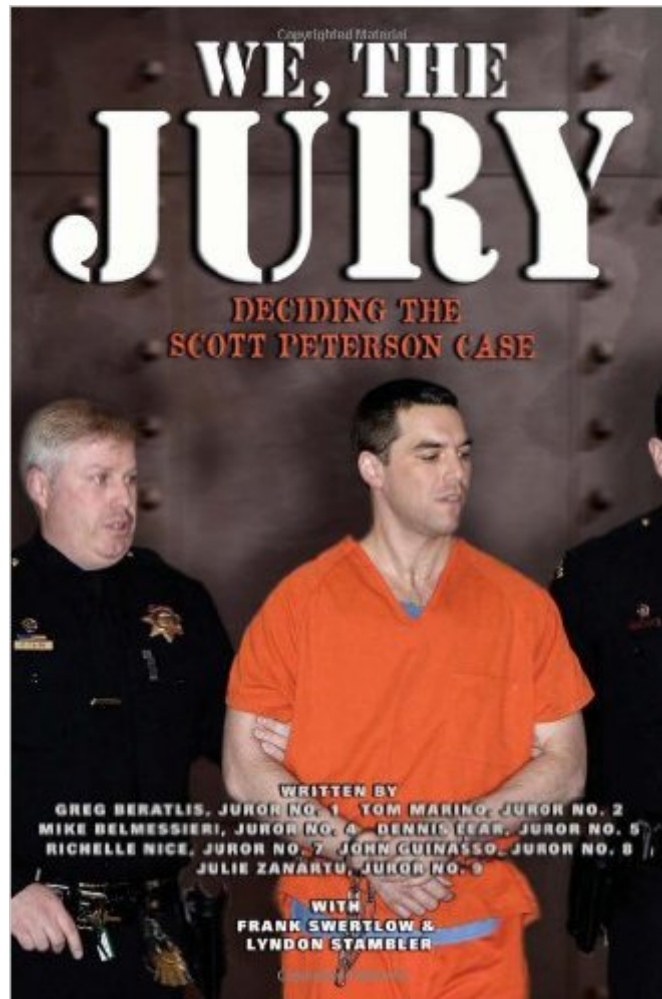


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We, The Jury: Deciding The Scott Peterson Case



Synopsis

In *We, the Jury*, the jurors in the Scott Peterson case tell, for the first time, what life was like at the center of this sensational murder trial.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I followed this case closely and have read every book put out about Scott and Laci Peterson. This one was a quick read and not very well written but it did provide some very important insight into the trial. For one thing, I learned how truly agonizing this process was for these jurors. Between the emotional impact of seeing the photos of Laci and Connor's remains to having to decide the fate of a young man and serving about six months on a highly-publicized trial - this was grueling for them. Having followed this case like I have, I do believe these jurors weighed the evidence very carefully and were exceedingly careful and law-abiding in determining their verdict. Having said that, I feel I must respond to "Wary Citizen Pete's" review: HOW is it obvious from reading this book that these jurors "had their minds made up before opening statements"? There is NO evidence of that. The defense had an eminent jury consultant in Jo-Ellan Demitrius in helping to select this jury so, I do not at all see how that is true. As far as pre-trial publicity and leaks from law enforcement - this is not an uncommon occurrence with a highly publicized trial. There have been many cases with tons of pre-trial publicity. Is every highly publicized case therefore "prejudiced"? As the judge in the Scott Peterson trial said, "we have to live with the media". The trial was moved to another venue to help ensure the defense a fair trial. Also, Scott's own repeatedly bizarre behavior did not help at all with keeping a lid on the publicity. If anything, Scott's evasion, lies, and strange behavior fueled an

already raging case. I'd also like to know....how were these jurors lazy, prejudiced, mean-spirited, and deeply flawed people who thought they were on a soap opera!?

Shakespeare wrote "all that is past is prologue" and that's an apt characterization of ALL the books written by pundits and commentators and family about the crime and/or trial. They have all articulated their feelings, their sorrows - each eloquent in their own distinct way and adding to the mosaic of this story. But until now the jurors have been silent, except for the 3 who spoke in the news conference immediately after the penalty phase and the few others who have appeared on talk shows. There has not been - not until now - a definitive book solely focused on what they thought, how they felt, how they reacted, what they responded to -- how and why. Many words have been shared about how others thought they felt, but until now, we didn't know. Swertlow et al have answered those questions, filled in those gaps, and provided insights that no one has previously collected. Scott's fate did not hang on the pundits, nor the family nor the public's desire to convict him from the outset. It was - as it should have been - up to the jury. Swertlow has captured their thought process, feelings, attitudes and anger - how they truly felt about the evidence, the attorneys, the court. I am struck by how a few people are writing to criticize the jurors for their actions or beliefs but I would say, not in defense of the jurors per se but in awe of the process, this is their book! This is their account of the trial. Many observers have written about how they felt about the evidence, and with all due respect, this is interesting only in passing because, in the end, only the juror's vote mattered. Is this book definitive? Up to a point. Important and clarifying? Absolutely!

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