

The background features a complex network of white lines connecting various sized white dots, creating a web-like or constellation-like pattern. The background color transitions from a deep purple at the top to a bright pink at the bottom. The text is centered horizontally.

Redemption

Written by David Baldacci

Published by griefconvention

Table of Contents

Redemption Church	1
Redemption Church San Jose	2
Redemption Definition	3
Redemption Song	4
Redemption Song Lyrics	5
Redemption Project	6
Redemption Song Chords	7
Redemption Campbell	8
Redemption Movie	9

Redemption

Redemption

By David Baldacci

Redemption Church

Detective Amos Decker discovers that a mistake he made as a rookie detective may have led to deadly consequences in the latest Memory Man thriller in David Baldacci's #1 New York Times bestselling series.

Redemption Church San Jose

Amos Decker and his FBI partner Alex Jamison are visiting his hometown of Burlington, Ohio, when he's approached by an unfamiliar man. But he instantly recognizes the man's name: Meryl Hawkins. He's the first person Decker ever arrested for murder back when he was a young detective. Though a dozen years in prison have left Hawkins unrecognizably aged and terminally ill, one thing hasn't changed: He maintains he never committed the murders. Could it be possible that Decker made a mistake all those years ago? As he starts digging into the old case, Decker finds a startling connection to a new crime that he may be able to prevent, if only he can put the pieces together quickly enough...

David Baldacci's 5th in the Amos Decker series is a brilliant and compulsive thriller with Decker back home in Burlington, Ohio, where his wife, Cassie, daughter, Molly and brother in law, Johnny, died. He is there to commemorate what would have been Molly's 14th birthday. This tragedy has driven Decker's fierce and implacable obsession to fight for justice. After earlier brain injuries, he has been gifted and cursed by hyperthnesia, which means he can forget nothing and synesthesia. At Molly's grave, a man meets him that he doesn't recognise but he knows his name, Meryl Hawkins, now released from prison and dying of cancer. Decker had led the investigation that convicted Hawkins of the murder of Don Richards and his 2 children and David Katz, who had dropped in to see Don. It was Decker's first murder investigation and the evidence against Hawkins appeared ironclad, but Hawkins proclaims his innocence, asking him to look again at the murders. Decker's original cop partner and friend, Mary Lancaster also has doubts about the original conviction.

Decker cannot bear living with the possibility that he helped to destroy the life of an innocent man, as he commits to reworking this cold case. Indications that he is on the right path begin with the stone cold murder of Hawkins. Attempts are made on Decker's life, and in a blood drenched case, every lead he has ends up dying as the bodies start piling up. As Mary is forced to recuse herself when her husband, Earl, turns out to be the alibi of a possible suspect, Blake Natty is appointed to lead the case from the police end, and he and his superior, Pete Childress, are determined that Decker takes no further part in the case and leaves Ohio. Decker is having none of this, relentless in his pursuit of the truth. He is joined and assisted by a familiar face and friend, Melvin Mars, a man who spent 20 years in prison and on death row in Texas, until Decker proved his innocence. Decker finds that old sins cast long shadows as he seeks redemption for his past errors as an inexperienced murder detective.

This is a fast paced, complex and compulsive thriller, well constructed, and packed with suspense and tension. Baldacci is an expert at drawing in the reader and keeping them hooked right up to the tense last pages of the novel. His protagonist, Decker, is an interesting and unusual character, trapped in past

Redemption

traumas with memories that will never fade away, he is slowly and surely being destroyed unless he can learn to shift direction and create stronger personal ties with his friends that roots him in the present rather than the past. This is a highly intense, thrilling and entertaining read with a diverse cast of characters, showcasing Baldacci's considerable skills in writing nail biting thrillers. Highly recommended. Many thanks to Pan Macmillan for an ARC. ...more

Redemption Definition

In another thrilling novel, David Baldacci places Amos Decker in the middle of a case that will require all his attention. While visiting his daughter's grave, Amos Decker is approached by a man he put away for murder over a decade ago. Released for compassionate reasons, the man professes that his conviction was wrong and that Decker needs to reevaluate the work he did when serving with the local police department. Now, armed with a task and reunited with his former partner, Decker is trying to

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I have long been a fan of David Baldacci and his work, having seen him through many series over a number of years. I became curious about Amos Decker from the start, as the premise caught my attention from the outset. With a well-established backstory, Amos Decker would appear to have little to offer the reader, though his past is always coming back to work its magic and old cases receive new life. As the story begins with Decker returning to Burlington, the reader is taken back and discovers some of the pain the series protagonist has been holding onto over the past number of years. Others add depth and intrigue to the story and propel Decker forward to make key choices that not only move the mystery in a key direction, but also help to give the characters entertaining. Moving into the fifth novel in this series, there is little lag as Baldacci continues to offer fresh and interesting directions for his protagonist. With a mix of short chapters and those with more depth to build suspense, Baldacci pulls the reader in from the outset and shows why he is at the top of his game. I cannot wait to see what else he has in store for his fans and what sort of directions things will go in the foreseeable future.

