

John Padula Name

Word Count around 1030 words

1125 words Address

Crime Court

by John Padula

After the world crash of 2020, every country on planet Eearth filed for bankruptcy. With no entity large enough to bail the entire planet out, the government ~~is forced to cease~~ existence ceases to exist.

—In the "nNew wWorld," the world of 2021, all laws have been abolished, and crime has been legalized. The land is lorded over by renegades, and looting is an encouraged career path. The world of 2021 is ~~the a~~ world of crime, villainy, and destruction. In this world of the distant future, ~~the world of the distant future~~, one game show rules supreme, and that show is...

### CRIME COURT<sub>[KD1]</sub>

The rules of crime court are simple: commit as many crimes as possible. Also, there are no rules. Those who commit the most crimes during CRIME COURT win, but those who do not commit enough crimes, lose.

~~On this episode of CRIME COURT,~~<sub>[KD2]</sub> ~~we follow~~ The most bloodthirsty trio of savage, cannibal-degenerates on CRIME COURT are known as the "Jones Street Eliminators." ~~We~~ open Opening up in the heart of the "Jones Street Eliminators" hideout, ~~which it~~ seems to be hidden deep in an underground area somewhere along Jones Sstreet. Glass block windows let in ~~as little light as possible,~~ only a sliver of light to keep the Eeliminators in a constant state of nocturnal prowling. Bare, concrete floors and unfinished walls are effectively placed to simulate urban fight-zones, which helps to keep the Eeliminators at a constant ~~alert level~~ high level of alert. There is also a water heater.

The Eliminators are gathered around their diabolical scheming table, where they are ~~no~~ doubt undoubtedly planning crime. The first member of the "Jones Street Eliminators," John Texas, is hunched up and, gathering energy, on a ~~patched together~~ handmade recliner. The aforementioned recliner is, without a doubt, ~~of no doubt~~ constructed out of the bones and stolen

garments of Mr. Texas's victims, ~~and~~ this throne stands as a testament to the man's cruelty, and craftsmanship. Not only that, but John Texas is also hiding himself under a heavy, stolen blanket, ~~no doubt stolen~~, keeping himself unseen in case of a sneak attack.

To his left is the dubious, ~~the~~ disgusting, and the downright despicable, Jackie Tiger. Ms. Jackie Tiger ~~also~~ seems to be concurrently preparing for a sneak attack. She has chosen an effective hiding position on the couch, which is ~~no doubt~~ stained with the blood of countless criminal activities, ~~and~~ While waiting, she has made herself as flat as possible against ~~the~~ cushions. Like her colleague in evil thievery, John Texas, Jackie Tiger has also used a blanket of some sort to completely camouflage herself from potential enemies. This blanket, however, ~~is, of~~ ~~no doubt, is~~ made of the hides of the many countless baby seals ~~Jackie she brutally has~~ clubbed to death with her bare hand. Jackie pretends to close both of her eyes, but we all know what's going on, she's actually keeping both eyes open very slightly, to give the illusion of some sort of sleepy weakness while still maintaining complete ocular authority.

~~And Finally,~~ to Jackie's left sits the most terrible, ~~the~~ most horrible, and the biggest fucking asshole of the "Jones Street Eliminators," Charlie, "The Mmurderer"; Miller. Charlie is sitting on the ground, ~~ready to pounce, while also~~ flipping through the channels of his "crime" television set, ready to pounce. Charlie is ~~no doubt~~ unquestionably checking the channels to gain intel on the next group of people he is going to viciously murder. ~~Let's watch and see what this sicko's next move is...~~

——— You can tell by the way he's pressing the buttons on the remote that he is ready for crime. And oh? What's this?

"On this episode of CRIME COURT, we follow a bloodthirsty trio of savage, cannibal-degenerates known as the "Jones Street Eliminators." We open up in the heart of the..." the TV alerts Charlie.

"Hey guys, wake up!" ~~screams~~ Charlie, clearly dazzled, screams at the other two.

It looks like Charlie, the killer, shithead ringleader, is about to divulge whatever dubious deeds he's been plotting to the rest of his crew. Ms. Tiger and Mr. Texas seem to be, metaphorically, "awakened" from their positions.

"Look at this, we're on crime court," he screeche's; in diabolical shock, ~~realizing that he is currently on this very episode of CRIME COURT.~~

"That's cool," Jackie bellows.

"What should we do?" ~~hisses~~ John asks; hatefully.

"Crime... I guess," howls Charlie, harrowingly.

It And it appears as if the flowers of rampage are about soon to bloom. There is a look in John Texas's eyes that ~~I simply cannot describe~~ are indescribable, it's as if he has taken the form of a massive, crime, entity. He's getting up from his bone throne, and... what's he doing, ~~BANG, oh my goodness folks, how malicious, how terrible, what a vile monster.~~

"Why'd you just hit the TV?" shrieks Charlie, ~~incredulously.~~

"Crime!" ~~says John, in a rage.~~ John howls in a rage.

