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## Tales from the Courtroom (English Edition)

*Von Brian Harris*

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### TALES FROM THE COURTROOM

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**Von Brian Harris : Tales from the Courtroom (English Edition)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Tales from the Courtroom (English Edition):

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A cross section of super legal stories.... Von Phillip Taylor MBE [[VIDEOID:mo2JH6CK4164ZBN]] FROM DOWN THE CENTURIES An appreciation by Phillip Taylor MBE and Elizabeth Taylor of Richmond Green Chambers Brian Harris has brought together an intriguing series of stories from the legal world which he has rightly called Tales from the Courtroom and which involve many very important and courageous decisions from the past. To many some of these

stories will be very familiar but to others they are new as precedent setters. The book is very easy to read and a pleasure to read because of Brian's splendid use of English throughout. It is one which all those considering a legal career should read for the background it gives as to how the common law has developed down the ages. Some years ago there were a number of books available which we read like Megarry's *Miscellany-at-Law* volumes which contained a wise and witty series of judicial pronouncements. Then there was Glanville Williams' undergraduate tutorial on how to be a lawyer entitled *Learning the Law* which many of us were brought up on as law students. These books combined a heavier approach to the courtroom with the occasional and grateful anecdote. *Tales from the Courtroom* is somewhat different for the twenty-first century because it brings together so many different aspects of courtroom life from the sad to the extraordinary. The beauty of Brian's special book on courtroom cases is the light touch he adopts throughout when the telling of the tales. As lawyers we like recounting the unusual things which sometimes go on, and the varied characters we meet or represent during our careers. Many books from *Slappers* *Weird Cases* to the allegedly highly fictional *Rumpole* or *Roger Thursby*, or *Albert Haddock* from a different age have their own places and *Tales from the Courtroom* is just fit for the modern legal age of the early twenty-first century. The budding law undergraduate should not be without this book because these tales are an essential tool of our trade albeit general but important characteristics of the law which are raised here. We have always believed that a study of the history of English Law and what has made the common law what it is today comes from what some cynics call legal war stories but which are actually what the profession is really about (not gossip but discussion!) otherwise why bother with the dining at the Inns or any form of socializing. This is a serious book which does not at any stage pontificate but it just brings together so many strands of human life and achievement from within the law set in one source book. Brian Harris has achieved the impossible here by bringing to lawyer and lawman alike the diversity which every matter brings to the fore in a court of law. Thank you, Brian.

**Kurzbeschreibung** Court-room dramas hold an endless fascination, but they are often a pale shadow of the real thing. Consider for example the case of the young man who, after being acquitted of his girlfriend's murder, was challenged by the dead girl's brother in a procedure which had not been used since the middle ages. It failed, but the facts of the case were recalled over a century later by another tragedy, which eerily mirrored them. Or the case of the vicar's son convicted of cattle mutilation who was cleared, not as a result of diligent police work, but by the creator of England's most famous fictional detective. This book contains a number of unsolved mysteries, like the murder of a magistrate which nearly ended the career, even the life, of Samuel Pepys. Other curiosities concern the quaint rules by which pirates were once bound and Parliament's continuing concern for outlaws' rights. Even the foggy crannies of the law can offer up their amusements, like the rhyming will which was put up for probate and the extraordinary story of how the law of cremation was reformed by an eccentric Welsh doctor and a Hindu ex-soldier. Told by a retired barrister, the tales in this book illustrate the role of the law in resisting oppression, whether from robber barons or modern governments. Selected for their intrinsic interest, the tales highlight lessons concerning the nature of justice and the diversity sometimes the unknowability - of human conduct.

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**ber den Autor und weitere Mitwirkende** The author is a retired barrister whose earlier works include *The Literature of the Law* ('A splendid anthology. *The Times*), *Injustice*, ('I strongly recommend it'. *Counsel* magazine), *Intolerance* ('should inspire any number of debates'. *Richmond Green* chambers) and *Passion, Poison and Power* ('intriguing and convincing'. *Law Gazette*).