody does it better." —Jonathan Yardley, *The Washington Post*

"Grisham is a marvelous storyteller who works readers the way a good trial lawyer works a jury." —*Philadelphia Inquirer*

"John Grisham owns the legal thriller." —*The Denver Post*

"John Grisham is not just popular, he is one of the most popular novelists of our time. He is a craftsman and he writes good stories, engaging characters, and clever plots." —*Seattle Times*

"A legal literary legend." —*USA Today*

About the Author

JOHN GRISHAM is the author of a collection of stories, a work of nonfiction, three sports novels, four kids' books, and many legal thrillers. His work has been translated into 42 languages. He lives near Charlottesville, Virginia.

Excerpt. © Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved.

1

They found Seth Hubbard in the general area where he had promised to be, though not exactly in the condition expected. He was at the end of a rope, six feet off the ground and twisting slightly in the wind. A front was moving through and Seth was soaked when they found him, not that it mattered. Someone would point out that there was no mud on his shoes and no tracks below him, so therefore he was probably hanging and dead when the rain began. Why was that important? Ultimately, it was not.

The logistics of hanging oneself from a tree are not that simple. Evidently, Seth thought of everything. The rope was three-quarter-inch braided natural Manila, of some age and easily strong enough to handle Seth, who weighed 160 pounds a month earlier at the doctor's office. Later, an employee in one of Seth's factories would report that he had seen his boss cut the fifty-foot length from a spool a week before using it in such dramatic fashion. One end was tied firmly to a lower branch of the same tree and secured with a slapdash mix of knots and lashings. But, they held. The other end was looped over a higher branch, two feet in girth and exactly twenty-one feet from the ground. From there it fell about nine feet, culminating in a perfect hangman's knot, one that Seth had undoubtedly worked on for some time. The noose was straight from the textbook with thirteen coils designed to collapse the loop under pressure. A true hangman's knot snaps the neck, making death quicker and less painful, and apparently Seth had done his homework. Other than what was obvious, there was no sign of a struggle or suffering.

A six-foot stepladder had been kicked aside and was lying benignly nearby. Seth had picked his tree, flung his rope, tied it off, climbed the ladder, adjusted the noose, and, when everything was just right, kicked the ladder and fell. His hands were free and dangling near his pockets.

Had there been an instant of doubt, of second-guessing? When his feet left the safety of the ladder, but with his hands still free, had Seth instinctively grabbed the rope above his head and fought desperately until he surrendered? No one would ever know, but it looked doubtful. Later evidence would reveal that Seth had been a man on a mission.

For the occasion, he had selected his finest suit, a thick wool blend, dark gray and usually reserved for funerals in cooler weather. He owned only three. A proper hanging has the effect of stretching the body, so Seth's trouser cuffs stopped at his ankles and his jacket stopped at his waist. His black wing tips were polished and spotless. His blue necktie was perfectly knotted. His white shirt, though, was stained with blood that had oozed from under the rope. Within hours, it would be known that Seth Hubbard had attended the 11:00 a.m. worship service at a nearby church. He had spoken to acquaintances, joked with a deacon, placed an offering in the plate, and seemed in reasonably good spirits. Most folks knew Seth was battling lung cancer, though virtually no one knew the doctors had given him a short time to live. Seth was on several prayer lists at the church. However, he carried the stigma of two divorces and would always be tainted as a true Christian.

His suicide would not help matters.

The tree was an ancient sycamore Seth and his family had owned for many years. The land around it was thick with hardwoods, valuable timber Seth had mortgaged repeatedly and parlayed into wealth. His father had acquired the land by dubious means back in the 1930s. Both of Seth's ex-wives had tried valiantly to take the land in the divorce wars, but he held on. They got virtually everything else.

First on the scene was Calvin Boggs, a handyman and farm laborer Seth had employed for several years. Early Sunday morning, Calvin had received a call from his boss. "Meet me at the bridge at 2:00 p.m.," Seth said. He didn't explain anything and Calvin was not one to ask questions. If Mr. Hubbard said to meet him somewhere at a certain time, then he would be there. At the last minute, Calvin's ten-year-old boy begged to tag along, and, against his instincts, Calvin said yes. They followed a gravel road that zigzagged for miles through the Hubbard property. As Calvin drove, he was certainly curious about the meeting. He could not remember another occasion when he met his boss anywhere on a Sunday afternoon. He knew his boss was ill and there were rumors he was dying, but, like everything else, Mr. Hubbard kept it quiet.

