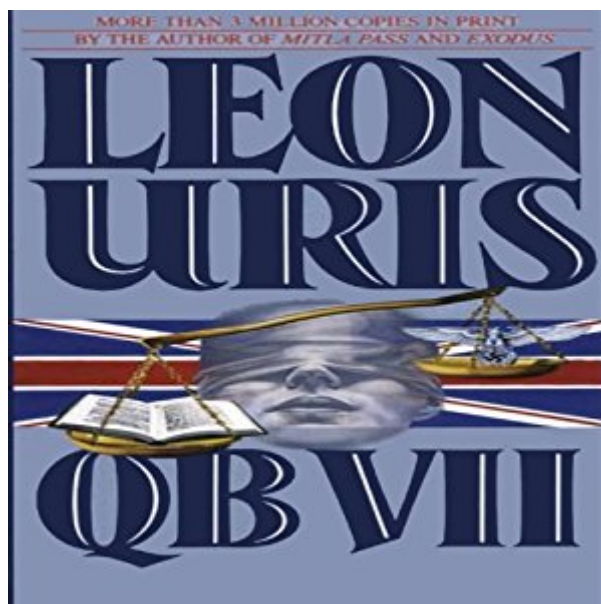


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## QB VII



## Synopsis

In Queen's Bench Courtroom Number Seven, famous author Abraham Cady stands trial. In his book *The Holocaust* - born of the terrible revelation that the Jadwiga Concentration camp was the site of his family's extermination - Cady shook the consciousness of the human race. He also named eminent surgeon Sir Adam Kelno as one of Jadwiga's most sadistic inmate/doctors. Kelno has denied this and brought furious charges. Now unfolds Leon Uris' riveting courtroom drama - one of the great fictional trials of the century.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

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## Customer Reviews

QB VII is Leon Uris' masterful fictionalization of a libel suit which grew out of the publication of his book *EXODUS*. In *EXODUS*, Uris named a Nazi doctor whom, he asserted, performed experimental surgery on human guinea pigs in Auschwitz. The doctor sued Uris in a British court, much as QB VII's "Dr. Kelno" sues author "Abe Cady" about allegations of experimentation in "Jadwiga Concentration Camp." This may well be Uris' best book. Uris, who is usually addicted to operatic plotlines, stiff dialogue, and stentorian characters handles the human dimensions of his protagonists quite nicely in QB VII; as a matter of fact, Kelno seems more sympathetic overall than Cady. It is not until the trial progresses that we see Dr. Kelno's underlying character flaws consume him. Uris spends a lot of time both entertaining and educating us about the traditions of the British legal system. As an American lawyer who studied in London, this reviewer was pleased to see that Uris respects (and even loves) the Common Law tradition of which he writes very well.

I think that this is Leon Uris's finest book, and the fact that it tackles such an unspeakable atrocity as the Holocaust makes it all the more powerful. The characters are fascinating - we have the military hero author who is being sued and who is the less sympathetic of the two protagonists, and the doctor who has been slandered - who appears to be a man who has dedicated his life to helping people. But is it all as it seems? Interspersed with the well crafted and written story of the lives of these two men we also have the pomp and formality of the British Court System. This in itself makes the book one of the finest legal thrillers I have read. Ultimately such a story must have an ending. And what an ending! As they say, you read a book to get to the ending and you won't be disappointed. It is a fabulous novel and one I highly recommend.

This was the first Uris novel I ever read and is probably the most enjoyable book I have read by him. The book tells the story of how a Polish doctor Adam Kelno sues American author Abraham Cady after he is named as having being involved in heinous warcrimes during the holocaust. The real triumph of the novel is that Uris puts a human face on the evil of nazism and shows how anti-semitism can corrupt a basically sound man to such an extent. The novel is gripping from start to finish and part of its appeal is you are never sure what twist awaits around the corner. Sheer genius, a literary talent at his most dynamic and brilliant best.

This is Leon Uris' best book -- far better than Exodus, in my opinion. Abraham Cady learns of his Jewish heritage from his father -- that most of his family had been exterminated at the Jadwiga concentration camp. After becoming immersed in his faith after his father's death, Cady decides to write a book called The Holocaust. In it, he accuses a surgeon, Dr. Adam Kelno, as being one of the doctors at the Jadwiga camp that did experiments on other human beings and was a war criminal. Dr. Kelno finds out about the book, reads it, and decides to sue Cady in court and prove that Cady is a liar. It is a book of deep feeling and gripping suspense; one that deals with the Holocaust and the repercussions that happened so many years later after families found out what actually happened to their relatives. It's a brilliant book -- highly recommended.

This courtroom drama allows Uris to tell the story of the ghosts remaining from the holocaust without using cliched storylines. Instead, he tells an honest story - so honest it actually happened to him - while presenting a complex villain who we begin the novel sympathizing with. Not only does this book present the difficulties in retelling the stories of the holocaust in its aftermath, it also does a

fantastic job of explaining the British legal system. That being said, Uris still writes rather wooden dialogue. Fortunately, his books are more about story and character, so that flaw can be overlooked.

I found hard to put down this horrific and gut wrenching account of the Holocaust as told by the author through the fictional characters he has based on death camp survivors. The story itself is fiction based on fact and you soon realise that many of the characters are based on real people. When an eminent London surgeon sues an American author for defamation in one of his books the stage is set for the former victims of Nazi experiments to have their say, albeit 20 years later and within that bastion of civil rectitude, an English courtroom. I found much of the testimony of the survivors very moving and that moved me to tears. These awful things really happened and sadly are still happening... somewhere. I pitied the main character Adam Keino but could not sympathise with him. The verdict at the end was a surprise and justified.

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