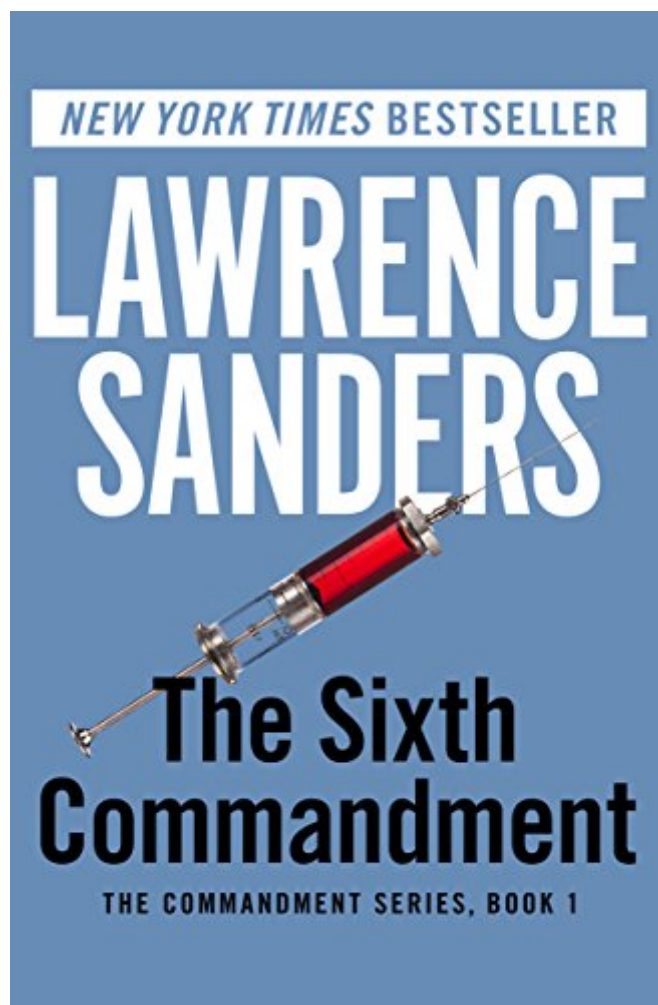


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The Sixth Commandment (The Commandment Series Book 1)



Synopsis

A New York Times “bestselling thriller of medicine and murder by an Edgar Award-winning legend of suspense. The Bingham Foundation is one of the most important scientific charities in the country, giving grants that can make or break a researcher’s career. When they get a proposal that seems too good to be true, they send hardened investigator Samuel Todd to confirm that the science holds up. A cynical detective with a sixth sense for deception and a bad habit of committing adultery, Todd has never met a liar he couldn’t crack. But he’s never met anyone like T. G. Thorndecker. Thorndecker won the Nobel Prize in his thirties, and his work continues to push the outer limits of modern technology. After years of secret research, he claims to have made a breakthrough in the war against aging. When he requests a million-dollar grant from the Bingham Foundation, Todd goes to find out if he’s on the level. As he digs into the demise of Thorndecker’s first wife and late-night happenings in the lab, Todd comes face to face with a medical mystery that blurs the line between life and death. The author of the bestselling Edward X. Delaney series, called “a master of suspense” by the Washington Post, was one of the most popular thriller authors of the twentieth century. The Sixth Commandment shows that his work remains as irresistibly exciting as ever.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Of all Lawrence Sanders' many novels - and I've read a hefty selection of `em over the years - THE SIXTH COMMANDMENT is arguably my favorite. Sanders never came up with a fundamentally stranger story, or wrote in a more deeply atmospheric or evocative vein. This isn't so much a mystery novel as a long, perilous walk in the fog: it's dark, it's brooding, it's haunting, and it has just enough twists on its path to keep you engaged until the very end. Samuel Todd is an investigator for a foundation which grants large sums of money to deserving scientists throughout the country. A brilliant but somewhat reclusive researcher named Gordon Teleford Thorndecker has applied for money to further his research into the aging process, and Todd's job is to travel to the shabby backwater town of Coburn, New York, poke around Thorndecker's lab, and determine if he's worthy of the bucks. Sounds simple...but it isn't. You see, Todd comes to town with some age-related baggage himself: he's a young man dating an older woman who he deeply loves but can't commit to because, damn it, he can't get past the age difference. When he meets Thorndecker - and Thorndecker's super-hot young wife, Julie - he realizes the scientist is in the same boat, but in reverse; the genius' obsession with aging stems partially from his need to remain attractive to his sultry bride. And this begins a very twisted tale about lust, corruption, forbidden knowledge, and a small-town's very dark, very well-kept secret; a secret, it turns out, which is not only worth lying for, but killing for. The cast of characters is hefty but, unlike some of Sanders' weaker books, very interesting.

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