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Rough Justice

LISA SCOTTOLINE
New York Times Bestselling Author
Rough Justice
PERFORMED BY BARBARA ROSENBLAT

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Criminal lawyer Marta Richter is hours away from winning an acquittal for her client, millionaire businessman Elliot Steere, on trial for the murder of a homeless man who tried to carjack him. But as the jury begins deliberations, Marta discovers the chilling truth about her client's innocence. Taking justice into her own hands, she furiously sets out to prove the truth, with the help of two young associates. In an excruciating game of beat the clock with both the jury and the worst blizzard to hit Philadelphia in decades, Marta will learn that the search for justice isn't only rough - it can also be deadly.

**Book Information**

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**Customer Reviews**

How on earth did this rubbish get published? To quote another reviewer.."I don't believe I'm still reading this thing."Warning: Spoiler !We are immediately led to believe that a criminal defense lawyer with 15 years experience is shocked that her client is guilty. She feels used and vows revenge even though the jury is due back before lunchtime the next morning. I am sure had the lawyer been male, he would have laughed with the client, but we are led to believe that this female attorney is outraged that her client lied to her!!Even the case itself is stupid. An apparent clear case of self defense. The DA has nothing and yet not only does the trial last 2 months, but the defendant has been remanded in jail for a year without bail !!The judge on the case is up for the state supreme court even though he is only a district court judge.What follows is a disastrous, unbelievable race to find evidence that will somehow enable the client to be convicted. Most of the 'evidence' that is
found would never be admissible anyway. Our ‘hero’ tampers with the jury, drives to her clients' beach house, breaks in, finds papers for a boat, breaks into a boat yard, breaks into storage, finds a boat, finds a map with a pin hole, spends hours digging in the freezing cold, finds a box, finds a computer printout. Why her client has kept this printout is beyond me since it became worthless a few hours after they used it. Everyone treks across the city in knee-high snow. Spend hours outside in driving blizzard conditions. Then, everything falls into place, everything becomes clear and it is a race to the court house. The end comes quickly. Then the really stupid part, the police show up with WARRNETS!! I mean, how? Why?

Lisa Scottoline is a gifted and witty storyteller. Rough Justice is the sixth book of hers that I have read and the other five range from almost good to very good. Two of her best characters, Mary DiNunzio, a loveable individual, but insecure lawyer, and Bennie Rosato, a very secure hard-nosed and competent lawyer, play major supporting roles in this novel. Despite fast-paced action, the book is, especially when measured against the standards of her other work, just awful. If I had read this book before any of her other novels, I would never have started any of the others. As a writer of fiction, Scottoline is entitled to almost unlimited imagination and unexpected twists and turns. But in Rough Justice she exceeds even her broad poetic license. Not a single chapter is credible or plausible and this would be true even if the plot occurred during the spring, summer or fall. Instead all the action takes place during a 100 year blizzard in Philadelphia and although on the pages of the book, the characters struggle with the inclement weather, they still manage to get from place to place with relative ease. Every decision her characters make during course of this novel is not only inane, but each decision also lacks common sense and is usually so clearly unethical and stupid that they would shock a high school student. One might forgive Ms. Scottline if she was writing science fiction, or had set out to write the equivalent of a Grade B movie, but she maintains that her experience as a lawyer and judicial clerk are reflected in her writings and in her acknowledgment she gives credit to other professionals who helped her. None of Ms. Scottline books are what I would call a masterpiece, but they are good summer or evening reading. They too take full advantage of Ms.

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