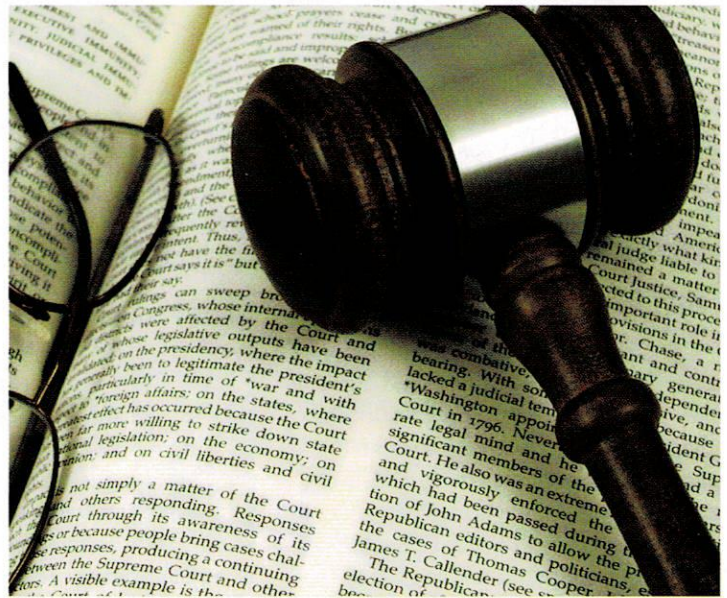


what one book

Expert recommendations on a selected topic

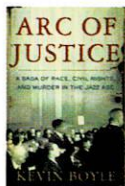
LANDMARK COURT CASES



THE U.S. SUPREME COURT convened for the first time in 1790. Since then, various plaintiffs and defendants in the United States have tested the boundaries of law—and society. The following scholars recommend the best fiction and nonfiction books on landmark court cases.

Kevin Boyle

HISTORIAN

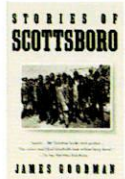


Kevin Boyle teaches American history at Ohio State. His most recent book, *Arc of Justice: A Saga of Race, Civil Rights, and Murder in the Jazz Age*

(★★★★ Nov/Dec 2004) received the 2004 National Book Award for Nonfiction. It was also a finalist for the 2005 Pulitzer Prize in history.

STORIES OF SCOTTSBORO

By James E. Goodman (1994)



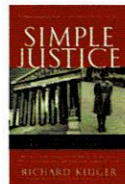
Goodman's kaleidoscopic examination of the infamous Scottsboro case—nine young African Americans accused of rape in 1930s Alabama—is at once a literary

tour de force and a reminder of racism's fierce power. In a series of brief, brilliantly

conceived chapters, Goodman explores the case from the perspectives of the accusers, the judge, the prosecutor, the defense attorneys, and a variety of politicians and activists. But it's the terrifying story of the Scottsboro boys themselves, the youngest all of 13 years old, that's truly haunting.

SIMPLE JUSTICE

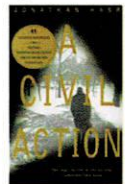
The History of *Brown v. Board of Education* and Black America's Struggle for Equality
By Richard Kluger (1975)



If *Stories of Scottsboro* captures the horrors of racial injustice, *Simple Justice* stands as a testament of hope. A riveting recreation of the Supreme Court case that shattered segregation's legal foundation, *Simple Justice* carries readers from the battered black schools of the Jim Crow South, where *Brown* began, to the marble halls of the Supreme Court, where the case's resolution changed the course of the nation.

A CIVIL ACTION

By Jonathan Harr (1995)

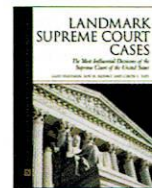


Harr is one of the finest nonfiction writers working today, and *A Civil Action* is his masterwork. The civil suit that eight Massachusetts families brought against W.

R. Grace and Beatrice Foods may not be a legal landmark. But in Harr's hands it comes to symbolize the profound imperfections and possibilities of the American legal system.

Roy Mersky

PROFESSOR OF LAW

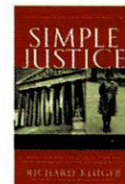


Roy M. Mersky is Harry Reasoner Regents Chair in Law and director of the Tarlton Law Library at the University of

Texas at Austin School of Law. He is the author of numerous books and is currently working on a three-volume work summarizing significant decisions of the U.S. Supreme Court. This work will be an expansion of his earlier book, *Landmark Cases of the U.S. Supreme Court*.

SIMPLE JUSTICE

The History of *Brown v. Board of Education* and Black America's Struggle for Equality
By Richard Kluger (1975)

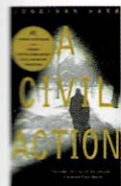


This book is widely regarded as the definitive account of the case of *Brown v. Board of Education*. *Simple Justice* provides the fullest possible examination of the litigation

and principal characters involved, including Thurgood Marshall and Chief Justice Earl Warren. The book is engaging and dramatic, as well as respected by all legal historians for its careful analysis.

