



Divine Justice

David Baldacci

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Oliver Stone is the most wanted man in America; no, not the maverick filmmaker Oliver Stone but the covert agent whose real name is John Carr. Men in the highest circles of power want him dead, and they want him dead quickly, because he knows too many of their deepest secrets. The members of the secretive Camel Club, on the other hand, not only want him alive; they are willing to risk their own lives to save their leader and friend. All of which sets up David Baldacci's thriller of relentless intensity, a perfect follow-up to his acclaimed *Stone Cold*.

Divine Justice Details

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Monie says

As payback for their dirty deeds, Camel Club member "Oliver Stone", murders a US Senator and an Intelligence Chief and has no choice but to flee Washington DC. On the train ride out of town he intervenes in a 3-on-1 fight and saves Danny Riker from getting pummeled. Now kicked off the train and no where near his destination Oliver has no alternative but to join Danny on his return trip to the tiny town of Divine, Virginia.

Oliver only intends to see Danny home, earn a few traveling dollars and hightail it out of Divine to safety in the crowded city of New Orleans but he quickly gets himself in the middle of Divine's troubles. On his way out of town Oliver saves another one of Divine's young men and now the whole town knows his face when he seeks nothing more than anonymity. But the trouble doesn't stop there and Oliver is targeted by a group of men who are covering up Divine's biggest secret. With help from the rest of the Camel Club and unlikely assistance from the government agent hired to track him down Oliver just might make it out of the mess he's found himself in.

Oliver reminds of me an older Jason Bourne. He can make 3 separate groups of punks run with fright and he gets himself out of the stickiest situations sometimes with just his belt as a weapon or his monkey bar skills. The story has multiple surprises and intersecting plot lines that are neatly tied together in the end.

This is the fourth book from Baldacci featuring the Camel Club and I highly recommend reading the other three books first. My review is based on the unabridged audio book that was narrated by Ron McLarty. McLarty's voice characterizations are a little too similar for my liking but he does a great job with setting the scene by tone and inflection. As a huge Baldacci fan I wasn't disappointed and I recommend this book to all thriller lovers.

Joe says

Very entertaining and fast paced book. Easy to read, almost like watching a good movie. The characters are well developed, although reading the first few books of this short series first would probably make it even more enjoyable. Moderately predictable, and at times far-fetched, but still entertaining and a nice book to read over the holiday break.

Pamela says

#4 IN THE CAMEL CLUB SERIES

WOW! If you've missed this series, run and get it. You'd be in for a heck of a thrill ride! Better than Will Robie and John Puller!

LOVE OLIVER STONE! I LOVE THE CAMEL CLUB!

Jeffrey says

Baldacci really pulls out all the stops in this superb 4th book in his Camel Club series. I liked this book a lot more than the last book in the series. In this novel, John Carr, a super killer, but now much older, has just assassinated two government officials who were directly involved in killing his wife and daughter, and is on the run. John Knox is called in by Macklin Hayes, a brigadier general to try to find out who killed the two government officials.

So we have the hunt on for Carr as one part of the story. Meanwhile, the Camel Club is also hunting for Carr to help him.

Carr, however, has ended up in a small mining town which seems to be very affluent -- too affluent, with a series of murders of local townspeople. Carr, trying to help some people finds himself in the middle of a big mess down there, while he is being hunted by Knox.

Great fast read -- all nighter.

Laura says

Ok, this is my first Baldacci, and I know this is part of a series, but stop me if you've heard this one: a former spy/cop/assassin is on the run after getting vengeance on the people who killed his wife/child/parent/partner and finds himself mixed up with a child/woman/town who needs protection from the local drug dealers/gang bangers/corrupt officials. Needless to say, this is definitely a genre piece. However, I can't really fault it, even with the absurd Appalachian setting. It was an entertaining read and I more than once found that my subway ride passed quicker than expected. I also really liked the component of his friends, the Camel Club, which isn't normally a part of the loner fiction this usually belongs to. I didn't feel like I lacked for having not read the rest of the series and even though this isn't my normal cup of tea, I'd still be interested in reading another.

