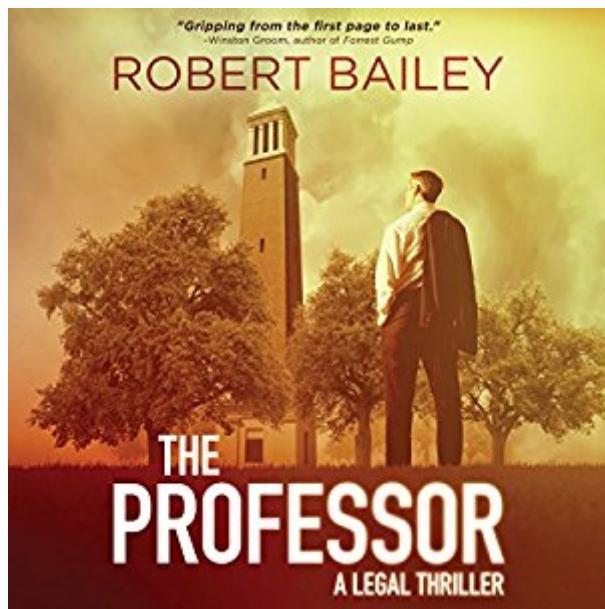


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# The Professor: McMurtrie And Drake Legal, Book 1



## **Synopsis**

Law professor Thomas Jackson McMurtrie literally wrote the book on evidence in the state of Alabama. But when a power-hungry colleague uses a recent run-in between McMurtrie and headstrong student Rick Drake to end his career, he is left unsure what to do next. Meanwhile, a devastating trucking accident in Henshaw, Alabama, leaves a young family dead. Drake, now a fledgling lawyer, takes the case against the freight carrier and soon begins to uncover the truth behind the tragedy that is buried in a tangled web of arson, bribery, and greed. On the eve of the trial and with his case unraveling in the midst of a dangerous cover-up that threatens to silence his star witnesses, Drake realizes that only his estranged mentor, Professor McMurtrie, can help him now. With everything to lose and only justice to gain, will McMurtrie and Drake overcome bad blood to defeat a ruthless adversary? Can the Professor turn back the clock and recover all that he's lost?

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

For the past nearly 40 years I have worked as a legal secretary for a small law firm representing claimants/plaintiffs. As the plaintiff in a personal injury case, I have also had personal experience with a defense firm's methods of reaching their goal of winning at all costs. Since plaintiffs' firms live from case-to-case they must stretch every dollar but defense firms have the resources of the insurance industry behind them. In case you don't know, the insurance industry is in control of our lives these days and they rake in more and more money from us then don't want to return any of it when they or their insured are at fault. Thus, a lawsuit against an individual is truly a lawsuit against

an insurance company. Having said that, understand that "The Professor" is a classic David vs. Goliath situation. What's the little man to do? The defense firm/insurance company and, in this case, the business owner, is doing everything in their power, including murdering witnesses, to be sure the jury brings in a defense verdict. What did I think of the book, I started it yesterday morning and, with the exception of giving my poor old eyes a break in the afternoon, I read and read finally finishing it around 4:00 a.m. By the way, I had to be ready to take my grandson to school and get from home to work (over 30 miles) thereafter. Would I recommend it? I already have and I intend to try and buy a copy for my boss (who doesn't own an e-reader). For the most part, it was very true to life albeit slightly exaggerated in some parts. I have to say, though, I don't know many business owners who have been sued who have killed to protect their pocketbook, but I guess there are some. So, if you like legal intrigue, this book is definitely for you. The plot twists are worth the time reading it. I have already preordered the next book in the series.

When the first few pages included football references, most particularly Bear Bryant, I was thinking that I really didn't want to read a book about football, being a very senior female citizen. How wrong I was and how glad I am that I continued reading - almost non-stop. This book is well written, interesting and inclusive, meaning the reader is left with no loose ends. The ending was moving and I did find that I was emotionally involved. I recommended the book to a friend who read it in one day and immediately called me to thank me for recommending it, this being a first. I have read the author's second book also and am hopeful that number 3 follows quickly.

Sometimes new authors hit it out of the park with the first novel, presenting complex, interesting, and thoughtful characters, engaging storylines, and tight dialogue that all grab you, the reader, from the beginning, and keep your eyes glued to your Kindle, wanting to know what happens next. If you are middle aged or older, most can absolutely relate to at least of of McMurtrie's (the Professor) life successes and challenges. It is hard to go through life without experiencing significant highs and lows, triumphs and tribulations. The other characters and the scenarios Bailey presents are equally authentic and engaging, and he masterfully weaves everything and everyone together into a fun and gripping story. I eagerly await book 2!

It has been quite some time since I've had a book in my hands that was hard to put down. The Professor was that type of book. Each chapter was engaging and had a few great twists. Some I predicted and some that blew me away. The short chapters were reminiscent of James Patterson's

style. This was a great read and the character development was really good. I will be diving into book 2 very soon. Oh and as a fan of the Alabama Crimson Tide football program, I enjoyed all of the references. #Roll Tide!

I am totally surprised this is a first novel (despite a few typos). It is rather long and has a lot of backstory, but as a legal thriller it has continuing conflict and suspense and good pacing. What is more, both main characters, the Professor and his former student, start off flawed and awed. Yet there is an excellent character arc as they deal with their flaws and improve. Moreover, the writing is excellent. The only flaw is that a particularly evil character appears to disappear from the story unpunished. But perhaps he is being saved for a later novel. As a California lawyer I was somewhat taken aback by what must be good Alabama practice (the author is an Alabama lawyer). For instance, the lawyers walk around the courtroom and are allowed to walk up to the witness box without a judge's permission. This would excite a California bailiff, and cause a judicial frown at least. Also, it is a civil case stemming from violation of Federal criminal laws. I would expect a good attorney to try and sic the U.S. attorney on the malefactors if only for the free discovery and additional pressure on the defendants. But authors have poetic license and this is a great tale. If you like thriller trial novels at all buy this one. I am anxious to read the next novel in this series.

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