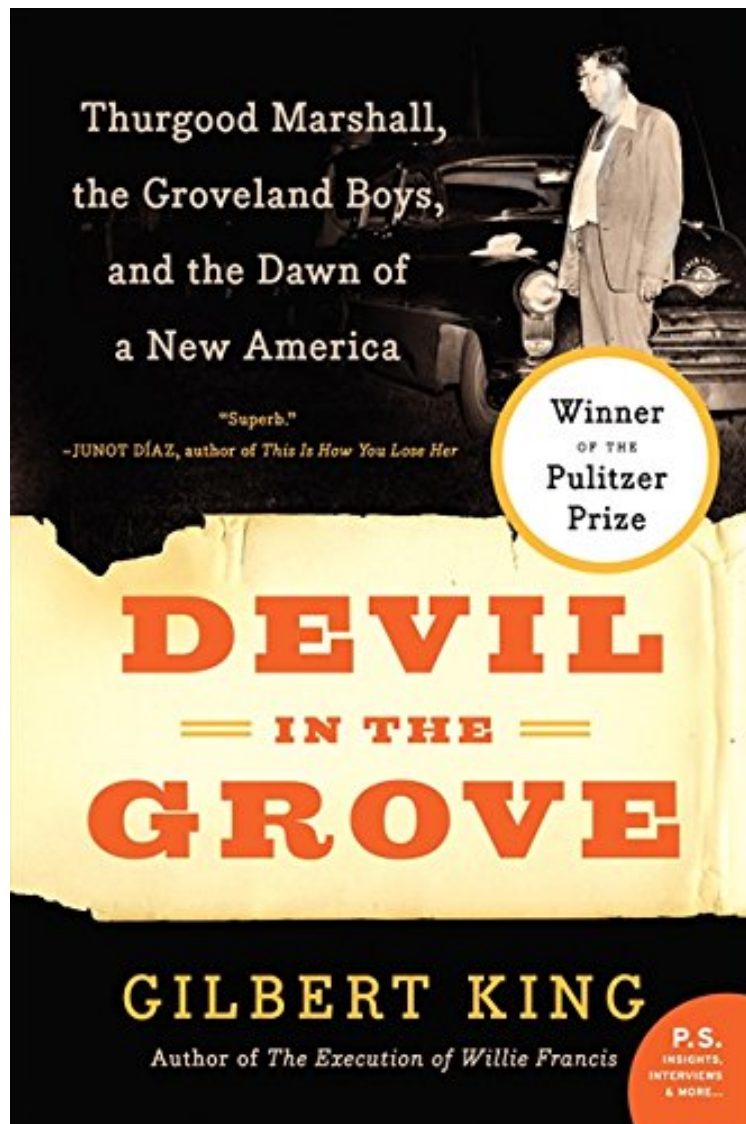


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Devil in the Grove: Thurgood Marshall, the Groveland Boys, and the Dawn of a New America

Gilbert King

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#20515 in Books Gilbert King 2013-02-19 2013-02-19 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.00 x 1.05 x 5.311, .75 #File Name: 0061792268464 pages Devil in the Grove Thurgood Marshall the Groveland Boys and the Dawn of a New America | File size: 40.Mb

Gilbert King : Devil in the Grove: Thurgood Marshall, the Groveland Boys, and the Dawn of a New America before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Devil in the Grove: Thurgood Marshall, the Groveland Boys, and the Dawn of a New America:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Little known turning point in the battle for civil rights
By rossofinertia While at times the book's exhaustive detail of the players in the case of the framed Groveland Boys can be a tad repetitive-- yes, we understand, Sheriff McCall is a true demon-- there is more than enough here to educate and hold the reader in rapt attention. Thurgood Marshall is a true American hero, that is not up for debate. That said, the supporting cast at the NAACP, the ancillary team members defending the Groveland Boys (many of whom were white and Jewish), host of heroic journalists who also risked life and limb to see the truth come to light, and even the few Floridians who were brave enough to change their minds are the real story here. I recommend this book.
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Compelling
By Sylvan You might think you know what it was like for African Americans in this country in the 40's 50's, but the author of this book paints an excruciatingly depressing picture of rural Florida at that time. Luckily Thurgood Marshall was around to see that all was not lost, and other people of good will chipped in. A very ugly story of racial hatred, but a story well told by the author.
1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. and beautifully written. The whole saga and nightmare of Southern ...
By MKS Superb, infuriating book about just how morally mad the South used to be, and still sometimes is, as the church murders in Charleston recently reminded us. Profoundly researched, and beautifully written. The whole saga and nightmare of Southern racism and blood lust in the century after the Civil War in a nutshell. A terrific, if nauseating, descent into hell in the collective human heart in a world as dark as Nazi Germany any day, just on a smaller scale.

