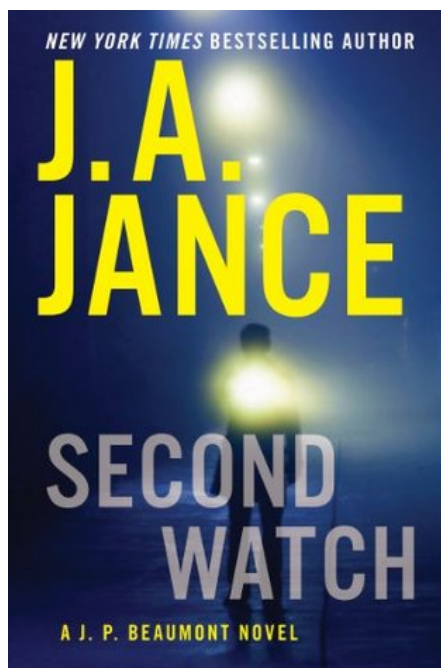




Second Watch: A J. P. Beaumont Novel

J.A. Jance

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Second Watch: A J. P. Beaumont Novel J.A. Jance

With *Second Watch*, *New York Times* bestselling author J. A. Jance delivers another thought-provoking novel of suspense starring Seattle investigator J. P. Beaumont.

Second Watch shows Beaumont taking some time off to get knee replacement surgery, but instead of taking his mind off work, the operation plunges him into one of the most perplexing mysteries he's ever faced.

His past collides with his present in this complex and thrilling story that explores loss and heartbreak, duty and honor, and, most importantly, the staggering cost of war and the debts we owe those who served in the Vietnam War, and those in uniform today.

Second Watch: A J. P. Beaumont Novel Details

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Author : J.A. Jance

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From Reader Review Second Watch: A J. P. Beaumont Novel for online ebook

Mary says

I this 21st J.P. Beaumont is having double knee replacement, and after surgery starts having vivid "dreams" in which he talks to dead people, first a young girl, his first homicide case, he did not solve, and then hid platoon leader from Vietnam. He is upset by this, but keeps it to himself while at the same time trying to do something about it. He ends up getting a 30 year old case reopened, and proceeds to work it from his hospital bed & then from home with a nurse & a walker. The Vietnam story, especially at the end, kept bringing me to tears, I kept telling myself, this is fiction. Then, at the end Jance tells us he was not fiction! Love the shirt story behind the story at the end! Thank you J.A. Jance.

Fredrick Danysh says

While undergoing double knee replacement surgery, Inspector J.P. Beaumont recalls his first unsolved case while in the hospital in which the body of a young woman was found in a barrel of cooking oil. He persuades his boss to re-open the case and things start to go bad for the officer assigned to assist him. A massive four decade coverup is soon apparent.

Betty says

What can you say about A. J. Jance's writing. She has done it again. The story flows through even though she blending 3 different periods of time. 1966, 1973 and the presence time in doing so she has honour the Vietnam Vets. There were tears in my eyes as I finished the story. Had to read it again at once. I have like her stories from the time I read the first one. This one is one of her best.

Kathleen (Kat) Smith says

There's that case that lingers in the mind of every single cop. The one that will never go away. The one in which the victim can never rest. For Detective J.P. Beaumont, that is the case that happened forty years ago. The one that was simply tagged at the Girl in the Barrel. The only reason that it remains on J.P.'s mind is that while undergoing double knee replacement surgery, he's been haunted by the ghost of Monica Wellington, the girl in the barrel. She reminds him of the promise he made to her mother, Hannah, that they would never rest until the case was solved. And they hadn't solved it.

Like another cold case, this one torments the sleeping hours while J.P. recovers in the hospital. Taken back to that time period in rich detail through his dreams he remembers the case as if it just happened. Yet something besides the ghost of Monica is plaguing his sleep. It is why they were never able to solve that case. Taking into consideration, that things like DNA testing and technology were not as prevalent as they are today, he's hoping that he can finally solve the case and lay both Monica's spirit and his conscience to rest.

