



Silenced Justice

Joe Broadmeadow

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Lieutenant Josh Williams is back in this latest thriller from Joe Broadmeadow, Silenced Justice.

When his former boss, retired Lieutenant Chris Hamlin, asks him to reopen an old case, Josh uncovers the shocking truth behind an innocent man's death in prison. In 1972 Darnell Grey, accused of a series of rapes and a homicide, was beaten to death in the prison while awaiting trial.

As a black man accused of crimes against five white women, a Justice System intent on vengeance used all its resources to secure his imprisonment. Evidence of his innocence is ignored, witnesses manipulated, and the truth locked away, putting him into a racially volatile prison system. With his death, his memory and the case against him faded into the past.

Determined to bring the matter to light, the deeper Josh looks into the case, the more dangerous it becomes for him and those he loves. Discovering a deeper, more sinister conspiracy in play, Josh risks everything to uncover the truth.

A truth that unveils the hollowness and corruption at the very core of Government and our Justice System.

Silenced Justice Details

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Author : Joe Broadmeadow

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From Reader Review Silenced Justice for online ebook

Patty says

This was a pretty good book. I enjoyed the humor in it. Josh and his team are something else. They solve the cases, but do it in a way that is almost amusing.

Linda Thompson says

This book captured me, lured me in and wouldn't let go until I reached the last page. For a cop turned author, Broadmeadow knows his way around the written word. Having never visited Rhode Island, I was fascinated with his description of the people, their quirks and oddball sense of humor. The story is a thriller that keeps you on the edge of your seat wanting to know what happens next. I love the characters, particularly Lt. Josh Williams. He's definitely one of the good guys while not averse to stepping out of the box to get the job done. I wish I had read Broadmeadow's Collision Course first so I would have the whole back story going in to Silenced Justice, but it is certainly not necessary to understand and thoroughly enjoy Silenced Justice as a standalone book. I do hope we see Lt. Williams return in future books because I have a feeling Broadmeadow is just getting started.

~ Linda Thompson, Host of TheAuthorsShow.com

Alison says

First of all, I have to say that I do admire the knowledge that the author has brought to this book. It is well-researched and the complicated plot is well-developed. It's fast-paced, and exciting, and the idea behind the story is sound, with real potential to be a fantastically compelling read. The plot surrounding Darnell Grey, in particular, could really be made into something special; and the flashbacks to a previous time, and the language used here, while unsettling at times, was a somewhat timely reminder of the racism often inherent in the system – a racism that clouds judgement and can result in some pretty horrific things.

That said, there are too many issues with the writing itself. Most of these issues are around dialogue. It seems extremely contrived at times, often used exclusively for dumping information. It's also often stilted and too formal– simple devices like using contractions when writing the dialogue could have made things sound more natural and made the manuscript more polished. There are also a smattering of complicated dialogue tags that detract from the narrative and, again, seem forced and contrived. The dialogue seems to be trying far too hard to fit into some idea of how the characters should speak to each other – it overplays the banter and becomes something of a parody of itself.

The author also uses quite an odd structure when writing dialogue, as in these examples:

“Can you drop my car off for an oil change?” putting on her suit jacket and picking up her briefcase.

“Glad you know that. I gotta run, call you later,” kissing him on the cheek.

“I am getting better,” arms folded across her chest.

I found this completely irritating, if I'm honest. I don't know why the author has chosen to write in this way, but it doesn't work.

Another issue for me was that I hadn't read the previous novel and I was very unsure for a long time exactly who everyone was and what their relationship was to each other. It is difficult to get this right when you're writing a series, but it's important that writers do get it right, not only for new readers but for readers of the first book who might have forgotten what happened previously.

So, unfortunately this book didn't work for me. I can see that the author, and his stories, have potential. But

the writing needs a really good polish.

Sue Coletta says

Silenced Justice tells the story of justice gone wrong. The skill of the author is on display from page one. I haven't read the first book, Collision Course, yet, but it made no difference. Loved the playful banter between LT. Josh Williams and his wife, Keira (she's a hot ticket). The storyline is gripping, with an innocent man behind bars, and Broadmeadow does a fantastic job of keeping us grounded when the story flashes back to the past to reveal important plot elements. I won't reveal what happens for fear of ruining the story, but you won't want to miss it.