Kudos, Mr. Baldacci, for never letting up and keeping this series full of twists for those who like to be surprised.

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<http://pecheyponderings.wordpress.com/>

Redemption

A Book for All Seasons, a different sort of Book Challenge: <https://www.goodreads.com/group/show/...>
...more

I love Amos Decker so the moment I saw this book on the bookshop shelves I bought it, came home, and settled down in my favourite chair for a really good read. And it was good, very good in fact.

Amos is struggling badly. Had she lived he would have been celebrating his daughter's birthday and he is blind sided with grief for his dead wife and child. He is also experiencing very strange symptoms from his brain condition, and he feels the need to be away from his friends and suffer on his own. Luc I love Amos Decker so the moment I saw this book on the bookshop shelves I bought it, came home, and settled down in my favourite chair for a really good read. And it was good, very good in fact.

Amos is struggling badly. Had she lived he would have been celebrating his daughter's birthday and he is blind sided with grief for his dead wife and child. He is also experiencing very strange symptoms from his brain condition, and he feels the need to be away from his friends and suffer on his own. Luckily those friends do not take no for an answer and he soon finds himself being supported in his personal life while working hard to solve a particularly complicated case.

There are an awful lot of dead bodies in this book, many visits to the morgue and a huge amount of very detailed and very smart police work. Some of the goodies turn out to be baddies and hardly anyone is who they seem to be. I suppose someone very smart could guess who killed who and why but I had to be patient and wait until Decker explained it all.

I enjoyed it enormously and hope that the author is planning a book 6. ...more

Redemption Song

Perhaps Mr. Decker's character is played out. Perhaps Mr. Baldacci has run out of interesting writing ideas as this story is a near snoozer. 3 of 10 star zzz

This fast paced, smart, well developed, gripping crime thriller which brings back one of my favorite book characters, Amos Decker a.k.a. "Memory Man" .

Remembering everything is a great gift for solving murders, handling loose ends by bringing back the images you stocked (like unlocking your personal cloud which full of memories). But also can be curse to remember your loved ones™ taking away from you. It was like living a nightmare over and over again.

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This time Decker goes back to his hometown to honor the memories of his wife and daughter by visiting their graves. At his redemption place he sees a ghost from his past. A man he has convicted 13 years ago, who has a terminal disease ,claiming his innocence.

By helping this ex-convict, Amos Decker tries to atone his sins and face his inner demons.

On previous books, Decker was acting like a robot, building more walls around him to minimize human connection and only Jamison and his new friend, ex convict Mars were able to open small cracks on his walls, fighting against his social barriers.

On this book, by slowly making peace with his past, Decker starts to communicate more with the people, even he starts accepting human touch. He still remembers the past tragedies, suffers from panic attacks and obsessed with his family house but he takes a big step on his life.

At the end, our character does not only bring justice to the wrongly convicted man, he also moves farther a little bit and learns to embrace his past to have a real future.

I loved twisted crime story and smartly developed plot but mostly I enjoyed to see the development of the character.

...more

Redemption Song Lyrics

The author is one of my all-time favorites (meaning anything he writes, I want to read). And from the start four books ago, his "Memory Man" series was a big hit with me. This one, the fifth, adds another five-star entry.

Detective Amos Decker is a very intriguing character; as a result of a football injury, he developed hyperthymesia, which causes him to remember every detail of every single day (whether he wants to or not) as well as synesthesia abilities - associating colors with people and objects. The author is one of my all-time favorites (meaning anything he writes, I want to read). And from the start four books ago, his "Memory Man" series was a big hit with me. This one, the fifth, adds another five-star entry.

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Earlier in the series, Decker's wife and daughter were murdered (imagine being forced to remember every detail of that for the rest of your life), and in this book, he's returned to Burlington, Ohio, to visit the cemetery as he always does on his daughter Molly's birthday. An aging, tattered and battered man interrupts Decker, who realizes it's Meryl Hawkins, his first arrest for murder back when he was a newbie on the force. Released from prison because of a terminal illness, Hawkins knew of Decker's annual cemetery visits, thanks to information from Decker's former partner, Mary Lancaster. When he gets Decker's reluctant attention, Hawkins insists he was not guilty as charged and pleads with Decker to prove his innocence.