A CIVIL ACTION

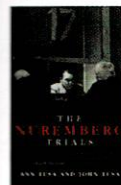
By Jonathan Harr (1995)



There is probably no other book that has better helped the general public understand the process of gathering and presenting evidence in a civil trial. *A Civil Action* presents an inside look at a case in which chemical companies are accused of polluting groundwater with cancer-causing agents. It has had a substantial impact on the public perception of legal proceedings and has been widely used in law schools as a teaching tool. *A Civil Action* was later made into a popular movie starring John Travolta.

THE NUREMBERG TRIALS

By Ann and John Tusa (2003)



Arguably the best of the many books published concerning the Nuremberg Trials, the Tusas' book is a carefully documented yet very readable account of the trials of the leading Nazi war criminals: Ann Tusa is a historian and John Tusa is a journalist. It is a very timely work that raises questions about accountability for crimes against humanity, especially after the fall of Saddam Hussein's regime.

Douglas O. Linder

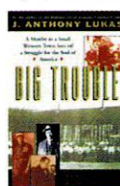
PROFESSOR OF LAW

Douglas O. Linder, a professor of law at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, is the creator of Famous Trials, the Web's most extensive collection of materials on famous trials—from the trial of Socrates to that of O. J. Simpson. The site includes Linder's own trial accounts, as well as trial transcripts, trial exhibits, maps, images, chronologies, and bibliographic materials for each of 48 historic trials. I came close to including probably the most obvious choice, Anthony Lewis's *Gideon's Trumpet*, and I also strongly

considered Jeffrey Toobin's take on the Simpson trial, *The Run of His Life*.

BIG TROUBLE

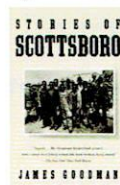
A Murder in a Small Western Town Sets off a Struggle for the Soul of America
By J. Anthony Lukas (1997)



Two-time Pulitzer Prize winner J. Anthony Lukas spent the last seven years of his life researching and writing this account of the 1907 murder trial of labor leader "Big Bill" Haywood for his assassination of Idaho's former governor. Lukas brilliantly uses the trial as a vehicle to explore the conflicts in the western mines at the turn of the century, including class warfare. It's a large book set in a large country and filled with large people: Haywood, of course, but also America's greatest defense attorney (Clarence Darrow), America's greatest detective (Pinkerton agent James McParland), Socialist leader Eugene Debs, and our most colorful president, Theodore Roosevelt. Consider Lukas's cultural detours a product of his driving curiosity and fondness for the large canvas—and enjoy the scenery.

STORIES OF SCOTTSBORO

By James E. Goodman (1994)

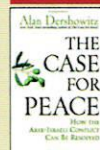


Stories of Scottsboro is a kaleidoscopic account of a pivotal event in America's civil rights struggles: the trials and tribulations suffered by nine black youths accused of gang-raping two white women during a Southern Railroad freight run in 1931. Though no rapes occurred (as all now agree), the trials of "the Scottsboro Boys" made celebrities out of anonymities, launched and ended careers, wasted lives and produced heroes, opened southern juries to blacks, exacerbated sectional strife, and divided America's political left. Goodman uses the fresh approach of telling the complex, multidecade story from the perspectives of the trial participants. The technique allows readers to gain an understanding of the trial from the points of view of the defense attorney, the prosecutors, the judge, the white southern jurors and spectators, and the northerners watching the trial unfold in newspaper accounts.



Alan M. Dershowitz

PROFESSOR OF LAW AND LAWYER



A Brooklyn native who has been called "the nation's most peripatetic civil liberties lawyer" and "the best-known criminal lawyer in the world," Alan M. Dershowitz is the Felix Frankfurter Professor of Law at Harvard Law School. While he has defended clients such as Anatoly Sharansky, Claus von Bülow, O. J. Simpson, Michael Milken, and Mike Tyson, he also represents indigent defendants and takes half of his cases pro bono.

FAVORITES

IN COLD BLOOD

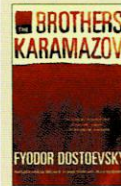
By Truman Capote (1966)



It takes real literary talent to make us care about two cold-blooded mass murderers.

THE BROTHERS KARAMAZOV

By Fyodor Dostoevsky (1880)

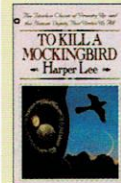


The greatest psychological murder mystery ever written. Great trial scenes.

