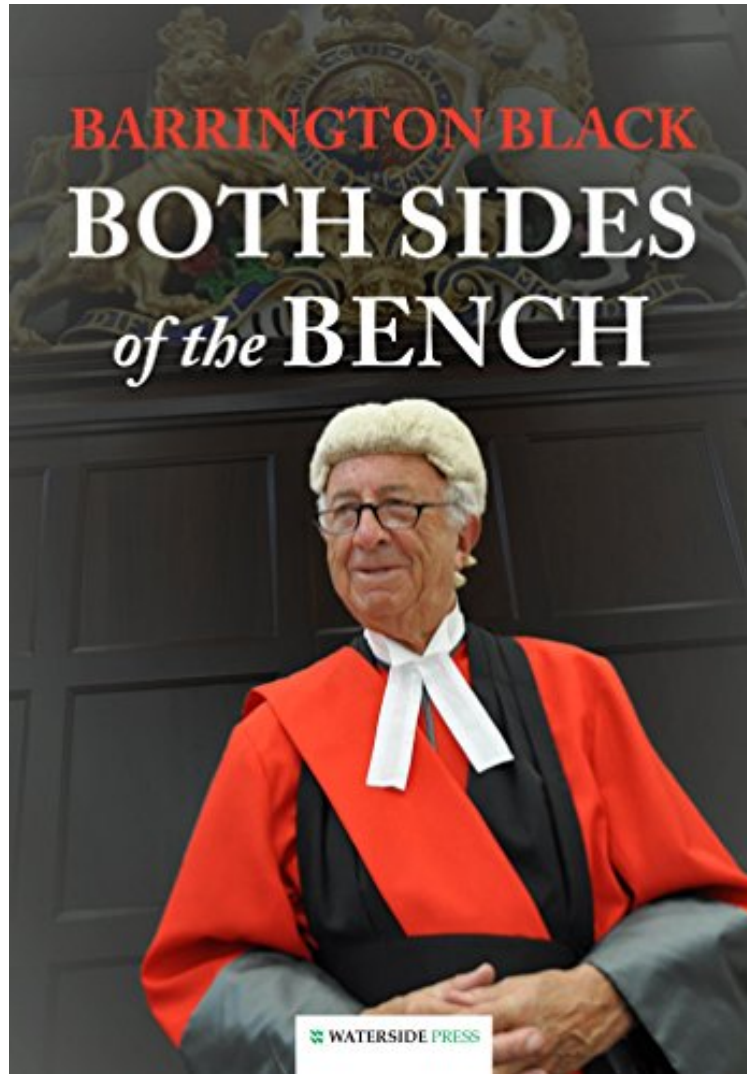


(Free and download) Both Sides of the Bench

Both Sides of the Bench

Von Barrington Black

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Von Barrington Black : Both Sides of the Bench before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Both Sides of the Bench:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.
WelcomeVon Phillip Taylor MBEA WELCOME SERIES OF OPINIONS FROM AN EXPERIENCED LAWYER AND JUDGEAn appreciation by Phillip Taylor MBE and Elizabeth Taylor of Richmond Green ChambersThe library of modern legal biographies continues to grow, and to swell the library shelves there is a new book from Waterside entitled Both Sides of the Bench which all potential lawyers might find useful to read.There was a time not so long ago when it was frowned upon for member of the judiciary to speak their mind. Some contemporaries of Barrington Black

did so much to the consternation of senior legal politicians until recently. Fortunately, there are now many more books from living judges explaining their professional lives and how they go about their daily business and we thank them for that. Such works are of great benefit to everyone because we can get to understand these decision-makers once they are stripped of their wigs and mystique. So, we have here an excellent set of views and opinions from a leading well-known and controversial lawyer of our time: Barrington Black- even today well known also for his pithy contemporary comments. This highly readable autobiography charts the contemporary history of the bench and the bar from 1950s onwards so it covers a substantial part of 20th century and goes well into this century. We feel that Black offers some useful opinions on many of the cases and issues of the day and we are better for it because the reader can see where his point of view comes from! Barrington Black who, today, is probably well known to the younger Bar as a popular correspondent in The Times letters column comes from Harrogate, and practised in Leeds so there is a certain amount of the bluff Yorkshireman about him which one can relish because a spade really is a spade and not a shovel to him and rightly so. The story starts right at the beginning with Black describing himself as never an idealist. There are some splendid and sensitive family photographs throughout his career which gives one the measure of the man covering his interesting background as a solicitor and his experiences in the army which clearly had a marked effect on his future, as it does with most people. Black's experiences and anecdotes from the legal profession comprise the bulk of the book and his final comment at the end on legal aid just about sums up the predicament the law is going through today with the end of legal aid as we know it. The view of many is that the Young Bar is in crisis and falling so Black's final comment sums up a massive problem we are building up: where will the judges come from. To us, this one final comment, worrying as it is, is spot on for if younger barristers and solicitors do not gain the experience in the lower courts where we learn our trade a huge judicial chasm will develop. Such fundamental training in one's early legal career remains the function of the young advocate and will not be revived unless the decline at the junior end of the profession is halted, so what Black says is right. Otherwise, indeed, where will our future judges come from- that is the message of Black's excellent legal reminiscences which we thank him for?

Kurzbeschreibung Barrington Black was for many years one of the UK's best-known criminal defence lawyers and founder of a solicitor's firm in Leeds now commemorated in the name of a practice known as Black's. He was later a Metropolitan Stipendiary Magistrate and Circuit Judge in the Crown Court before becoming a Supreme Court Justice in Gibraltar. Both Sides of the Bench charts his life, legal and judicial progress and his contributions as legal expert to such programmes as BBC TV's Look North and Yorkshire Television's Calendar. Always in demand due to his reputation as a reliable defence solicitor, he was sought out by among others the serial killer Donald Neilson also known as the Black Panther as well as being involved in other high profile cases. His accounts of these and other fascinating cases from his life as a lawyer and judge form the main part of this compelling book which also looks at his early life, political ambitions and time in the army when he was also involved in Courts Martial. It also takes readers behind the scenes to show what it is like to establish and run a legal practice as it grows and develops and contains insights into the normally private and behind the scenes world of judiciary.

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