In Silenced Justice we get a firsthand look at police procedures, politics cops have to deal with in the department, and the inner turmoil that affects so many officers. That alone was worth the read. The fast-paced plot made it all the more sweet. The black man/white woman angle sort of reminded me of A Time To Kill --- that's a compliment!

If you enjoy police procedural novels that go beyond the traditional, don't look past this one. You can't get any more real. East Providence Police Dept. Captain (Ret.) turned author Joe Broadmeadow hit this one out of the park.

Cathy Ryan says

I haven't read the first in the series and there were one or two moments when I was left wondering about certain aspects of the back story. It didn't really detract from my enjoyment of this book although it took a little while to get my head round all the characters. Once I was into the story, though, it held my attention completely as the pace accelerated and the drama and suspense built.

Josh Williams is a Lieutenant in the Special Investigations Unit of the Providence Police. The story, set in East Providence, Rhode Island, begins with an attempt on the life of Keira, Josh's wife, while she's driving his truck to work. As Josh begins an investigation into the two men responsible, his former boss, Chris Hamlin who now runs a private investigations company, asks him to look into an old case. The niece of one of the other two women who work with Chris, wants some information on her biological father. Darnell Grey was arrested in 1972 for rape and murder and was subsequently beaten to death in prison before he could stand trial. It's a chilling scenario of racism at its worst, combined with a tense and explosive prison system.

The investigations intensify and the more Josh uncovers, the murkier and more dangerous it all gets. The Justice System failed, manipulating evidence and witnesses, and corruption is widespread. An unscrupulous and disturbing conspiracy is uncovered layer by layer, involving government, the police and organised crime lords. It's a horrifying but convincing sequence of events.

I love the skilfully created, complex plot, with lots of strands all coming together in a great ending, leaving the way open for more. The characters are all well defined and likeable, or not as the case may be. The narrative and dialogue are believable (unfortunately so in the case of the 70s police and government officials) and realistic. I like Joe Broadmeadow's writing style, how he shows the evident camaraderie between Josh and his colleagues with sarcastic and humorous interaction. It's obvious the author knows his subject and setting which adds to the authenticity.

This review is based on a free copy from the author/publisher. This does not affect my opinion or the content of my review.

Kori Miller says

Silenced Justice is an engaging story about a justice system that only can be understood by those affected by it on a daily basis. The pace is methodical and purposeful – much like an actual investigation would be. This is where Broadmeadow's own experience shines through. Initially, I shied away from this story because of the subject matter. The primary story of an innocent black man accused of crimes against white women, and then being beaten to death in prison, isn't that far off from today's headlines. Broadmeadow's Lieutenant Josh Williams is thorough and forthright. If you enjoy police procedural detective stories, then Silenced Justice should be on your "to read" list.

Owen Parr says

Having read Broadmeadow's first book, "Collision Course", I could not wait to read his second one. I was not disappointed. This author's knowledge of his material comes from 1st hand experience and what that does, is put the reader in a real life situation following his characters. Truly an enjoyable experience reading both books. I hope he continues his series and I will be right there following the action.

Howard Katzoff says

Terrific story

What an interesting and fast moving story. It totally kept my interest even with the plethora of characters. Highly recommend.

Judith Barrow says

I felt I needed to review Silenced Justice in a different way than I normally do since I actually struggled to follow a lot of the story at the beginning because I spent too much time going back and forth trying to find who the many characters were and how they fitted in. Don't get me wrong, it's complicated; a story of political corruption, Russian Mafia, money laundering but it's a book that has been obviously researched in detail (whether from the author's own experiences or from actual investigation.) It's a story of Complicated but cleverly woven together

But I soon realised that it would have been better if I had read the first of Joe Broadmeadow's Lieutenant Josh Williams novels before tackling this one.

As it is there is a lot of the back story condensed into blocks of the narrator 'telling' the reader what has happened in the past, or how the system works within certain departments. And, often, I skimmed over those sections.

The opening narration of one incident in the story is interesting and full of tension. I believed the central plot would be the solving of an historical racist arrest of a black man, charged illegally with rape and murder, deliberately put into the general population of a prison and beaten to death before given the chance of a fair trial. But this proved to be a subplot, the means to an end in that it led into the main story; a complicated plot with many twists and turns. Nevertheless the story flows quickly, mainly through dialogue.