Now his only issue with not being able to walk or drive is how to reopen a case that was sealed forty years ago while he remains in the hospital? Just what would be his reasoning? He knew that sharing that the ghost of Monica was haunting his dreams wouldn't pass, so he opted for the case that was never solved that every cop wants to see come to a resolved end. J.P. only ghost however isn't just Monica, he's also seeing Lt. Lennie Davis or Lennie D as his friends referred to him. Lennie has something he needs J.P. to do and he can't rest until there is peace in his life, the one he never was able to return home to after serving in Vietnam. So J.P. is once more transported back to Vietnam and that fateful day that changed both of their lives forever.

I received Second Watch by best selling author J.A. Jance compliments of William Morrow, a division of Harper Collins Publishers for my honest review. I received no monetary compensation for a favorable review. This is a first for me, reading J.A. Jance's novels but I absolutely LOVED this one. It truly is a must read for fans of crime murder mystery's or shows like Criminal Minds. In fact while reading it I heard Jack Webb (Dragnet) as the narrator's voice so it really made the novel that believable for me. The flash backs into J.P.'s past were well done and gave you insight into what is the character's motivation to find have absolution and resolution in his life in each of this situations, with one being personal with his past in Vietnam, one he hasn't even shared with his wife and fellow cop, Mel. This is one of those novels that you will think about long after it's over primarily because it's that real. I rate this one a 4.5 out of 5 stars and look forward to reading more from J.A. Vance in the near future.

Robin says

At the start of the book Beau is going under the knife to have both of his knees replaced, and during his drug-induced dreams two dead people from his past appear that inspires him to make amends, even while he is recovering from major surgery.

SECOND WATCH was very moving as J.A. also deals with the Vietnam war and those who died along with the guilt of those who survived. In the last chapter, J.A. discusses the inspiration behind this particular book and it almost had me in tears while on break in the staff room.

As usual, J.A. has crafted a very well done mystery with excellent detective work and many turns along the way, and has also done a stellar job in continuing the development the characters from past books.

I adore the Beaumont books so much that after I finish one I'm left feeling a little melancholy because I know it will be about 2 years before another is published. In between I'll read the latest with Joanna Brady (and ignore the Ali Reynolds as I really can't get into them) and eagerly look forward to Beau coming back.

Sara says

Entertaining story of a police detective who undergoes bilateral knee replacements and, thanks to powerful narcotics, has hallucinations about "unfinished business " from his past. A few interesting twists.

Susie Kline says

I was provided an ARC of this title to review.

Authors like J.A. Jance who speak through many different characters amaze me. Each character has their own distinct and separate personality. Initially, I discovered J.A. Jance through the Joanna Brady series, but quickly went on to read her other series. If I've ever had a crush on a character, it would be J.P. Beaumont, investigator for the state of Washington. In *Second Watch* (which was released on September 10, 2013) Beaumont has just come out of knee replacement surgery--both knees at once! He's dreaming or hallucinating, and his past comes hurtling into the present.

J.P. Beaumont is visited by the ghost of his first homicide victim and the ghost of the man who saved his life back in Vietnam in 1966. He had made a vow to the mother of the first victim that he never fulfilled: he had never been able to discover the identity of the person who killed her and left her body in a barrel of dirty cooking grease. As memories come flooding back about Vietnam, he feels the need all these years later to contact the fiancé of the man who saved his life.

While Jance tells the tale of these two ghosts, seamlessly weaving the past and present together, Beaumont is forced to face other facts. How did he get his promotion into the homicide division of the Seattle Police Department when one wasn't available? Who perpetuated the tale that his first homicide victim was killed by Ted Bundy? Who altered records and stole evidence?

This book made me cry. Jance states on her website: "Once you read it, I think you'll agree that this story belongs to so many in my generation who remain haunted by the Vietnam war." Through Beaumont, I hope she was able to put some of her own ghosts to rest.

