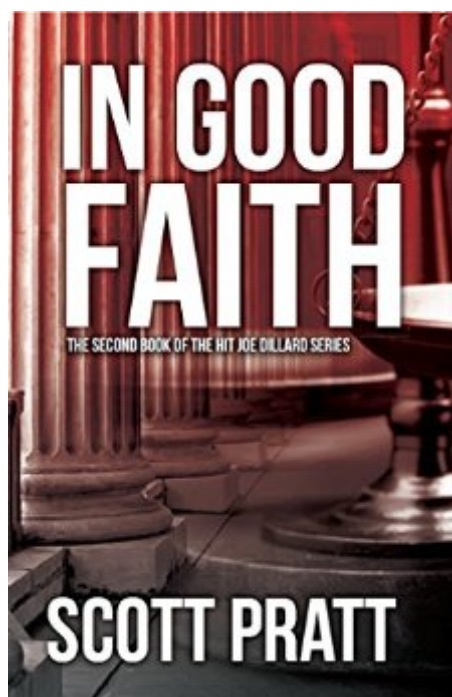


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In Good Faith (Joe Dillard Series Book 2)



Synopsis

A family of four is slaughtered in rural Tennessee. Two weeks later, a retired high school principal and his wife are brutally slain. Two Satan-worshipping teens stand accused. It's up to prosecutor Joe Dillard to convict them. A former defense attorney who spent way too much time defending people he knew were guilty, Joe is determined to win this case to atone for his past. But an evil young woman named Natasha is responsible for the slayings and Joe knows it. Natasha is walking around free because the two boys who have been arrested are too terrified to implicate her. Now Joe must risk everything -- including his family's safety and his own life -- to bring an evil murderer to justice. "This book was so intense it was scary." -- M. Cottrill, Dallas, Tex. "The book ends up moving along like a thriller should; at breakneck speed." -- N. Bilmes, Vernon, Conn. "This author is a must read if you love attorney and courtroom thrillers." -- Kenneth J. George, Detroit, Mich. "Better than the old Grisham." -- Tompat, Melbourne, Fla.

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Customer Reviews

This is the book in which Joe leaves his criminal defense practice behind, and joins the office of the

DA to prosecute violent offenders. There are still jerks on his side, which he somewhat expected. Once again, I rejoice that there are SO MANY reviews of this great book that I don't have to tell you everything. In fact, I'm only gonna tell you about two things. The first is the reason the book lost two stars, and the second is the reason that one got added back. I do feel it important to tell you this: I love the book, and love the series. Could you please buy it? Why the book lost two stars: The bad guys in the book are three evil losers. They consist of two guys, held in thrall by the seductive evil girl. They do bad things because she tells them to. There is just no POINT to their evil; they just kill people on a whim. Okay; that I can accept. However, for no reason I can discern, there is this eery little sub-plot tossed in there about magic powers the evil girl has, and some sort of telepathic link between her and her sister. Now, this just doesn't work in the context of the series, which is very pragmatic and down-to-earth overall. The magic is never explained away as a trick, nor is there a CREDIBLE scientific basis given for how Evil Girl makes light bulbs explode. A final way to escape from the plot trap would be to combat the forces of evil with stronger supernatural forces, but that would TOTALLY blow away the premise for the series. So, we are left with inexplicable, and therefore unacceptable, supernatural events. Loss of two stars. However, I'm tossing one star back, because in this book, a wonderful story of love and commitment begins. Joe and his wife Caroline are devastated when her fatigue and breast lump turns out to be cancer.

3.5 stars This is the second book in the Joe Dillard series (An Innocent Client (Joe Dillard) is the first). This one arrived before the first one and I didn't want to wait so I read them out of order. I think it would have been better to wait because this book seems to give spoilers as to what happened in the first book. At the beginning of this book, Joe Dillard has been out of the practice of law for a year. He is watching the trial of one of his former clients (who admitted his guilt to Dillard after his acquittal) and the guy is acquitted again after a poor performance by the assistant district attorney. Dillard's wife suggests he apply to work for this district attorney and he is hired to prosecute violent felonies. His first case starts before his official first day at work: the gruesome murder of a couple and their two young children. In addition to the murder case, Joe tries a statutory rape case and deals with some family crises. The book had the promise of being pretty good, but a few things bothered me enough to lower my opinion of it. Most importantly, the author threw in some "woo woo" paranormal stuff into what could have been a good straightforward legal thriller plot without it. I thought that aspect detracted from, rather than added to, the plot and the book would have been much stronger without it. Second, too many of the characters were dirty or unscrupulous in one way or the other. It is possible this relates to something in the acknowledgements section of the book or

it may be foreshadowing of future books in the series, but it bothered me.

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