"Must-read, cannot-put-down history." (New York Times) Superb. (Junot Diaz, author of *This Is How You Lose Her*)
A powerful and well-told drama of Southern injustice. (The Chicago Tribune) Devil in the Grove is a compelling look at the case that forged Thurgood Marshall's perception of himself as a crusader for civil rights. . . . King's style [is] at once suspenseful and historically meticulous (Christian Science Monitor) Recreates an important yet overlooked moment in American history with a chilling, atmospheric narrative that reads more like a Southern Gothic novel than a work of history. (Salon) A taut, intensely readable narrative. (Boston Globe) The story's drama and pathos make it a page-turner, but King's attention to detail, fresh material, and evenhanded treatment of the villains make it a worthy contribution to the history of the period, while offering valuable insight into Marshall's work and life. (Publishers Weekly) A thoroughgoing study of one of the most important civil-rights cases argued by Thurgood Marshall in dismantling Jim Crow strictures. . . . Deeply researched and superbly composed. (Kirkus's (starred review)) A compelling chronicle. (Booklist) Gripping. . . . Lively and multidimensional. (Dallas Morning News) The tragic Groveland saga -- with its Faulknerian echoes of racial injustice spinning around an accusation of rape -- comes astonishingly alive in Gilbert King's narrative. It is both heartbreaking and unforgettable. (Wil Haygood, author of *King of the Cats: The Life and Times of Adam Clayton Powell Jr.*) In the terrifying story of the Groveland boys Gilbert King recreates an extraordinary moment in America's long, hard struggle for racial justice. Devil in the Grove is a harrowing, haunting, utterly mesmerizing book. (Kevin Boyle, author of *Arc of Justice: A Saga of Race, Civil Rights, and Murder in the Jazz Age*) Gilbert King's gut-wrenching, and captivating, narrative is civil rights literature at its best--meticulously researched, brilliantly written, and singularly focused on equal justice for all. (Michael G. Long, author of *Marshalling Justice: The Early Civil Rights Letters of Thurgood Marshall*) This is a haunting and compelling story, one of many in the campaign for racial justice. . . . This book is important because it is disturbing. And in that regard we cannot walk away from the story it tells. (Phyllis Vine, author of *One Man's Castle*) Gilbert King has done a remarkable job of weaving together history, sociology, law and detective work of his own, to reveal facts that even I, one of the defense counsel in the case, had not been aware of until now. (Jack Greenberg, Alphonse Fletcher Professor of Law, Columbia University, former Director-Counsel, NAACP Legal Defense Fund.) [An] excellent book on a little known and horrifying incident in which four young black men were rounded up and accused of raping a white woman, readers cannot help but be awed by the bravery of those who took a stand in the late 1940s and early 1950s. (San Francisco Chronicle) Its rich case history captures the beginning of the end of the most extreme forms of racism. . . . Very few books combine this depth of research and narrative power about a subject of such pivotal significance. (Ira Katznelson, author of *When Affirmative Action Was White* and a former president of the American Political Science Association) From the Back Cover Devil in the Grove is the winner of the 2013 Pulitzer Prize for General Nonfiction. Arguably the most important American lawyer of the twentieth century, Thurgood Marshall was on the verge of bringing the landmark suit *Brown v. Board of Education* before the U.S. Supreme Court when he became embroiled in a case that threatened to change the course of the civil rights movement and cost him his life. In 1949, Florida's orange industry was booming, and citrus barons got rich on the backs of cheap Jim Crow labor with the help of Sheriff Willis V. McCall, who ruled Lake County with murderous resolve. When a white seventeen-year-old girl cried rape, McCall pursued four young blacks who dared envision a future for themselves beyond the groves. The Ku Klux Klan joined the hunt, hell-bent on lynching the men who came to be known as "the Groveland Boys." Associates thought it was suicidal for Marshall to wade into the "Florida Terror," but the young lawyer would not shrink from the fight despite continuous death threats against him. Drawing on a wealth of never-before-published material, including the FBI's

unredacted Groveland case files, as well as unprecedented access to the NAACP's Legal Defense Fund files, Gilbert King shines new light on this remarkable civil rights crusader. About the Author Gilbert King has written about U.S. Supreme Court history for the New York Times and the Washington Post, and is a featured contributor to Smithsonian magazine's history blog, Past Imperfect. He is the author of *The Execution of Willie Francis: Race, Murder, and the Search for Justice in the American South*. He lives in New York City with his wife and two daughters.