Read this book and be prepared to live through Beaumont's ghosts. Jance has a way of making them your own.

This review originally appeared on my blog Motherhoot.com

Bonnie says

J.P. Beaumont finally admits that he needs to have a dual knee replacement. In the recovery room while still very "doped up" he has a series of dreams..... one takes him back to his first murder case as a Homicide Detective, which remains unsolved. While another dream takes him back to his time in Vietnam! Both dreams are a stark reminder of unfinished business! 'The girl in a barrel' case he promised the mother they would find who killed her daughter. He had promised his Lt. that he would find his fiancé & tell her how much he loved her! Both cases are resolved, with many misadventures along the way..... I especially enjoyed the character of Nurse Madge who kept him taking his meds, doing his rehab & eating properly! "The story behind the *Second Watch* was quite interesting & the *Ring in the Dead* novella was also a very interesting story! Thanks to J.A. Janice for another fantastic book!

Vicky says

J.P. Beaumont is my favorite Jance character. I have stuck with Beau through thick and thin. In the 21st book in the series, Beau is in the hospital, recovering from double-knee replacement surgery. While under the influence of the powerful pain-killers, Beau dreams a dream of his first homicide case, the murder of Monica

Wellington. He also receives a visit from his platoon lieutenant from Vietnam, Lennie D. Beau knows there is a reason these two ghosts from his past have come calling; they both need him to finish his responsibilities to them. Beau goes back to the beginning of the investigation of Monica's murder and begins to uncover a vast conspiracy, reaching into the highest ranks of the Seattle P.D. The Murder Book is missing, evidence is missing, HR files are missing and then the detective assigned to assist Beau is murdered by his former beat patrol partner, Beau knows something is rotten. The secondary story concerns Beau's promise to his lieutenant to find his fiancée and tell her the story of how Lennie D. saved his life. It is the heart-breaking story of all the best and brightest young men who went off to Vietnam and lost their lives. the back story will take your breath away with its power. Another well-done book from Jance.

Mike French says

This has to be my favorite J.A.Jance novel yet, It is sort of a prequel, but takes place now. If you haven't read her books yet, you owe it to yourself to start NOW!!! This is book #21 of a series, but I feel it can be read as a stand alone book, as it goes back before her first J.P. Beaumont novel

Cathy says

I love j p Beaumont and have read every one of his books. I don't, however, remember being so weepy while reading other books in the series. It could be the double knee surgery I just endured and like jp have been caught up in pain meds, or it could be that the topics explored are, by definition, emotionally draining. Vietnam? Friendship? Family? Relationships? Unfinished business? Love? Anyway, it was a great read with expected twist resolved nicely.

Debbie says

Wow, while I have always enjoyed reading Jance's books with old J. P. Beaumont as the grumbling old man with the two sore knees, this one was far and above the best one yet!! I guess you could call it a prequel of sorts to all his other books.

The story starts with Beau going to the hospital to finally have those old knees worked on. While under anesthesia, the ghosts of days gone by come to visit him. The first ghost being the murder victim of the first case he had ever worked on, still unsolved, and the second being his Lieutenant, Lennie D., from his duty in Vietnam. The murder victim, Monica Wellington, razzing him because he never solved her murder. And his Lieutenant lamenting about the fiancée he never got to marry before he was killed.

The story is a good one with several twists and plot turns that you never see coming which is always something I like to see in a good mystery.

The best part of this book is at the end when the mysteries are solved and the fiancée learns of how Lennie D. really felt about her at an impromptu Veterans Day service. I already had to get up and leave the restaurant I was sitting at to finish this part of the book before I made a fool of myself. And, that was before I even read the Author's notes.

What a great book with a moving humanitarian ending!! Kudos, J.A. Jance!!!!

Barbara Mitchell says

First, I have to admit that I've been a Jance fan for many years. I love her Sheriff Joanna Brady series but I'm just as much a fan of J. P. Beaumont, her Seattle homicide detective. Earlier this year I read her novella about Beau called Ring in the Dead and if you also read it, you have a kind of head start on characters and locations in Second Watch. Reading that one isn't necessary before reading this one though.