Diane says

Right from the get go this book takes off where #3 left off, very fast paced. "Oliver Stone" is on the run, and run he must! So many bad people out there - who do you trust, better still, can you trust anyone? Really enjoyed this book in "The Camel Club" series.

From the blurb: Known by his alias, "Oliver Stone," John Carr is the most wanted man in America. With two pulls of the trigger, the men who destroyed Stone's life and kept him in the shadows were finally silenced.

But his freedom comes at a steep price: The assassinations he carried out prompt the highest levels of the U.S. government to unleash a massive manhunt. Behind the scenes, master spy Macklin Hayes is playing a very personal game of cat and mouse. He, more than anyone, wants Stone dead.

With their friend and unofficial leader in hiding, the members of the Camel Club risk everything to save him.

Now, as the hunters close in, Stone's flight from the demons of his past will take him from the power corridors of Washington, D.C., to the small, isolated coal-mining town of Divine, Virginia-and into a world every bit as lethal as the one he left behind.

Huma says

Baldacci continues to amaze me with all these plots complemented by his superb writing. A chase for Carr, a super-max prison, a prison break...this book came pretty loaded. Like always, all the characters had depth in their back stories and were not merely cardboard caricatures.

Una Tiers says

While the writing is clear the plot is over convoluted. The protagonist doesn't have a cape, but emerges from most situations on top of the heap. The end was predictable. Nice characters.

Sarah Smith says

I gave this novel 5 stars, but it was so UTTERLY ENTHRALLING and TOTALY FANTASTIC from beginning to end that I would have given it 10 stars if I could have done so. David Baldacci truly outdid himself and soared to new heights by writing of DIVINE JUSTICE. While I did not think the writing style or the language that he chose to use throughout this novel was as pristine and elegant as the writing style and language that he used to construct either THE SIMPLE TRUTH or THE CAMEL CLUB, I felt that David Baldacci still used both of these tools effectively and well. The choices he made to use colloquialism throughout the majority of DIVINE JUSTICE was well-suited and appropriate for both the setting and the new cast of characters. These choices allowed David Baldacci to create more three-dimensional, realistic, and believable characters for his audience.

Furthermore, to say that I thoroughly enjoyed reading this novel would be a gross understatement in expressing just how much I truly did enjoy it from the first word to the last. DIVINE JUSTICE, the fourth novel included in The Camel Club series, is the sixth David Baldacci novel that I have read recently. After reading DIVINE JUSTICE from cover to cover within mere days, I not only considered it to be, up to this point, the BEST novel in The Camel Club series, but I also considered DIVINE JUSTICE to be the BEST thriller novel that I have ever read. Neither the action, the adventure, nor the mystery lost any momentum whatsoever throughout the course of DIVINE JUSTICE. With every move that Oliver Stone made -- whether it was in Washington, D.C., on a train bound to New Orleans, Louisiana, or within the confines of the small, unsuspecting oasis of Divine, Virginia -- I could not wait to discover what would happen next. Then...once the loyal, true-blue members of the Camel Club risked each of his/her lives in an attempt to help their illustrious leader, Oliver Stone, I found myself sitting on the edge of my seat from one page to the next. Although I have made this declaration in the review of each previous novel in The Camel Club series regarding how much I am looking forward to reading the next novel, I have felt that it has been necessary to do so each time. Therefore, I believe that it would be fitting to include such a statement at this point in this review as well. After having such a palpable reaction to reading DIVINE JUSTICE, I can't fathom the future that awaits Oliver Stone and his closest friends in the next novel included in The Camel Club series. Is it

possible that David Baldacci can up the ante even more for each member during the continuation of this unpredictable and unforgettable journey?

Rob says

John Carr aka Oliver Stone is on the run from everyone.

After killing a very prominent agency heads and a US senator, to be fair they both deserve it. John has left a note for the other Camel Club members not to look for him and forget that he ever existed, he doesn't expect to survive this ordeal. Of course the club are not about to abandon John, no matter what.

John ends up in a small mining town, Divine, in the middle of nowhere. He soon finds out that all is not well in Divine. John is soon up to his neck in dead bodies.