The bridge was nothing more than a wooden platform spanning a nameless, narrow creek choked with kudzu and crawling with cottonmouths. For months, Mr. Hubbard had been planning to replace it with a large concrete culvert, but his bad health had sidetracked him. It was near a clearing where two dilapidated shacks rotted in the brush and overgrowth and offered the only hint that there was once a small settlement there.

Parked near the bridge was Mr. Hubbard's late-model Cadillac, its driver's door open, along with the trunk. Calvin rolled to a stop behind the car and stared at the open trunk and door and felt the first hint that something might be out of place. The rain was steady now and the wind had picked up, and there was no good reason for Mr. Hubbard to leave his door and trunk open. Calvin told his boy to stay in the truck, then slowly walked around the car without touching it. There was no sign of his boss. Calvin took a deep breath, wiped moisture from his face, and looked at the landscape. Beyond the clearing, maybe a hundred yards away, he saw a body hanging from a tree. He returned to his truck, again told the boy to stay inside and keep the doors locked, but it was too late. The boy was staring at the sycamore in the distance.

"Stay here now," Calvin said sternly. "And don't get out of the truck."

"Yes sir."

Calvin began walking. He took his time as his boots slipped in the mud and his mind tried to stay calm. What was the hurry? The closer he got the clearer things became. The man in the dark suit at the end of the rope was quite dead. Calvin finally recognized him, and he saw the stepladder, and he quickly put the scene and the events in order. Touching nothing, he backed away and returned to his truck.

It was October of 1988, and car phones had finally arrived in rural Mississippi. At Mr. Hubbard's insistence, Calvin had one installed in his truck. He called the Ford County sheriff's office, gave a brief report, and began waiting. Warmed by the heater and soothed by Merle Haggard on the radio, Calvin gazed through the windshield, ignored the boy, tapped his fingers along with the wipers, and realized he was crying. The boy was afraid to speak.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Joann Hamilton:

In other case, little folks like to read book Sycamore Row: A Novel (Jake Brigance Book 2). You can choose the best book if you appreciate reading a book. Provided that we know about how is important a new book Sycamore Row: A Novel (Jake Brigance Book 2). You can add information and of course you can around the world by way of a book. Absolutely right, because from book you can recognize everything! From your country until eventually foreign or abroad you may be known. About simple issue until wonderful thing you may know that. In this era, we can easily open a book or even searching by internet product. It is called e-book. You can use it when you feel uninterested to go to the library. Let's examine.

Debbie Jackson:

Hey guys, do you wants to finds a new book to study? May be the book with the name Sycamore Row: A Novel (Jake Brigance Book 2) suitable to you? The book was written by renowned writer in this era. Typically the book untitled Sycamore Row: A Novel (Jake Brigance Book 2) is the main one of several books that will everyone read now. This book was inspired many men and women in the world. When you read this publication you will enter the new way of measuring that you ever know before. The author explained their idea in the simple way, so all of people can easily to understand the core of this guide. This book will give you a wide range of information about this world now. To help you to see the represented of the world with this book.

Jennifer Chambers:

Reading a e-book can be one of a lot of activity that everyone in the world loves. Do you like reading book thus. There are a lot of reasons why people enjoy it. First reading a publication will give you a lot of new data. When you read a guide you will get new information due to the fact book is one of a number of ways to share the information or even their idea. Second, reading through a book will make you more imaginative. When you examining a book especially tale fantasy book the author will bring you to imagine the story how

the characters do it anything. Third, you are able to share your knowledge to other folks. When you read this Sycamore Row: A Novel (Jake Brigance Book 2), you may tell your family, friends along with soon about your guide. Your knowledge can inspire others, make them reading a reserve.

Henry Jones:

You could spend your free time to see this book this e-book. This Sycamore Row: A Novel (Jake Brigance Book 2) is simple to bring you can read it in the area, in the beach, train in addition to soon. If you did not include much space to bring the actual printed book, you can buy the actual e-book. It is make you better to read it. You can save the book in your smart phone. Thus there are a lot of benefits that you will get when you buy this book.

Download and Read Online Sycamore Row: A Novel (Jake Brigance Book 2) By John Grisham #PX7LQBG5DSH

Read Sycamore Row: A Novel (Jake Brigance Book 2) By John Grisham for online ebook

Sycamore Row: A Novel (Jake Brigance Book 2) By John Grisham Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Sycamore Row: A Novel (Jake Brigance Book 2) By John Grisham books to read online.

Online Sycamore Row: A Novel (Jake Brigance Book 2) By John Grisham ebook PDF download

Sycamore Row: A Novel (Jake Brigance Book 2) By John Grisham Doc

Sycamore Row: A Novel (Jake Brigance Book 2) By John Grisham Mobipocket

Sycamore Row: A Novel (Jake Brigance Book 2) By John Grisham EPub