



The Mercy Rule (Dismas Hardy, Book 5)

By John Lescroart

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Justice...

Once Dismas Hardy was a cop. Now he spends his days in a lawyer's suit, billing hours to a corporate client in a downtown San Francisco office. Hardy's wife and kids like it that way. Then one client changes everything.

Compassion...

Graham Russo, a former baseball star, is charged with murdering his dying father. Was it suicide, the last desperate act of a dying man? Was it murder? Or mercy?

Murder...

Now, as a carnival of reporters, activists, cops, lovers, and families throng around the case, Dismas Hardy is going to trial with a client he doesn't trust, a key witness he cannot believe, and a system that almost destroyed him once. For Dismas, this case will challenge everything he believes about the law, about his family, and about himself. Because a chilling truth is beginning to emerge about an old man's lonely death. And what Dismas knows could put him next in line to die. . . .

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The Mercy Rule (Dismas Hardy, Book 5) By John Lescroart Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #376631 in Books
- Color: Black
- Brand: Dell
- Published on: 1999-08-10
- Released on: 1999-08-10
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 6.86" h x 1.37" w x 4.17" l, .69 pounds
- Binding: Mass Market Paperback
- 640 pages

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Against his better judgment, Dismas Hardy decides to defend fellow attorney and onetime baseball star Graham Russo, indicted for murder in the death of his ailing father, Sal. At first, Sal's death looks like suicide--his plans to kill himself before his cancer or his Alzheimer's made life unlivable were well known. And Graham admits administering morphine to ease his father's suffering. Was it a mercy killing? Maybe. But then Sal's valuable collection of baseball cards turns up in Graham's safe-deposit box. The stage is set for a confrontation between Graham and his old law-school rival, now assistant state attorney, and between Dismas and his old friend, Homicide Chief Abe Glitsky. But an appealing woman cop who falls in love with her suspect and a senior judge with a personal interest in the trial's outcome keep changing the odds. What lifts this courtroom drama a notch above Lescroart's earlier mysteries featuring the ruminative and appealing Hardy are Dismas's reflections on how out of touch he's become with his family--something he'd vowed to correct until Graham Russo came to him for help. Veteran stage and screen actor John Shea captures Hardy's inner conflicts in a voice soft with the glow of fine Irish whiskey; audio fans are in for a treat. (Running time: six hours, four cassettes) --*Jane Adams*

From Publishers Weekly

Lescroart's multilayered 1999 novel, the fifth to feature San Francisco bartender-turned-barrister Dismas Hardy, is a heady brew of courtroom drama, hot topics (assisted suicide), and family dynamics among richly drawn characters. David Colacci, the primary narrator of the series, brings back his renditions of Hardy's easygoing but always intelligent voice and his police lieutenant Abe Glitsky's hoarse delivery, along with introducing a cast of new characters. New interpretations include a gruff, halting speech pattern for fishmonger Salvatore Russo, an Alzheimer's sufferer whose death triggers the plot; the calm, almost beatific voice of Sal's son, Graham, who's charged with Salvatore's murder; and the fluty, aristocratic murmurs of Sal's socially prominent, long-since-remarried ex-wife. Though the author may go a little too far in placing the heroic Hardy in final jeopardy, Colacci maintains the perfect pace throughout, moving us through the thrills to a smooth and satisfying conclusion. *A Dell paperback. (Nov.)*

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From Library Journal

Bartender-turned-lawyer Dismas Hardy follows up his successful venture in *The 13th Juror* with a new case: did lawyer Graham Russo, once a promising ball player, mercifully kill his dying father with morphine, or was it murder?

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Timothy King:

Spent a free the perfect time to be fun activity to do! A lot of people spent their leisure time with their family, or their friends. Usually they accomplishing activity like watching television, gonna beach, or picnic from the park. They actually doing same task every week. Do you feel it? Do you want to something different to fill your current free time/ holiday? May be reading a book may be option to fill your no cost time/ holiday. The first thing that you'll ask may be what kinds of book that you should read. If you want to attempt look for book, may be the e-book untitled *The Mercy Rule (Dismas Hardy, Book 5)* can be very good book to read. May be it may be best activity to you.

Vera Gates:

Your reading 6th sense will not betray you actually, why because this The Mercy Rule (Dismas Hardy, Book 5) book written by well-known writer who really knows well how to make book that could be understand by anyone who have read the book. Written with good manner for you, dripping every ideas and producing skill only for eliminate your own hunger then you still doubt The Mercy Rule (Dismas Hardy, Book 5) as good book not merely by the cover but also by content. This is one guide that can break don't ascertain book by its include, so do you still needing yet another sixth sense to pick this particular!?! Oh come on your studying sixth sense already told you so why you have to listening to one more sixth sense.

Elizabeth Brown:

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