But the main drawback for me is the dialogue. In the flashbacks (and occasionally in the present day sections of the book) the author gives the characters the traits and attitudes of certain government official and police departments in the nineteen seventies. That works to a certain degree and isn't the problem. What was my difficulty was that, for me, most of the time, I didn't think the dialogue differentiated the characters. The theme that runs through all the dialogue is sarcasm, cynical jeering and one expletive that is part of all the characters' conversations, discussions and negotiations. I really don't care if there is swearing in a book if it fits the character but they all used the same one and it became boring. I realise that the author intended to portray badinage and wit between colleagues. It just didn't work for me in that they all sounded the same.

And I would have liked a little more description to give a sense of place.

When I finished my review and needed to add the blurb I did read some of the reviews for Silenced Justice. It's had some extremely good reviews and has obviously been enjoyed by many readers. Just not for me. Sorry.

Claire says

I picked this book because of the narrator. I've listened to a lot of books Narrated by Brian Callanan over the last year or so, this is one of his early books and I could hear the difference. That said the it's still great narration, all the things that make him so good now show in this book. The character voices are easy to tell apart and are consistent through the whole book. The delivery is smooth and flows, and finally the emotions of the characters come through in their voices.

The book itself is also excellent. At first it seemed like this would be a simple story of clearing the name of a man falsely accused, but with every chapter more and more complexities came to light.

The characters are well written, they come across as real flawed people. Like all of us their motivations are complex and they don't always make great choices, but this is what makes them great characters.

I love how it ends, some bits were resolved but as in real life there was plenty still left to be discovered, it left me wanting a second book.

I received a free copy of this book from the author and/or narrator and/or publisher and I voluntarily wrote this honest review.

Babus Ahmed says

When Lieutenant Josh Williams' wife is targeted by a contract killer whilst she was driving his car, Josh thinks he was the killer's original target. However, his former superior, Chris has him investigating an old case which ended with the tragic death of a possibly innocent man in prison awaiting trial back in 1972.

Opening an old can of worms may be the motive for the attempt on his wife's life or could it be retribution for one of her own cases?

As the historic miscarriage of justice unravels a lot of influential men are eager to hide their role and will go to any lengths to do so.

I really enjoyed this crime/legal drama and was pleasantly surprised at how quickly I became invested in the characters. I particularly liked the relationship between Josh and Chris and the frequent humorous camaraderie in the book.

A fast-paced and entertaining crime fiction read, which didn't leave me in the dark from not having read the first book in the series. I look forward to more from Josh in future.

Michael Broadmeadow says

Silenced Justice is an easy read containing Political conspiracy with the Russian mob. Lt. Josh Williams is back again protecting the good people of RI. Love how Josh interacts with his fellow officers and colleagues. Exciting and interesting plot.

Rhoda D'Ettore says

I read this book on Kindle Unlimited

I must first admit, this is my preferred genre. I love crime dramas, and this book did not disappoint me. It seemed long, but that could be because it sucked me in right away, and I read it in one sitting. Also, I don't think the cover does this book justice. As a fellow author, I know it was probably created with CreateSpace, as I used almost the same cover with my first book. I recommend a cover upgrade to grab the attention of more readers.

The story opens with witty and realistic bantering between a married couple. There are hints of backstory from the previous book, yet, I did not find I lacked information to read the books out of order. The next scenes involved an assassination attempt and a car chase, which only posed the question: WHY? So I kept reading. I was delighted to see "Fatso" the typical mobster staying true to form. Also, I loved the backstory of him, as it gave more understanding as to his connections and left me wondering if he knew more than he claimed. The story soon twists into a "did the wrong man get punished for horrendous crimes", and the questions left me wanting more. That's all I'm going to tell you about the story--- read the book.

The writing style and mechanics were acceptable to me. There is a lot of dialogue, sometimes without any description or emotional narrative at all. This did not distract me, although I think it might do so for some readers. I loved the plots and subplots, and the twisted tale unfolded. The characters are likable, and held my interest. Sarcasm is often injected into the scenes, creating humor, interesting dialogue, and realism to the characters. I'm confident that Mr. Broadmeadow will continue to grow as an author and mesmerize fans with interesting works.

Betsy Myers says

I won this book via Goodreads First Reads. I really enjoyed this book and read it in 3 sessions. I am a big fan of crime novels, especially those that include organized crime, and this book really fit the bill.
