



Criminal Defense Law Firm in Massachusetts

What is Hearsay?

Hearsay is simply a statement made outside of the courtroom offered in evidence to prove the truth of the matter asserted in the statement. The statement means a person's oral assertion, written assertion, or nonverbal conduct. Why is this important, you ask? Because many criminal cases live or die by this legal concept. Consider the following hypothetical: after last call, the patrons of a bar spill out into the parking lot. Two people, call them Johnny and Billy, get into a verbal argument that allegedly turns physical. Johnny claims Billy struck him on the head, so he calls the police. The police ask Johnny what happened, and he tells them that Billy hit him on the head with a closed fist. The police don't see any injuries and there are no eyewitnesses. The police then ask Billy what happened. Because he reads these newsletters, he politely tells the police that he's invoking his 5th Amendment right to remain silent. Several months later, the case goes to trial. Billy is the defendant. The police officer who came to the parking lot that night, along with Johnny, are both summoned by the prosecutor to testify at trial. Only the police officer shows up to testify. Can the police officer testify about what Johnny told him? In other words, can the police officer say, "Johnny told me that Billy struck him over the head with a closed fist?" It's hearsay. It's an out-of-court statement (it was said in the parking lot) used to prove the truth of the matter (that Billy did in fact strike Johnny). Billy's lawyer would have a valid objection. Thus, without Johnny at trial to say what happened, the case cannot move forward because Johnny's statement to the police officer is hearsay. The case would get dismissed.

Documentary

Tim's Vermeer. This is one of the best documentaries I've ever seen. It's spellbinding and fascinating. The basics are that this inventor named Tim thinks he's figured out how Johannes Vermeer, the famous 17th-century Dutch painter, created his masterpieces. Tim—who has never painted before—tests out his theory to his, and my, utter astonishment.

[Tim's Vermeer on Amazon](#)

Music

Dark Academia Classical Playlist

Many people, me included, do deep work with music playing in the background. I've never been about to fully concentrate unless the music is purely instrumental. For that reason, I listen to a lot of jazz and classical. Here's an Amazon playlist that I've been loving recently



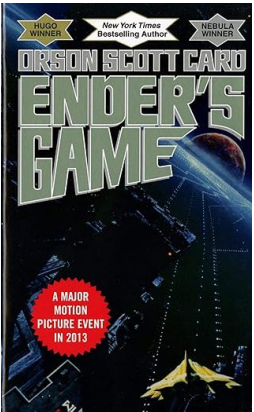
[Spotify](#)

Recommended Reading

[Ender's Game](#)

By: Orson Scott Card

This is a bestseller for a reason. Even if you don't read sci-fi, you should make an exception for this because it's that good. It's about a brilliant child and how he saves the human race from an alien species.



[Awareness](#)

By: Anthony De Mello

The heart of Anthony de Mello's bestselling spiritual message is awareness. Mixing Christian spirituality, Buddhist parables, Hindu breathing exercises, and psychological insight, de Mello's words of hope come together in *Awareness* in a grand synthesis.

