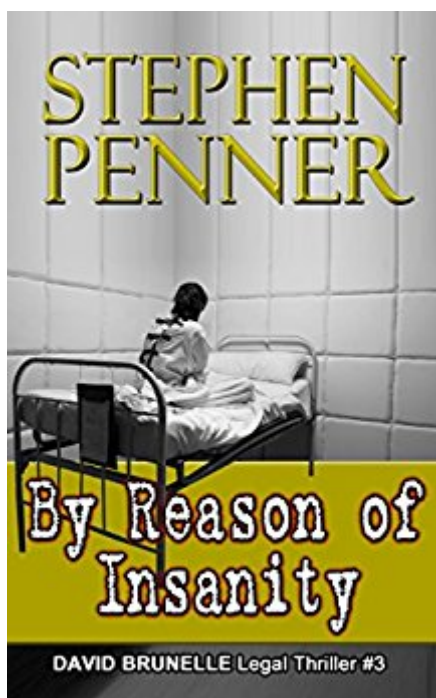


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# By Reason Of Insanity: David Brunelle Legal Thriller #3 (David Brunelle Legal Thriller Series)



## Synopsis

Sometimes the easiest cases are the hardest. The defendant absolutely, positively murdered her own mother. She is also absolutely, positively mentally ill. Homicide prosecutor David Brunelle is tasked with holding her responsible despite the best efforts of her defense team, which includes a psychologist who's convinced she's innocent. As the case proceeds, the pressures mount and Brunelle begins to question his own sanity. Will Brunelle crack the case, or will the case crack him? Another exciting installment in the David Brunelle Legal Thriller Series!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

In all honesty, I had borrowed one of Stephen's books on Prime 3 days ago. Just 3 days ago. This review goes for all of his books, not just this one - as soon as I finished the borrowed book - I IMMEDIATELY purchased all his other books in this series starring David Brunelle: Beyond a Reasonable Doubt, Case Theory, Presumption of Innocence, Tribal Court, By Reason of Insanity. EVERY book a winner. EVERY book fabulously written. EVERY book will keep you reading. EVERY Book is going to stay in my Kindle library because great books are meant to be kept and not discarded. I just raved about him to my sister yesterday - she started and finished one book already and she could

not believe how great a read it was either. She is ready for the next book - the sooner the better she said. Each story is so good. I love the main characters already. I can speak of them as if they are my best friends or friends that I just met but feel like I have known them forever. I am going to put this same review on every one of his books that I have read, so everyone who loves a well-written story with crime and police and court proceedings knows how truly great these books are!! The crimes are original as is the storylines. All the characters are believable. You hate the ones you are supposed to and love the ones you should. Open your kindle to Stephen Penner - YOU WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED!!

Like Scott Pratt (the Joe Dillard series), Stephen Penner is becoming one of my favorite authors of legal thrillers. I've read Grisham for years, and the last couple books of his I read just weren't that good, especially when he attempts a story outside of the legal genre (Painted House - sooooo boring). Penner's main character, David Brunelle, is a career prosecutor who finds himself in the middle of a case where there is no question "who did it," but rather since the defendant is obviously mentally ill, should she be held responsible, incompetent to stand trial, or not guilty by reason of insanity. Penner does a great job educating the reader on the complex issues of mental health, competency vs. incompetency (to stand trial), and the insanity defense. I would say the only downfall would be the unexpected twist towards the end, which in my opinion, was a little far fetched and pure "Hollywood". However, that is the only negative thing I can say about this book. It is still a great read with great characters, some of which have been developing since the first book in the Brunelle series. I will definitely continue to read Stephen Penner novels, especially the David Brunelle series.

This book is amazing....loved it. Lots of insanity. In places where you don't expect. I worked with a lot of prosecutors in my day. Certainly none like David Brunelle. But a few very passable ones. It's a tough job. The story was so compelling, difficult to put down so I didn't. Start this when you have a bit of time. Or hurry and get back to it. Thank you again Mr. Penner....love your stories

Keesha Sawyer brutally murders her mother by hacking her face into oblivion. She even calls 911 to report it. She's calm, she's collected, she's a paranoid schizophrenic. According to Keesha, her mother murdered her in her dreams and made her into a zombie. That wasn't so bad, according to Keesha, but when her mother started murdering young children and turning them into zombies, is when Keesha decided her mother must die. Homicide Prosecutor, David Brunelle, has the

unenviable job of proving that even though mentally ill, Keesha knew what she was doing, even planned it in advance. The defense attorney brings in a psychologist who's convinced she is innocent. So how does one differentiate between not guilty by reason of insanity .... and guilty, even though the person charged has a mental illness. Does mental illness equate with insanity? Because the author is also an attorney, the book does not lack realism. It takes the reader from when the suspect is charged, through dealings with the defense attorney, selecting a jury, and presenting the case. There is a giant twist in the story, however, the ending waffled, and left a lot to be desired. 5 stars overall, with -2 for the ending.

I'm not used to siding with the prosecution...I hung a jury for the defense once. But the convincing and pragmatic David Brunelle in Stephen Penner's new legal thriller, "By Reason of Insanity", has changed my view of these hard working underpaid, ill-served public servants. I was hooked when this sexist prosecutor is called out early in the book for his self-absorbed narcissism by the defense's star witness, a crazy psychiatrist. The mad shrink summarizes the crazy focus of the book--perhaps the law?-- when defending the actual defendant, a homicidal sociopath. Everyone in this room," he says "has diagnosable emotional and personality pathologies." A personal delight: like many adept men without intelligent and talented women this skillful, narcissistic Brunelle could fail--or even die.

A well developed legal thriller. Murder? Insanity? You know from the beginning whodunit but is she legally competent to be held accountable for her actions? Insanity defense gets a bad rap these days and Mr. Penner does an admirable job in dealing with it in this book. A few too man "F" bombs to suit me but the book was riveting enough it held my attention so well I read it in less than 12 hours.

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