The novella ended with Beau's wife, Mel Soames, driving him to the hospital to have a double knee replacement. Second Watch begins there. Since I was in the hospital part of the time I was reading this book, the part where he is gradually awakening from anesthesia and he's in that weird place where you just don't know for sure what's real and what isn't, I was laughing in empathy. During the drug-induced dreams post-op Beau is visited by two "ghosts" from his past, both of which send him on an investigation.

The first is the victim in his first murder case as a homicide detective, and while we're at it, that promotion was so sudden as to be positively hinky. The investigation is intense and pulls skeletons out of many closets.

The second visitor was his lieutenant in Vietnam. The guy had loaned him a paperback copy of The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich, insisting he read it. Later the book saved his life when schrapnel dug into the book rather than his chest. Suddenly Beau is determined to learn more about the guy and the girl Lennie D. had been engaged to.

All of the characters are, as usual for Jance, excellent but one will have you laughing out loud. Since the doctor won't let Beau go home alone and Mel is out of town on an important case, he hires a nurse his doorman knows. She is one of those old-fashioned nurses who gives you your marching orders and you had better behave, or else. It doesn't take Beau long to learn that if he wants to live, he should shut up and do what she says. You will absolutely love her.

Please read the afterword. It tells us one reason the characters in this one are obviously created from the heart. Hint: the lieutenant was from Bisbee where Jance grew up.

Recommended highly. Please do read this book. As they say, you'll laugh, you'll cry, and you'll have a wonderful time. This is one you'll sigh and hold to your heart as you turn the last page.

Source: publisher via Partners in Crime Book Tours

Julie says

Second Watch by J.A. Jance is a 2013 William Morrow publication.

In the ever evolving world of J.P. Beaumont we much face the facts and accept J.P. Is aging, and so we open the story with our favorite homicide detective going in for dual knee replacement surgery. OUCH! Coming out of anesthesia, Beaumont has a vision or hallucination in the recovery room that has him thinking back on the first case he worked as a detective. He had promised the victim's mother he would find out whomurdered her daughter, but as the cases began piling up, Beaumont and his partner just couldn't keep up and the murder wound up being accredited to Ted Bundy although there was no real evidence to back that up, so the case went cold. Now Beaumont feels compelled to look into the matter while he is laid up. He also

finds that without his wife around at the moment, and his being stationary, his memories are flooding back in regards to more than an old case. His military background also has a few open chapters Beaumont would like to see closed. His old friend Joanna Brady gives him a hand with this part of the story.

Beaumont can't work cases like he once did and so it stands to reason he might need some repairs done to his body, while his mind is still quite sharp and active. This case takes him to a place he never dreamed it would when his investigation gets someone very upset and more murders occur. Meanwhile, Mel has her hands full with a public relations nightmare, leaving Beaumont to his own devices.

I have stated many times that of the three series Jance writes, Beaumont is my favorite. (I also like his teaming up with Joanna)

Beaumont is more complicated and ridden with more demons, and his stories are always unique and perhaps a touch darker than the other two series. Beaumont fans might find this one a little off the beaten path from what they have come to expect, but I enjoy seeing cold cases solved, so this installment was especially rewarding. I know that as Beaumont grows older his life will change and the dynamic of the series will reflect those changes, but still, Beaumont is a tough, no nonsense, old school detective and always will be. 4 stars

Bonnie says

My husband and I listened to this book while in the car and both liked it a lot. As always, Ms. Jance constructed an interesting and involving plot. I could really relate to Detective Beaumont having a knee replacement as I went through that experience four years ago, but luckily only for one knee. Listening to the audiobook, we had the bonus of listening to the backstory of some of the characters in the book, which was very interesting. I don't know if it's in the print versions, but it's worth reading or listening to as the case may be.
