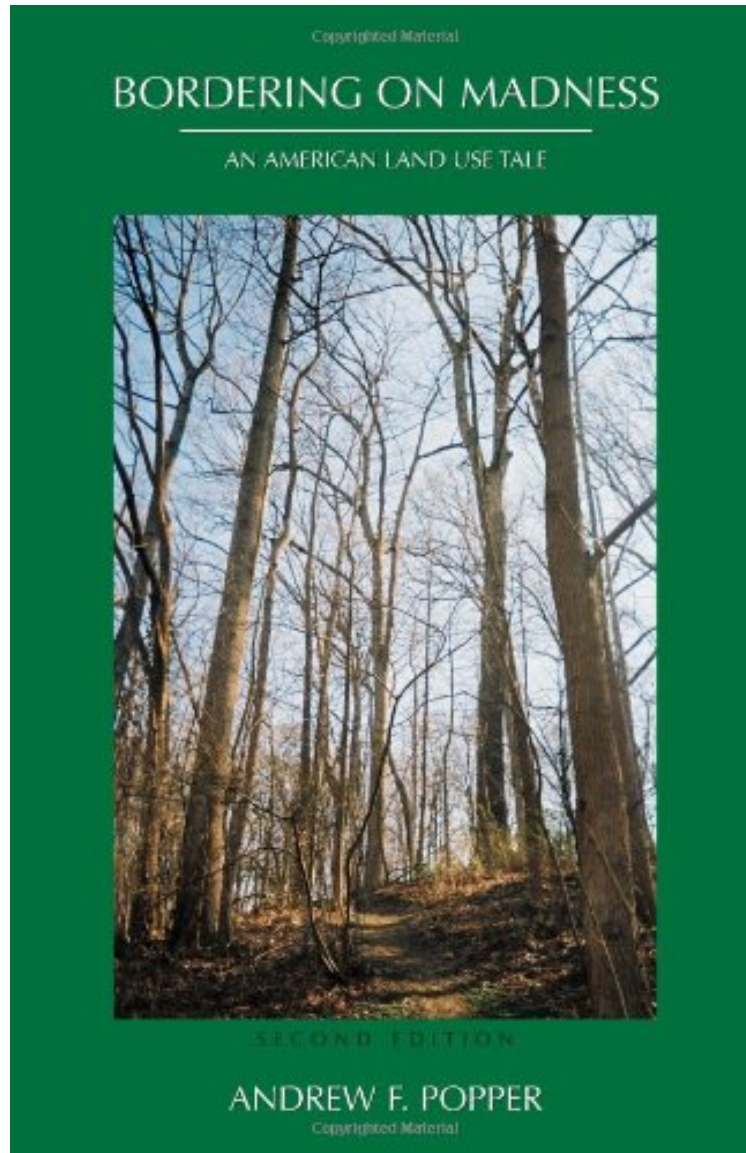


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Bordering on Madness: An American Land Use Tale, Second Edition

Andrew F. Popper

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Andrew F. Popper : *Bordering on Madness: An American Land Use Tale, Second Edition* before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Bordering on Madness: An American Land Use Tale, Second Edition*:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. beach reading about a rezoning By Michael Lewyn This entertaining,

easy-to-read book tells a story of a rezoning application leading to murder and mayhem, with crazed NIMBY (Not In My Back Yard) activists fighting a vengeful mobster. Of course, this tale is not particularly realistic; most zoning disputes involve more compromise than this one. And the book's discussion of legal issues is pretty thin; you wouldn't learn the difference between a variance and a rezoning by reading it. But if you're going to read a novel, you might as well read one with some educational content- and this filled the bill for me. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Are you kidding me? By Kay A. Frankly, this book didn't do it for me. It was like watching (reading) a really BAD episode of Law and Order. On more than occasion the plot/writing made me cringe and created uncomfortable moments in my head. Does it address land use issues in a fictional setting? Yes, but the cheesy fiction story attached to it overshadows the lessons or expose on land use issues the author is trying to get across. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent book By David J. Plante Excellent book! Although not written by a planner, this book sums up the harrowing situations some planners may find themselves in. I would recommend this book as part of any good planner's ethics library!

Bordering on Madness is a novel about a battle between a university and a community over proposed construction of a new campus facility. As the land use fight ripens, the homeowners and university become combatants. The opposition becomes the enemy, depersonalized and reprehensible. From a teaching perspective, the novel allows for discussion of conventional and unconventional land use strategies as well as the development of a number of issues: When does one person have the right to control the lawful use of property owned by another? When does aggressive advocacy become unethical, unacceptable misconduct? What is the role of government when it comes to disputes between those opposed to development and those seeking approval of a proposed project? What are the best ways to handle the anger and frustration of individuals threatened by what they perceive as destructive change?

Drawn from his real-life experience, Popper has skillfully woven a tale that captures the essence of community conflict in an emotionally charged zoning war over university development. A must-read for lawyers and other professionals who labor in the trenches of building permits, zoning and land-use planning. If you like the writings of John Grisham, you will love this land use battle. --Maureen Dwyer, Managing Partner, DC Office, Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP
About the Author Andrew F. Popper is a professor at American University College of Law.