For me, David Baldacci blows hot and cold but this was one of his warmer ones.

Lots of impossible situations with death waiting at the end, a fate John somehow keeps avoiding.

There is the obligatory little lady who needs help, and a bit more besides. And of course there are bad guys and good guys. But some of the bad guys are not really bad and some of the good guys are not really good. We've all read books like this before but it was still a page turner that I enjoyed.

Recommended light easy and entertaining reading.

Eileen says

This was the 4th book of the series. I didn't like it as much because the Camel Club wasn't in it much. It was about Oliver Stone on the run and what he gets mixed up in a little town.

Stephen Clynes says

Follow Oliver Stone in another adventure. This time he is being hunted for the two murders he committed. divine justice is another Camel Club novel, this time set in Divine, a small mining town in Virginia. This book continues the brand but it can be read as a standalone novel as there is loads of back story about Oliver.

You start reading divine justice and you wonder, why has Oliver stumbled across this or that? It is because that detail will be used later in this story. There are a small cast of suspects involved in the darker side of Divine. This novel is light reading and you know that our hero, Oliver, will turn out okay. There is a steady progression with the plot of this book and it is a simple tale of circumstances. The ending is okay and is just what you would expect.

There is nothing radical about this book, it is just like a made-for-tv movie. It is a run of the mill novel, not quite a thriller. It is rather drab. David Baldacci is a best selling author but his writing has become lazy. This tale is sloppy and at one point Reuben has a puncture on his Indian motorcycle. Not having a spare wheel with his sidecar, he wheels his outfit into Caleb's van. Later on Reuben takes his motorcycle out of the van and rides happily away. No puncture repair or tyre change had been done!

divine justice has 534 pages and was written in 2008. I took nothing away from this novel. It was a disappointment. This book is a poor read and I vote it only 2 stars. I suggest you give it a MISS as divine

justice is not one of David's best. This was the last of David's paperbacks that I purchased a while ago and I will not be buying another. David Baldacci seems to ride on his best selling status and does not bring anything new to the game.

Mike says

The 4th entry in the Camel Club series finds our everyman hero, Oliver Stone, resurrected from his dive off a cliff after assassinating a senator and a high level intelligence officer. If he wanted to staff off the radar, this is a bad choice.

Oliver takes a train, and ends up befriending a young man and following him to his hometown, a haven of nastiness.

Yes, this is fiction, and the characters are likable, but the coincidences are multiple and exasperating.

Trish (trishie7) says

David Baldacci is one of my fave authors and this is on my fave series especially with the addtion of Annabelle.

The story like was good and gripping, hooked you from the start to the end. You wonder what luck Oliver has going into a small town with this mysterious happenings going on.

I like the new friend he made, Joe Knox, and glad to see Harry Finn return also.

Over all, a really good suspensful read to the end.

Fans will not be dissapointed.

Brenda H says

The fourth book in The Camel Club series by David Baldacci starts out with Oliver on the run after the events in Stone Cold (which I am still bitter over btw). Oliver is on the train heading out of DC when he sees a fellow passenger, Danny, being beaten. Against his better judgement, Oliver comes to the man's aid and ends up getting thrown off of the train in the middle of nowhere Virginia. Low on funds and no where else to be, Oliver accepts Danny's invitation to stay the night in the town of Divine, VA.

Within days of coming to Divine, Oliver finds himself attacked several times, a witness to murders and in the middle of a huge cover-up. Of course, he can't help himself and begins to investigate the goings-on in the small town. While Oliver is investigating Divine's secrets, the federal government and the Camel Club are each searching for him.

I enjoyed this one. I like the new character that was introduced, Joe Knox, as well as some that we picked up in book 3. One of my favorites, Alex Ford, finds himself in some tight spots as he struggles with his sense of right and fair play when it comes to Oliver vs his role as law enforcement.

Again, read this as an audiobook and the narrator, Ron McLarty, added to the experience with his reading and the character portrayals. I noticed on the next book on audio, they've added a female narrator and I'm not sure how I'm going to like that as it maybe too distracting with two voices in the same conversation. McLarty did fine on his own with all parts - even the female dialogues.

