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Ron was 51 years old in the fall of 2004 when his stomach pains began. He was diagnosed with cirrhosis of the liver. Although he had a few bright moments in his short years of freedom, most of it had been painful before his December 2004 death.

Taryn Simon is a noted photographer who traveled the country profiling exonerees for a book. That book, *The Innocents* (Umbrage, 2003), included pictures of Ron and Dennis and a short summary of their case. Each was asked to contribute a few words to accompany his photograph. The pain of Ron's experience is etched in what he said:

"I hope I go to neither heaven nor hell. I wish that at the moment of my death that I could go to sleep and never wake up and never have a bad dream. Eternal rest, like what you've seen on some tombstones, that's what I hope for. Be-

cause I don't want to go through the judgment. I don't want anyone judging me again. I asked myself what was the reasons for my birth when I was on death row, if I was going to have to go through all that? What was even the reason for my birth? I almost cursed my mother and dad – it was so bad – for putting me on this earth. If I had it all to do over again, I wouldn't be born." (From *The Innocents* (Umbrage, 2003))

The Innocent Man is a must-read. The style is as satisfying as good fiction: characters we relate to and root for, characters we hate, suspense, a huge injustice, and a victory, albeit somewhat hollow in the end, all combine to make this book one of the most important books of the year. Grisham himself admits that, even as a lawyer, he didn't know much about the world of wrongful conviction before he began to research *The Innocent Man*. We all have much to learn from this heartbreaking and infuriating story.

The Innocent Man is being released in paperback in the U.S. in November 2007. *Justice: Denied's* Bookshop sells the hardcover for \$20 plus \$5 s/h. Send a check or money order to: Justice Denied, PO Box 68911, Seattle, WA 98168. Or order with a credit card from *Justice: Denied's* website at, www.justicedenied.org/books.html



Dennis Fritz
(Dec. 2006)

***The Innocent Man* Was Bestseller**

With sales of 618,000 copies, *The Innocent Man* was the #2 bestselling Adult Non-Fiction Hardcover book in 2006. Source: Nielsen BookScan.

With \$21 million in royalties from his books, John Grisham was the fifth highest paid author in 2006. Source: Delin/Corbis Outline

Non-fiction Books Related To Wrongful Convictions Published In 2006

Title	Sub-title	Author	Publisher	Summary	Country	Cover	Pgs
An Expendable Man	The Near-Execution of Earl Washington, Jr.	Margaret Edds	New York University Press	About the wrongful conviction of Earl Washington Jr. for the rape and murder of a woman that was based on his alleged false confession. Sentenced to death, at one point Washington came within nine days of being executed before his exoneration by DNA evidence in 2001.	US	soft	288
Arthur & George		Julian Barnes	Vintage	Fact based novel of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's role in the 1903 exoneration of George Edalji's conviction of mutilating livestock. Doyle authored the <i>Tarzan</i> and <i>Sherlock Holmes</i> books.	US	soft	464
Darkest Before Dawn	Sedition and Free Speech in the American West	Clemens P. Work	University of New Mexico	About the wrongful conviction of 78 people for violating Montana's 1918 Sedition Act, the mood of the times that caused their prosecutions, the pardons granted them by Governor Schweitzer in 2006.	US	soft	328
Enemy Combatant	My Imprisonment at Guantanamo, Bagram, and Kandahar	Moazzam Begg and Victoria Brittain	New Press	Moazzam Begg tells of his secret abduction by U.S. forces in Pakistan, his detainment at U.S. air bases for more than a year and at Guantánamo Bay for two more years as an enemy combatant. Begg was released from Guantánamo in 2004 under pressure from the British government.	US	hard	352
Innocent	Inside Wrongful Conviction Cases	Scott Christianson	New York University Press	Analyzes 42 New York state cases for the factors that contributed to the occurrence of a wrongful conviction.	US	soft	208
Journey Toward Justice		Dennis Fritz	Seven Stories Press	About the wrongful conviction of Dennis Fritz and Ron Williamson for an Ada, Oklahoma rape/murder. See also, <i>The Innocent Man</i> .	US	hard	482
Losing Their Grip	The Case of Henry Keogh	Robert N. Moles	Elvis Press (Australia)	About the 1995 conviction of Henry Keogh for allegedly murdering his fiance two weeks before their scheduled marriage.	AUS	soft	285
My Story		Schappelle Corby with Kathryn Bonella	Pan Macmillan (Australia)	First-person account of Schappelle Corby's conviction and imprisonment in Indonesia for drug trafficking based on marijuana found in her boogie bag at the Bali airport when she arrived for a family vacation.	AUS	soft	320
Shattered Dreams	A Savage Murder and the Death of Three Families' Innocence	John Philpin	Avon	Story of how Stephanie Crow's older brother and his two teenage friends were pressured by the police into falsely confessing to her brutal murder in their Escondido, California home.	US	soft	240
Sweet Freedom	Breaking the Bondage of Maurice Carter	Doug Tjapkes	Faithwalk Publishing	Story of how Doug Tjapkes aided Maurice Carter's release in 2004 after 28 years of wrongful imprisonment for murder.	US	soft	240
The Dreams of Ada		Robert Mayer	Broadway Books	About the wrongful convictions of Tommy Ward and Karl Fontenot for the April 1984 murder of a young woman in Ada, Oklahoma. The circumstances of their convictions were similar to those of Ron Williamson and Dennis Fritz for murder in Ada several months before.	US	soft - reprint	494
The Innocent Man	Murder and Injustice in a Small Town	John Grisham	Doubleday	True life account of Ron Williamson and Dennis Fritz's wrongful convictions for the 1982 rape and murder of a young woman in Ada, Oklahoma. Williamson was sentenced to death and Fritz to life in prison. Both men were exonerated by DNA and released in 1999.	US	hard	368
Triumph Over Tragedy		Trina Rea	Gill & Macmillan	Story of Eilish Enright, who was wrongly convicted of sexually abusing one of her daughters and sentenced to six years in prison.	GBR	soft	256

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