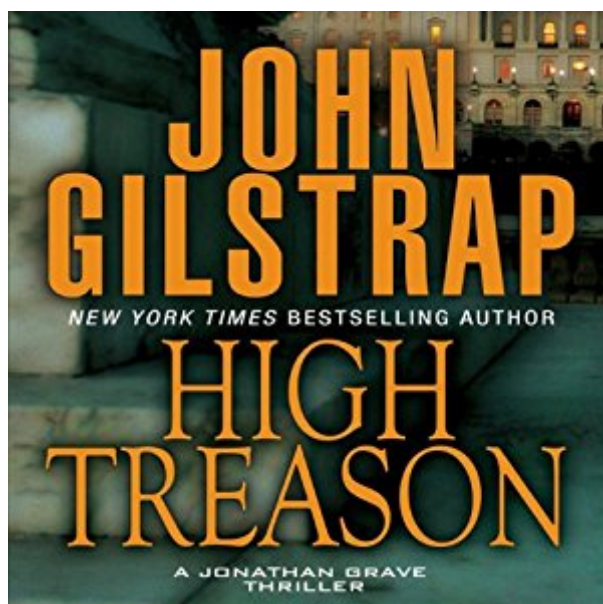


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# High Treason: A Jonathan Grave Thriller, Book 5



## Synopsis

First Lady Anna Darmond has been kidnapped in a bloody gunfight. It's an unthinkable crime that, if revealed, could cause public panic, so hostage rescue specialist Jonathan Grave and his team must operate in absolute secrecy. But the mission is not all it seems. There are shadows in Mrs. Darmond's past; Cracks in the presidential marriage; Leaks in the country's critical shields of security. As Grave tracks the missing First Lady through a labyrinth of lies and murder, he confronts a traitor at the highest level of Washington power - and a devastating scheme to bring a nation to its knees.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

After having read 3 of John Gilstrap's other books I was expecting better. To me this book seemed very disjointed and searching for a cohesive story line and plot for the first 1/3 to 1/2 the book. After that it became the very action packed and enjoyable thrill ride I became accustomed to in the earlier reads. I enjoy reading Gilstrap, this one was just a little lackluster.

I've liked all of the other Grave books a lot, but this one feels...fair. Rushed out. Lots of plot threads that only sort of hang together. Full of side-eye US political commentary that the other books did not contain, and which I am not enjoying at all. I'm disappointed; I was so looking forward to a new Jonathan Grave book, but I would rather have waited longer for a better book.

I used to enjoy Gilstrap books but this one is too much. To call the plot implausible would be an understatement. Jonathan Graves is no longer the engaging hero we met in earlier volumes. His brand of violence and the way he flouts the law just do not work. Worse, the book is BORING.

First off this book is very well written with a good lot and great characters. As usual with Gilstrap books he brings in characters that are good parts to the story but over extend reality. The more books I read by this author the more serious issues I have with Jonathon Graves not having a Rolodex of operators that he can call in a pinch. For a company that is part of the special ops community not to have extra gun for hire around just makes zero sense. Let alone expanding his crew to a four man team rather than just the two. Next for Jonathon Graves to be using civilians just lacks professionalism and common sense. Sadly this type of plot makes reading his books extremely annoying. You would think either an editor or someone at the publishers would enlighten Gilstrap it makes me as a reader think the author must think I am stupid.

I have been a big fan of John Gilstrap so I am angry this latest Jonathan Graves story was sloppy, ill-conceived and not plausible. The story moved along quite well in the beginning, a bit wordy and preachy in spots but alright. The introduction of the two reporters, important to the story was well done, the development of the bad guys was good and in the tradition of the series. Now for the Spoiler Alert... The magic happens when all of a sudden the 'First Lady of the United States' shows up in his office. Yep, just prance into his office and for page after page you sit there saying "what the F...." just happened? Still that was not the worse part. The Mission; to get the family of the 'First Lady of the United States' out of a fortress, on an island, in Canada, with 45 armed bad guys. Who will he take with him to siege the castle? Why the cub reporters and TA-DA, the 'First Lady of the United States'... How stupid. In my disgust at this premise of his hand selected assault team, I read on now with an even more critical eye. Is it trendy to make women action heroes? I don't know what happened to John Gilstrap, if the political correct publishing corporation got to him or what, but when I see stupid stuff like a girl beating up men I am going to call it as a lie by social engineering morons trying to project woman as powerful. Even if it is the "First Lady of the United States" who is supposed to be The "First Grandmother of the United States" physically taking down a Russian Terrorist holding a knife to her grandsons neck, John has entered the manipulative fantasy world of woman studies and girl power. I Give this book a 'C-', just because there were some parts that stayed true to the old thriller, otherwise I call the premise with the 'First Lady of the United States' holding guns and joining the fight team disruptive to the reader and total BS.

Another excellent book - some might say the plot might be unrealistic - they might be incorrect - government corruption runs deep as does terrorism - and then there are the guys in the figurative white hats that make things as right as is possible - Scorpion and Big Guy with help from Mother Hen and Wolverine among others - nice names - better actions - read the series - in order - enjoy - buy all of the books - take a vacation - smile, laugh, cry, get angry, then get happy again - bad guys need someone like the characters in these books to make them see the error in their ways - maybe there are some in real life

I'm not sure what happened, but the characters are very different in this book. Not in a good way. I didn't even finish it and that's very disappointing, because I thought I had found an author who was going to bring consistent quality to recurring characters. Digger seemed to have forgotten certain principles which made him a true leader. Instead he has turned into a verbose and crass drill sergeant. I can't even recognize these characters as those I came to identify sightings previous books. It is almost like this book was written in some previous time and released perhaps years after it was originally written. BLAH.....

Okay, I agree with some of the other readers that this may not have been the best Jonathon Grave novel. Having said that, it is still worth reading. My issue was that unlike the first books I read, this one didn't keep my interest all the way through (Spoiler alert here). There was too much down time as they dealt with the "civilians." I also thought it was a bit unrealistic that these people accompanied them on the mission at the end. How convenient that they were expert marksmen. (Well, one of them was.) Worse, I thought it strange that they were allowed into the inner sanctum of Grave's home and office. (So much for security.) Otherwise, I enjoyed reading the book. I just wish it had been heart-stopping all the way through like his first four were.

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