That's not a project Decker wants to undertake, given that it could mean he was instrumental in putting an innocent man behind bars. Besides that, Decker's boss back at the FBI isn't happy that he's thinking of going rogue yet again - and he orders Decker's current partner, Alex Jamison, who's with him in Burlington, back to the office (as an aside, another personal coinkidink: My mother's maiden name was Jamison).

But when evidence turns up that Hawkins might have been wrongly convicted, Decker (and his memories) can't walk away even if it jeopardizes his FBI work. Complicating matters further is that a personal connection means Lancaster, who was willing to help out, is forced to recuse herself from the investigation - leaving Decker pretty much on his own. On the plus side, Jamison contacts Decker's old friend Melvin Mars, who insists on helping despite Decker's protests. The two make a great combination, and that makes for a great story that's both complex and exciting.

Redemption

For the record, this book stands well on its own, but I have no doubt I enjoyed it more because I'd read its predecessors (which I recommend that others new to the series should do as well, not only for that reason, but simply because they're all so enjoyable). As for me, I say keep 'em coming!

...more

Amos Decker, a cop who also done some work with the FBI, is visiting his home town of Burlington, Ohio on his daughter's birthday. Well, more accurately it's his late daughter as she and her mother, Decker's beloved wife, were brutally murdered some while ago. As he sits by the grave he's visited by a man he thought he'd never see again. Meryl Hawkins was the subject of Decker's first murder investigation as a police officer and he was subsequently sent down for life, for the murder of four people. Amos Decker, a cop who also done some work with the FBI, is visiting his home town of Burlington, Ohio on his daughter's birthday. Well, more accurately it's his late daughter as she and her mother, Decker's beloved wife, were brutally murdered some while ago. As he sits by the grave he's visited by a man he thought he'd never see again. Meryl Hawkins was the subject of Decker's first murder investigation as a police officer and he was subsequently sent down for life, for the murder of four people. But it seems that Hawkins has been released early suffering from terminal cancer. In a brief conversation with Decker he claims his innocence, stating that the cops got it wrong "big time. Amos is not someone to leave loose end so he seeks out his ex-partner with a view to walking through the Hawkins case again. He doesn't think they got it wrong as the evidence seemed irrevocable, but he wants to set his mind to rest. But events soon mean that he's drawn into reviewing the case from top to bottom " could it be that somehow they missed something or were misled?

This is the fifth book in the series and it's clear that a late joiner (I've not yet read the earlier books) I've missed out on quite a bit of relevant history. And although this book can certainly be read as a standalone it's worth noting that there are quite a few references to acts and people previously featured in the series. I was definitely left with the impression that I'd have been better off reading these books in order. That said, other than the tragedy impacting his family the only other key piece of information to know about our front man is that he suffers from a condition called hyperthymesia, which means that all his memories are permanently stored in his brain. The condition, brought on by a severe blow to his head, is both a blessing and a curse: his powers of recall are faultless, so that once he's seen something he can pull up the memory and pick out as much detail as he wishes, but the downside is that he's also permanently haunted by visions of the bad events in his life.

I liked both Decker and his ex-partner, they're presented as believable and interesting characters trying to do the right thing whilst also attempting to address significant challenges in their own lives. The most part this book worked really well, with the re-investigation being broken down into reasonable steps and relevant challenges being made to actions previously taken. However, I do have a couple of bones to pick with it. Firstly, I had some issues with a few of the minor characters: there's the slightly less able cop that had seen his career pushed aside by the more gifted Decker and the boss cop who clearly, for reasons unspecified here, had the severe hump with our hero " neither

Redemption

convinced me. The same went for a couple of the other characters. Secondly, thereâ€™s the â€˜bigâ€™ ending in which all becomes clear, a scene that to me simply felt overplayed and totally implausible.

That said, itâ€™s a fun read and as Iâ€™ve already got episode four ready to roll as an audiobook Iâ€™ll certainly give this series another try; itâ€™s a decent concept and in Decker I think Baldacci has created a fictional character with some depth.

My thanks to Pan Macmillan and NetGalley for providing a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review. ...more

Redemption Project

Amos Decker, the Memory Man, is back in another twisting thriller from #1 New York Times bestselling author David Baldacci (Long Road to Mercy, 2018, etc.).

