

"Suzy's Case" by Andy Siegel

By far, this is a book that should be nominated for the most heart-wrenching material published all year.

At the very heart of this novel is a little African-American girl named, Suzy Williams, and her loving mother, June. As readers are introduced to this tale, they quickly meet Tug Wyler, a personal injury attorney who is out to see that justice is done even if the case has been deemed 'a loss.'

Tug is very much a hero for the people who seem to be 'left behind' in cases where the plaintiff is poor and cannot hire fancy attorneys. These are the people who have no hope against the defendant, which is usually a large corporation with lots of funds that don't want to accept blame, or lose any of their ill-gotten gains. Tug is asked by Henry Benson, a criminal lawyer with a multitude of clients who are in need of the sort of 'risk-taker' that Tug is, to take over the case.

When he receives Suzy's dilemma, who was injured in the hospital when she was hooked up to a faulty medical machine that left her severely brain-damaged, the case is already six-years-old, and Suzie's mom, June, has been trying to get restitution from the hospital for all this time. Of course, with a flock of lawyers that are more hard-hitting than the Green Bay Packers defense, the hospital has been winning all along. Benson just wants Tug to make the case go away and to get out of it gracefully. Tug doesn't want to admit defeat, however, and when he meets the Williams' girls, he becomes like a dog with a bone. By taking the case, Tug finds all sorts of cover-ups and underhanded things that went on in that hospital six years ago and becomes determined to win for Suzy.

A book that will make people sit up and take notice. This author, who is a personal injury and medical malpractice attorney, certainly knows his subject and will dazzle the reader more than once with his expertise. By the end of the book you're practically standing up and chanting, "Suzy! Suzy!" (just like the ultimate Rocky Balboa fight). Mr. Siegel has been named 'Super Lawyer for 2011' and *should* be named Super Writer, as well.

Reviewed by Amy Lignor, author of "Tallent & Lowery-13" for Suspense Magazine