"Oh, fair," says Charlie, in a haze of rabid fluster.

Disgusting, ~~Disgusting. Disgusting. a~~ Absolutely disgusting. ~~Folks it looks like the Crime Court has made its decision, and what's this? There's somebody at the door. They're kicking~~ At that moment, somebody kicks in the door, The stranger and it looks like they're wearing some kind-sort of strange robes. ~~He's stepping in from the rain. What's this folks? It~~

~~appears this strange shadowy figure is in fact the Judge. As he steps in from the rain, he can be~~  
~~recognized as the Judge.~~

"Today, on August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021, we, the Crime Court, find the defendant, John Texas, GUILTY ~~GUILTY GUILTY~~, and we sentence him to a life of FREEDOM." ~~b~~Booms the Judge.

"Oh, that's cool. Hey, Jackie I think I'm ~~gonna~~ head out!" shouts John, maniacally.

"Alright, see you later dude." roars Jackie, ~~loudly~~ in her outside voice.

"Later!" says John, ~~pissed~~.

~~And it looks like~~ The -criminal, crime kingpin John Texas, is headed out the door. Clear  
 the streets and lock your doors folks, this man is ~~sicksick~~, and he could be coming for any of  
 you. That's all for CRIME COURT, tune in tomorrow for another thrilling episode of CRIME  
 COURT, and stick around for the POST CRIME COURT dialogue...

And here it is folks: <sup>[KD3]</sup>

"He forgot his umbrella." Charlie says in a loud, disappointed, and angry tone of voice,  
~~no doubt Charlie, "The Killer" Miller is both loud and angry.~~

It appears as if John Texas, whilst standing in the rain, is about to ~~monologue~~ wistfully  
~~monologue to the camera. let's see what he has to say.~~ "It's only been a few minutes since I  
 walked out of Jackie's basement, but now, as I'm walking in the rain, I feel like my life is  
 different ~~now~~. Before today, I was just John Texas, but what am I now? A criminal, or a  
 freeman? It's strange, when I was a kid, courts used to enforce something, justice or equality.  
 But now, what now? Crime is encouraged. It says a lot about things if you ask me. I don't know  
 how I feel. Is my punishment freedom? ~~or is~~ my punishment the crime itself? ~~Is or is~~ my  
 freedom the punishment? Crime is freedom. Freedom is power. Power is crime. Crime is

Freedom. Power is power. This says a lot," mMonologues John Texas, wistfully. But, also  
aAngrily.

# Memo

To: John Padula  
From: Demitri Kanellopoulos  
CC: Kate Birdsall  
Date: October 31, 2019

## Re "Crime Court" Manuscript

**Overview:** This memo is made to help clarify the changes that I've made. While editing your piece, I stuck tightly to the style guide as well as using the Chicago Manual of Style. If any work that I have done is up in the air, please refer to the Chicago Manual of Style for clarification. I made a few read throughs before diving into the editing, and I'm glad I had. After becoming comfortable with the piece, I noticed the humor and charm in it. In my edits I hoped to keep those aspects that you grasped. You may notice a few formatting changes to your work as well. I formatted it up to terms with the Chicago Manual of Style and to the Style Sheet. You also made my job very easy when it came to dialogue. You had the dialogue format down perfectly in "Crime Court."

**Point of View:** Something that showed up on the Style Sheet is the fact that there should be a consistent point of view. I noticed that in "Crime Court" there were often switches between a regular narrator and the host of a game show. Some of my edits reflect the fact that I tried to get this to only one point of view. I edited your story to keep the general narrator. The game show aspect is very unique, and I made sure it was kept and referred to in several sections such as when Charlie hears it on the TV.

### Queries:

Q1: As you can find on the Style Sheet, titles should be italicized. "CRIME COURT" shows up in several places and I suggest changing it to "*Crime Court*" throughout the piece.

Q2: As stated in the "Point of View" section of this memo, the point of view was something I had in mind a lot while editing. Here, I deleted the intro to this sentence to keep a consistent point of view and take away the game show host narration.

Q3: This was also a problem of point of view. Everything that I have highlighted for Q3 I would suggest deleting, as it is not necessary. However, I do think that adding a few minor details in its place could not hurt.

**Conclusion:** I was impressed in the way that you made this idea work. I think that while writing and going over the edits you should just be mindful of the point of view mostly. Other corrections I made are simple grammar, formatting, or sentence mistakes. The descriptions and the characters work extremely well with each other, and the ending wraps it all up with a nice message. Again, just to make sure you don't miss this, there were a few formatting issues I corrected. I made sure to include your name, title, and page number in the top right of each page. Also, I formatted your first page up to standards with the Style Sheet.

Best,  
Dimitri Kanellopoulos