LEAST FAVORITE

TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD

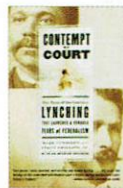
By Harper Lee (1960)



What's the conflict? Representing an innocent man! What if Harper Lee had made him guilty? Would everyone still love Atticus Finch? ■

CONTEMPT OF COURT

The Turn-of-the-Century Lynching That Launched a Hundred Years of Federalism
By Mark Curriden and Leroy Phillips, Jr. (1999)



Only once in its long history has a criminal trial been conducted before the U.S. Supreme Court, which usually occupies itself only with various sorts of criminal

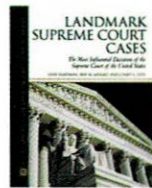
appeals rather than deciding on guilt. The lone trial—and a fascinating story of heroism and tragedy—is detailed in *Contempt of Court*, written by *Dallas Morning News* reporter Mark Curriden and Chattanooga attorney Leroy Phillips. The story they tell—of a rape, a wrongful conviction, the heroic effort of a black attorney who wins a last-minute stay of execution from Washington, a lynch mob (with a sheriff's tacit support) storming a jail, and finally an outraged Supreme Court striking back by bringing criminal contempt charges against the sheriff and mob leaders—is gripping and disturbing.

Russell Weaver & Donald E. Lively PROFESSORS OF LAW

Russell Weaver is Professor of Law and Distinguished University Scholar at the University of Louisville's Louis D. Brandeis School of Law. He has written more than 40 books and approximately 75 articles, with a heavy emphasis on issues concerning constitutional law, the First Amendment, and criminal procedure. Professor Donald E. Lively is a prominent constitutional law scholar as well as the founding dean of two law schools. He serves as Vice President for Development at Infilaw, a holding group that owns three major law schools.

LANDMARK SUPREME COURT CASES SINCE ROE V. WADE

By Russell L. Weaver & Donald E. Lively (2006)



This book is designed to appeal to a broad range of audiences—from the novice to the scholar. It identifies cases over the past few decades that

have defined the Constitution in a profound way and, derivatively, the society that it governs. The book provides relevant details of cases, historical insight and analysis, and competing perspectives on the cases' outcomes. Unlike many publications that examine the U.S. Supreme Court's decisions, this book distinguishes itself not just as a reference guide or a narrative but as a stimulus for thought about the role of the judiciary.

RESTORING THE LOST CONSTITUTION

The Presumption of Liberty
By Randy Barnett (2004)

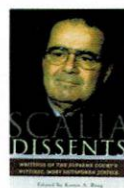


Randy Barnett, a law professor at Boston University, persuasively argues that the Constitution as interpreted today and applied by the U.S. Supreme Court bears

little resemblance to the Constitution envisioned by the Founders. Applying an "originalist" approach to constitutional understanding, Barnett demonstrates how the Court has consistently ignored some parts of the Constitution and generously interpreted others. The book is a great read for those who value liberty.

SCALIA DISSENTS

Writings of the Supreme Court's Wittiest, Most Outspoken Justice
Edited by Kevin Ring (2004)



Using some of Justice Scalia's more interesting dissenting and concurring opinions, Ring provides a fine overview of Scalia's judicial philosophy. Ring's selections

provide ample "Scalia moments," where the reader will laugh or revel in silent appreciation of the jurist's intellect. His commentary is also on point as he accurately describes Scalia's "textual" approach to constitutional interpretation. Love Scalia or loathe him, reading this book will provide the reader with a better understanding of his philosophy. ■

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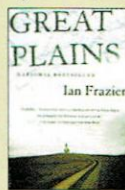
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continued from page 13

GREAT PLAINS

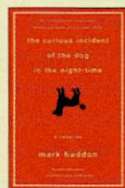
By Ian Frazier



Frazier chronicles his travels through the Great Plains and shares the lives and stories of those who live there, as well as those of their ancestors. It's a rambling journalistic diary of his adventures, told in a witty, reverent style. Funny and educational, *Great Plains* inspired me to take what proved to be an amazing trip through New Mexico.

THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME

By Mark Haddon



This book is one my recent favorites—along with everyone I know who's read it. It's the tale of Christopher, an autistic 15-year-old, who is accused of killing his neighbor's dog. He sets out to find the real killer and uncovers a lot about himself and his own family in the process. It's a funny, touching, and unique novel filled with drawings and graphs. It's amazing that these illustrations evoke deep feelings (humor, sadness, anger, irony) in a story narrated by a boy with no emotion at all. (★★★★ Sept/Oct 2003)

TIME AND AGAIN

By Jack Finney



My husband is from New York, so I've made many trips to the area. I was initially drawn to this book because it's set in New York—both present and past. It's the fascinating story of Si Morley, an illustrator who is stalked and wooed by a secret government agency to go back in time and illustrate what life looked like in 1882 New York. The novel includes sketches and old photos that give you a sense of what life was like in a different era. ■