By now, readers know his story. Years back, the Hulk-sized Amos Decker suffered a bone-crushing helmet-to-helmet hit during his first play in the NFL, rendering him unable to forget anything, ever. Not only is every memory seared permanently into his brain—a medical condition known as hyperthymesia—for good, but the way Decker’s brain sees a

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Abandoning the playing field for police work, Decker’s condition is both a gift and a curse. While he’s able to remember endless important details pertaining to various investigations, he can never forget the murders of his wife, daughter, and brother-in-law—the images of their dead bodies forever, painfully, preserved in his memory. Now, though, Decker is working cold cases with an elite FBI unit, a job that takes him all across the country in search of justice for those who deserve it most. This time, after narrowly escaping death in Pennsylvania following the events of last year’s *The Fallen*, Decker is back in his hometown of Burlington, Ohio . . .

Read the rest of this review here: <https://therealbookspy.com/2019/03/18...> ...more

4.5. It seemed a little slow in the beginning but picked up nicely

Redemption Song Chords

This is the 5th book in the Memory Man series, and have read them all for their in-depth, interesting characterizations and detailed investigative work. Adam Decker is the Memory Man and his detection skills and bravery are beyond reproach. This is a riveting series of detective work and personal growth.

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For those not yet familiar with this unique detective, here is some background. Detective. Amos Decker was the first from his town to make a Pro football team. On his very first play, he was tackled and suffered a horrific brain injury. After recovering from a coma, his life would never be the same. He was diagnosed with hyperthymesia, a condition where one has near perfect recall of one's past and cannot forget anything they have seen, read or heard. He also awoke with synesthesia, where colours are seen related to people, places and numbers. These are very rare but actual medical conditions. He spent time at a scientific institute where his condition was studied along with others with similar brain anomalies. He lost some of the empathy and social skills he had formerly possessed.

These disorders were upsetting for him but put to good use as a detective in his hometown police force. He was attempting to lead as normal a life as possible, married and was the most loving father of a young daughter, and adored his family. One evening he returned home to find his wife, little girl and brother-in-law brutally murdered in their home. The killer and motive remained mysterious.

Amos went into decline. Lived in the streets, became dirty, shabby, grew a straggly beard and gained considerable weight. In order to solve the murder of his family, he cleaned himself up and returned to police work in his hometown. He found his troublesome ability to recall in detail everything he had seen was of great advantage in solving crimes, but most distressing when he had vivid flashbacks of finding the bodies of his family. He could not endure being touched by friends and colleagues and remained anti-social. I was glad to learn he is now making friends and his social skills are well on the mend. He is now a valuable consultant with the FBI.

In this book, Amos returns to his hometown to visit his families' graves on the anniversary of his daughter's birthday. He meets a prematurely aged man of sickly appearance. It turns out that 13 years earlier his detective work and testimony put this man in prison for life. The man tells him he was released from prison as he is dying with cancer and has only a short time to live. He begs Decker to prove his innocence as he does not want his daughter to remember him as the murderer of 4 people. Decker wonders if he could have made a mistake when he was a rookie cop, but all the hard evidence pointed to this man's guilt.

Redemption

The same day the man is murdered, and this makes Decker determined to re-investigate the old murder which caused the man to be imprisoned for 13 years. As Decker interviews people about the old crime and now the present one, bodies of people under questioning begin to pile up. Decker now believes he made a mistake when he was convinced he had solved the earlier murder and is consumed by guilt for perhaps sending an innocent man to prison. As people are presently dying he believes there must be a plot which involves the past and present crimes.

In fact, Decker and members the local police department have stumbled onto a nefarious and complex plot, more widespread and heinous than anyone could imagine. Later the FBI comes to town as part of the investigation.

This is a very complicated plot, well told and not difficult to follow. However, it does strain the limits of credibility. The investigation and dangerous action sequences are gripping. This works well as a standalone book but knowing a little of Decker's background adds to the interest. ...more

David Baldacci has written many mediocre books but the Amos Decker series has been consistently outstanding. This is a series which meets the requirements of the readers of both thrillers and police procedurals.

This novel, the fifth in the series, is excellent. It opens with Decker visiting what was his hometown to be by his daughter's graveside, where he is confronted by Meryl Hawkins with the accusation that Decker was responsible for his unjust conviction for murder of four people (two adults David Baldacci has written many mediocre books but the Amos Decker series has been consistently outstanding. This is a series which meets the requirements of the readers of both thrillers and police procedurals.

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Decker is a unique character in the world of thrillers and police procedurals. As a result of an injury sustained on the football field, he has a perfect memory which enables him to pick up on the smallest detail. And he was a product of the Midwest. He never got too high and never got too low. He looked at the world realistically. He was a jeans and beer kind of guy. He could never fit inside a Ferrari, not that he would ever want to. He always tried to do the right thing. He helped others when they needed it. And he tracked down killers nonstop.

