

The Judge

By Morgan Amos

Farin Powell's **The Judge** was disappointing in the beginning. It seemed a bit stereotypical as it painted three African-American males in a negative light, which could possibly have some readers turned off. The premise of the story revolves around these gentlemen and how they have kidnapped Judge Walter McNeil and are holding him hostage because of the sentencing he gave them during each one of their trials. These men are determined on seeking retribution. It is understood that this is a work of fiction, but maybe Powell could have chosen a different way of writing the storyline or characters all together.

As the story unfolds however, the reader soon realizes the various plot twists throughout the novel, and how one decision can and will affect everyone involved. Certain individuals have a change of heart while others are set on revenge and will stop at nothing to achieve it. The purpose of any novel is to make the reader feel something be it excitement, anger, or sadness, and that is something that Powell does a fantastic job with. There are times where the reader will be upset, excited, and even a bit forlorn.

While there are certain parts that are predictable, there are also certain parts that need work such as with the ending. Cliffhangers can be a nice addition to a story, especially if the author is planning on having a sequel, but sometimes it is best if a book's ending just ends. There was so much going on within this story already that it might have been best just to leave it with a simple ending/outcome.

Overall, **The Judge** was an interesting novel. It was suspenseful, provided great imagery, and was an easy read. Should Powell choose to write a sequel to this book, it will be interesting to see how the story continues based off the ending of this book. [The Judge](#) is available on Amazon.