

# Oliver Wendell Holmes

The Legacy of Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes The  
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Edward White Oliver Wendell Holmes (Jr.) Oliver Wendell Holmes Oliver Wendell Holmes Oliver Wendell Holmes E. E. Brown Oliver Wendell  
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on his retirement from the supreme court at the age of 90 in 1932 oliver wendell holmes jr was celebrated as few judges have ever been beloved and revered as a national treasure holmes s influence magnified into legend by the attention he has continued to receive has helped to constitute the identity of the legal profession the conception of the judicial function and the role of the public intellectual in modern american culture the present collection of seven essays attempts to view holmes s work apart from the restricted framework supplied by traditional jurisprudence by reassessing holmes as an intellectual a legal theorist and an iconic public figure and culture hero each essay adds something new and distinctive to the scholarly controversies that have surrounded holmes for over a century j w burrow begins the volume by looking at holmes s relations to various strands of victorian social thought she next three essays approach each from a different angle the problem of holmes s relationship to formalism or classical orthodoxy in legal thought morton horwitz provides a sweeping reassessment of the development of holmes s legal thinking between the early period of the 1870 s and 1880 s and the path of the law in 1897 mathias reimann presents the first thorough exploration of holmes s use misuse more often of german philosophy notably his discrediting in the common law of the legacy of kant and hegel stephen diamond approaches holmes s jurisprudence and his broader social and personal views by another original pathway his legal opinions in taxation cases and his private views on taxation the final three essays consider holmes as a man of letters and representative man of the american scene both as he created himself and as he was created by others robert ferguson shows how holmes deliberately went about the work of fashioning the public persona of a judge peter gibian shows how holmes s construction of his

public style was formed as a deliberate reaction against that of his famous father dr oliver wendell holmes sr the final essay by david hollinger has a dual purpose to ask what holmes meant by the scientific way of looking at the world and to discover how holmes came to be such a hero to liberal jewish intellectuals like felix frankfurter and harold j laski book jacket title summary field provided by blackwell north america inc all rights reserved

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by any measure oliver wendell holmes jr led a full and remarkable life he was tall and exceptionally attractive especially as he aged with piercing eyes a shock of white hair and prominent moustache he was the son of a famous father oliver wendell holmes sr renowned for the autocrat of the breakfast table a thrice wounded veteran of the civil war a harvard educated member of brahmin boston the acquaintance of longfellow lowell and emerson and for a time a close friend of william james he wrote one of the classic works of american legal scholarship the common law and he served with distinction on the supreme court of the united states he was actively involved in the court s work into his nineties in justice oliver wendell holmes g edward white the acclaimed biographer of earl warren and one of america s most esteemed legal scholars provides a rounded portrait of this remarkable jurist we see holmes s early life in boston and at harvard his ambivalent relationship with his father and his harrowing service during the civil war he was wounded three times twice nearly fatally shot in the chest in his first action and later shot through the neck at antietam white examines holmes s curious childless marriage his diary for 1872 noted on june 17th that he had married fanny bowditch dixwell and the next sentence indicated that he had become the sole editor of the american law review and he includes new information on holmes s relationship with clare castletown white not only provides a vivid portrait of holmes s life but

examines in depth the inner life and thought of this preeminent legal figure there is a full chapter devoted to the common law for instance and throughout the book there is astute commentary on holmes s legal writings indeed white reveals that some of the themes that have dominated 20th century american jurisprudence including protection for free speech and the belief that judges make the law originated in holmes s work perhaps most important white suggests that understanding holmes s life is crucial to understanding his work and he continually stresses the connections between holmes s legal career and his personal life for instance his desire to distinguish himself from his father and from the soft literary culture of his father s generation drove him to legal scholarship of a particularly demanding kind white s biography of earl warren was hailed by anthony lewis on the cover of the new york times book review as serious and fascinating and the los angeles times noted that white has gone beyond the labels and given us the man in justice oliver wendell holmes white has produced an equally serious and fascinating biography one that again goes beyond the labels and gives us the man himself

e e brown s life of oliver wendell holmes offers a comprehensive exploration of the life and career of one of america s most distinguished literary figures and jurists utilizing a blend of biographical narrative and critical analysis brown s meticulous research sheds light on holmes contributions to literature and law illustrating how these domains intricately intersect the prose is characterized by its clarity and depth capturing the philosophical nuances that underpin holmes thought while contextualizing his life within the broader tapestry of 19th century america this work situates holmes not merely as a prominent supreme court justice but as a cultural icon who engaged profoundly with the ideas of his time e e brown a scholar with a profound interest in american intellectual history draws upon a wealth of primary sources including letters and contemporary accounts to construct this nuanced portrait brown s academic background in both literature and jurisprudence positions him uniquely to bridge these two worlds illuminating the influences that shaped holmes worldview and the legacy he left behind this book is essential reading for anyone interested in american literature legal history or the interplay of these fields brown s insightful examination not only contributes to scholarly discourse but also makes oliver wendell holmes complex legacy accessible to a

broader audience ensuring that his ideas continue to resonate today in this enriched edition we have carefully created added value for your reading experience hand picked memorable quotes shine a spotlight on moments of literary brilliance interactive footnotes clarify unusual references historical allusions and archaic phrases for an effortless more informed read

oliver wendell holmes jr distinguished american jurist and patrick augustine sheehan an irish clerical savant enjoyed a warm and notable friendship based largely on their exchange of letters from 1903 when they first met in ireland until 1913 the year of sheehan s death this correspondence illuminates what is otherwise a largely hidden and little appreciated side of the mind and faith of justince holmes sheehan was able to draw from his friend an awareness and s ympathy for human frailty and its counterpoint faith in a divine plan of earthly things thoughts and feelings that surfaced in letters to other of his friends the importance of this edition of the holmes sheehan letters rests in the first instance on this discovery but canon sheehan ws a no mere foil for holmes as they discussed with equal insight issues as varied as the economic man and the age of faith of classical works including dante s divine comedy and pascal s pensees holmes discovered in the canon a man of the most profound faith who remained open and tolerant of the beliefs and non beliefs of others he is better understood because of his affection for sheehan and no less telling because of the canon s admiration for him gary j aichele in oliver wendell holmes jr soldier scholar judge finds this set of letters perhaps the most unusualof any collection of holmes correspondence published to date

a hefty one volume reference addressing various facets of the essay entries are of five types 1 considerations of different types of essay e g moral travel autobiographical 2 discussions of major national traditions 3 biographical profiles of writers who have produced a significant body of work in the genre 4 descriptions of periodicals important for their publication of essays and 5 discussions of some especially significant single essays each entry includes citations for further reading and cross references annotation copyrighted by book news inc portland or

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