And that was pretty much the sum total of Amos Decker.

Redemption

Once started on his re-investigation, it is very difficult to prevent Decker from finding the truth this time. This results in a fast pace and a very satisfying read.

Though this book can be read as a stand alone, it is more enjoyable if one has read the other books in the series as one can see how Decker is being helped to come out of the lonely space in which he was confined in *The Memory Man*, the first book in the series. ...more

Redemption Campbell

Amos Decker is back in his hometown, visiting the grave of his murdered daughter, feeling guilty for not protecting her or her mother Cassie when it mattered, when he is approached by Meryl Hawkins, a man he helped send to prison for murder claiming his innocence. Hawkins was released from a private prison because he is dying of cancer, but is shot to death in his hotel room before Decker decides to listen to his story. Ignoring his FBI orders to return, Amos starts to investigate whether he and Amos Decker is back in his hometown, visiting the grave of his murdered daughter, feeling guilty for not protecting her or her mother Cassie when it mattered, when he is approached by Meryl Hawkins, a man he helped send to prison for murder claiming his innocence. Hawkins was released from a private prison because he is dying of cancer, but is shot to death in his hotel room before Decker decides to listen to his story. Ignoring his FBI orders to return, Amos starts to investigate whether he and his partner had botched their first big case. Town rivalries aside, as Decker digs in, people are being killed to bury the truth of who actually killed Hawkins' alleged victims and why he had not defended himself at trial. A very twisted tale, for sure. Some of Decker's peculiarities (a phobia for physical contact, hyperthymesia, and synesthesia) are fading; in fact, there is only one reference to synesthesia, which I found disappointing. I was happy that Melvin Mars played a significant supporting role in the story. 3.5 stars. ...more

Redemption is a great book because it focuses on Amos Decker's faults. (and it is actually a redeeming followup to the steaming pile that was 'Long Road to Mercy')

Amos Decker has been setup in the series as a sort of detective savant. And I have to confess that I like the books where he detects the shit out of the crimes. So it comes as a refreshing change to see his greatest mistake come to the fore. And like the blurb mentions, could he have sent an innocent man to prison?

Throughout the book, Redemption is a great book because it focuses on Amos Decker's faults. (and it is actually a redeeming followup to the steaming pile that was 'Long Road to Mercy')

Amos Decker has been setup in the series as a sort of detective savant. And I have to confess that I like the books where he detects the shit out of the crimes. So it comes as a refreshing change to see his greatest mistake come to the fore. And like the blurb mentions, could he have sent an innocent man to prison?

Throughout the book, he is consistently on the back foot since he is reopening a 13 year old case and has to figure out where he has made wrong assumptions. From a story narration perspective, this works wonders because you can see him persevering even through the setbacks and this showcases a side of Amos Decker that we have not seen much before.

Even though I have given five stars, there are a couple of issues with the book.

Redemption

The first issue is with the mystery. It is decent per se for most of the book but I think some portions of the solution do not gel with the whole (why some victims were killed, how Amos Decker somehow manages to find a case that will save his job). The second issue is with how Amos Decker deals with guilt. He says that he feels guilt; his friends say that he feels guilt. But, we do not see this guilt manifest in any of his actions. It is a bit like someone telling you they find something funny but with a totally serious face and flat intonation.

Still, I liked the book and it kept me interested throughout. Amos Decker fans, do not miss it.

...more

Redemption Movie

I love Amos Decker! Back in his hometown again investigating his first ever murder case again. I did. It want this book to end, I was really enjoying it and did not pick the ending at all. If you haven't started this series you really do need to. Great story!!

Amos Decker is back with a bang in the fifth instalment of the series in which Mr Baldacci shows his page-turning prowess with this deliciously addictive delicacy. It's a complex, beautifully constructed suspense fest and the tension is palpable throughout. Everything just works so superbly and because of that I fell hook, line and sinker very early on. Baldacci has that uncanny knack of knowing exactly what his readers want and provides it to them in spades.

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Decker is a fascinating creation but with all the usual, somewhat predictable baggage. The past regularly comes back to haunt him occupying and taking over his mind and taking him out of the present meaning he is less investigatively intuitive. I admire him as he is astute and compassionate and hope he evolves as a person to get back on top of his mental health in future books. Redemption is gripping entertainment with a twisted narrative, plenty of action, a diverse cast and perfect pacing.

Once again Baldacci has consistently shown himself to be at the top of his game, so anyone out there who enjoys masterfully crafted thrillers owes it to themselves to grab a copy.

Many thanks to Macmillan for an ARC. ...more