Rating: 4.25 Stars

Chuck says

I thought that Baldacci had ended the Camel Club series and was delighted to see he hadn't.

This is the aftermath of Oliver killing the two men who'd ruined his life and killed his wife and daughter, as well as Camel Club Milton Farbe, who is mourned and missed.

He's decided to go on the run so his Camel Club friends aren't implicated in any wrong doing. He flees south on a train, hoping to make it to New Orleans, where he hopes to lose himself in the chaos of a rebuilding city.

He never makes it.

On the train, he helps a young man out of a fight, and Oliver winds up going back to the youngster's home town, Divine, Virginia.

The novel treads many lines--we see a city dweller's amused look at small town life, and at the same time there is a real respect for the communitarian values in a small town. The novel also explores the limited choices available in a small town, and the human cost of the coal mining industry. Most people in Divine are coal miners, and most refuse to use the coal they mine.

Oliver, trying simply to flee initially, helps a few people out, as is his want, and becomes embroiled in a secret that threatens the town. He is also being pursued by John Knox (great name theologically), an honorable man who thinks he's solving a simple a murder but who comes to understand that Oliver has been wronged more than he has done wrong, and that his country owes him Divine Justice.

Great, fast read. Really satisfying if you're a Camel Club fan.

Johnvano says

"Divine Justice" is the latest and least of The Camel Club quartet of novels by David Baldacci. While "Stone Cold" culminated the series just about perfectly, "Divine Justice" feels like a weak add-on. It starts promising enough, Baldacci putting Oliver Stone on the run, flushed from his secret identity and the subject of a federal manhunt, but the story quickly fizzles.

The core members of the club are left with little to do but play to their stock characterizations. This was the principal problem with the first in the series and it almost kept me from reading more. In books two and three I was glad to see the players come to life around a better plot, with fresh air provided by a new character. Book 4 tries the same device, making Oliver the one in need of help, but it just never connects, the preposterous standing in for nuanced reality (something I love about Michael Connelly).

One thing is for sure: I hope this is the last book I read where an antagonist is undone by confessing his villainy into a secret recording device.

Mahoghani 23 says

This was an adventure between misery and death. Since Oliver chose to take the law into his own hands, he's been sought after by none other than Macklin Hayes, a general Stone served under and he's still holding a grudge against Stone and his actions many years ago.

Stone's on the run and ends up in a town called Divine, West Virginia. Trying to hide here will be the toughest thing to do since there are strange activities going on in the small community. Saving himself from Hayes's grips will be easy compared to what he endures in Divine.

Exciting to read and another page turner. The story pulls you into it with the simple descriptions and narrative writing skills the author uses. The story is very believable.

Benjamin Thomas says

The fourth book in the Camel Club series picks up immediately after the cliffhanger events of book three Stone Cold. Ex-master assassin Oliver Stone (aka John Carr) struggles to survive the newly-intensified manhunt launched because of his recently exercised vigilante justice from the previous novel by fleeing to the small coal-mining town of Divine. Much adventure ensues as he gets involved with happenings within Divine while the rest of the Camel Club gang attempts to garner aid. A new character is introduced in the form of CIA investigator and master tracker Joe Knox and I was very happy to see his character progression as he is tasked to find the elusive Oliver Stone.

For fans of the Camel Club series, this is an important book in the overall story arc and much of Oliver's prehistory is uncovered and dealt with. This almost reads like the final book in the series because so much is resolved, however, book five, Hell's Corner no doubt has still more to offer. I do hope readers tackle this series in order because of the powerful overall story arcs that reach across all the books. This book, like all Baldacci thrillers is a fast-paced, easy-to-read, page turner that is pure energetic fun. It does suffer from a convoluted plot and a few too many convenient coincidences that smack of less in-depth writing than Baldacci is capable of but that, for me, was largely excused by having a good set of characters that I have come to really care about.

On to book number 5!

Mangalam Shiva says

EXCELLENT. VERY INTERESTING.
