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# Judge Walden: Back in Session

By Peter Murphy  
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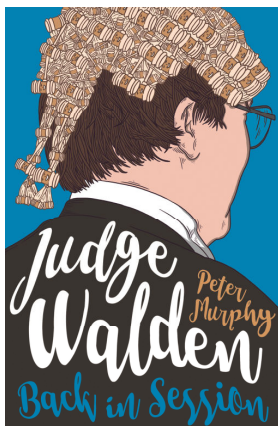
*A major TV drama based on the Walden of Bermondsey stories is currently being developed.*

*"Judge Charles Walden is amply qualified for inclusion in any list of fictional National Treasures."* - Lord Judge, former Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales

## **Praise for Walden of Bermondsey:**

*'No one writes with more wit, warmth and insight about the law and its practitioners than Peter Murphy. He has no equal since the great John 'Rumpole' Mortimer'* - David Ambrose

*'Though his exasperation is palpable, what triumphs over everything is his sense of humour. And it is the humour that makes Walden of Bermondsey such a delightful read. Think of him as what Rumpole would be like if he ever became a judge, and you get some idea of his self-deprecating wit and indomitable stoicism.'* - Paul Magrath



- The second book in the Walden of Bermondsey series.
- A succession of fascinating cases presided over by Judge Walden at his South London Crown Court and a humorous look behind the scenes at the characters who make it run.
- Peter Murphy is a former Judge of the Crown Court. His 2013 ruling dealing with the wearing of religious dress in the courtroom (including the burka) attracted international media coverage and set the precedent still used today.
- Judge Walden has many satirical encounters with "The Grey Smoothies", the all-powerful civil servants concerned with extracting value for money from the court system. In fact, the court system (like the NHS, police and other more visible public services) is being degraded by austerity cutbacks, which have led to the closure of many courts, the destruction of legal aid, loss of staff, attacks on the independence of the judiciary, and low morale. Peter Murphy is available to comment on these issues.

When Charlie Walden took on the job of Resident Judge of the Bermondsey Crown Court, he was hoping for a quiet life. But he soon finds himself struggling to keep the peace between three feisty fellow judges who have very different views about how to do their job, and about how Charlie should do his.

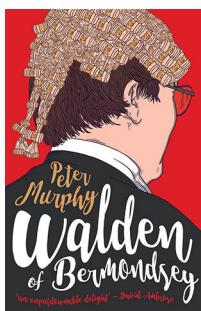
And as if that's not enough, there's the endless battle against the 'Grey Smoothies', the humourless grey-suited civil servants who seem determined to drown Charlie in paperwork and strip the court of its last vestiges of civilisation.

No hope of a quiet life then for Charlie, and there are times when his real job - trying the challenging criminal cases that come before him - actually seems like light relief.

In this second volume, retired resident judge Peter Murphy shines an irreverent, satirical light on the world of wigs, gowns and old-world courtesies. He takes us back to South London, where fortunately, Charlie still has Jeanie and Elsie's lattes and ham and cheese baps, and newspaper vendor George's witty banter, to sustain him in the mornings; and in the evenings, the Delights of the Raj, or La Bella Napoli, to enjoy with the Reverend Mrs Walden.

#### About the Author

Peter Murphy graduated from Cambridge University and spent a career in the law, as an advocate, teacher, and judge. He has worked both in England and the United States, and served for several years as counsel at the Yugoslavian War Crimes Tribunal in The Hague. In addition to the Judge Walden books, he has written two political thrillers about the US presidency, and six historical/legal thrillers in the Ben Schroeder series; as well as several well-known legal texts. He lives in Cambridgeshire.



***Judge Walden: Back in Session* is published by No Exit Press and will be available in paperback and ebook on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2018**

**The previous book in the series, *Walden of Bermondsey*, is also available at all good retailers in paperback and ebook.**

For more information visit: [www.petermurphyauthor.co.uk](http://www.petermurphyauthor.co.uk)