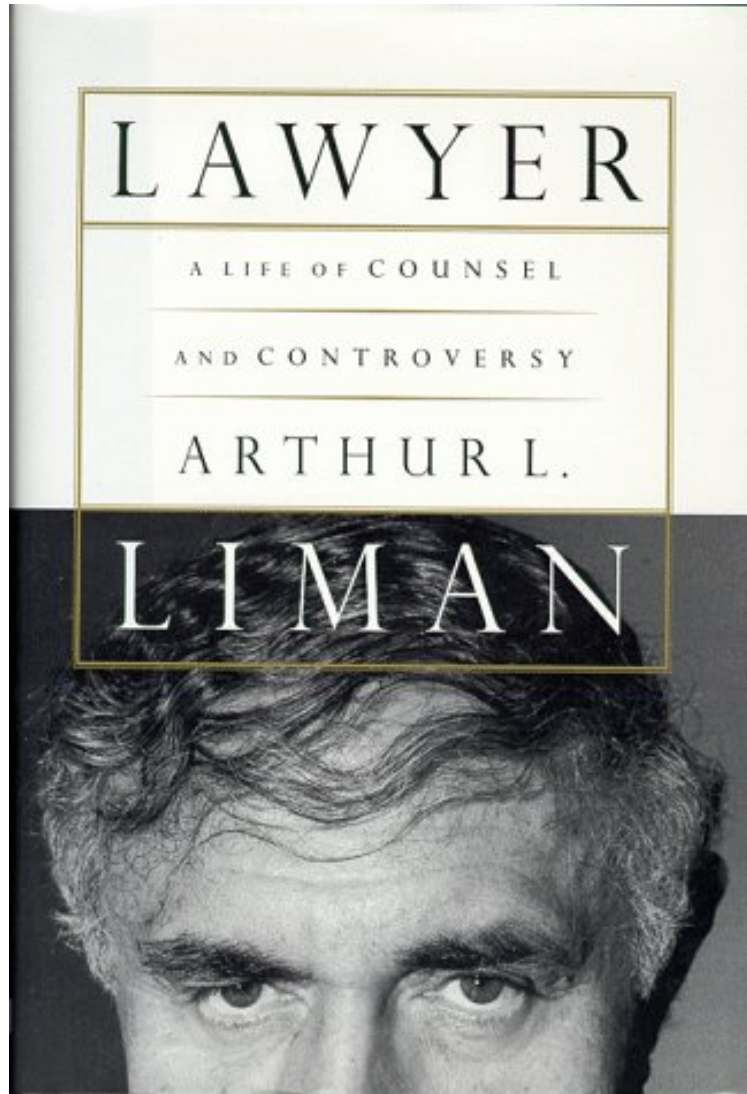


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## Lawyer: A Life of Counsel and Controversy

*Arthur L. Liman*

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**Arthur L. Liman : Lawyer: A Life of Counsel and Controversy** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Lawyer: A Life of Counsel and Controversy:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. "Must" read for law students By BiggbirdGot to see all aspects of Arthur Liman's legal; career. He was a an "All Star" litigator who also devoted his time and expertise to important causes and issues. A classic example of someone who did well and did good. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Sneak peak By Kris Kapplin Great read 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. GREAT LAW...GREAT LAWYER By Daniel P. Remy Arthur Liman is the ultimate example of a LAWYER with talent, intelligence, and involvement in most great cases from 1965 through his death in 1997. This is a MUST READ for any

aspiring lawyer and certainly a boost to a practicing lawyer. One of my lifetime 10 best books. Milken, the Contra-Ran Scandal, Attica Riots,...he was the man there.

This posthumous memoir offers a look at a high-profile, high-stakes American practice and at the progress of law and politics over the last half of the 20th century. Arthur Liman was renowned both for his abilities as a corporate lawyer and for his commitment to public service and pro bono work. In this candid memoir, written in the months before his death, Liman recalls many of his most controversial, highly publicized cases, including his investigation of the Attica prison uprising, his role as chief counsel in the Iran/Contra hearings, and his defence of junk bond merchant Michael Milken.

.com Arthur Liman, a prominent partner at the New York law firm of Paul, Weiss, died in 1997 after a distinguished career spanning four decades. He represented moguls and big corporations, but was at least as well-known through his public service record, first as counsel for the New York state investigation into the 1971 Attica prison uprising, and then as chief counsel for the Senate Iran-Contra hearings in the mid-1980s. Perhaps because Liman is circumspect with his clients' confidences, or perhaps because he died before he could completely edit his work, *Lawyer* doesn't have quite the same storytelling rhythm that one gets from, say, Alan Dershowitz. The anecdotal nature of the work, primarily cataloging Liman's successes and failures, makes for a certain sketchiness as autobiography, and lawyers might hope for more practice pointers rather than stories. Liman's defense of one of his more notorious clients, Michael Milken, is strong, however, and he has entertaining and cogent observations on the multi-billion-dollar Pennzoil v. Texaco litigation. A subtext throughout the book is how the practice of law has changed over the years; the computer-dependent young associate of today will marvel at Liman's descriptions of the need for knitting needles to organize documents in complex litigation in the late 1950s. All in all, Liman's collection of tales and personal experiences provides a pleasant and engrossing read. --Ted Frank  
From Publishers Weekly  
High-powered trial lawyer Liman became a face known to millions when, as chief counsel to the Senate committee investigating the Iran-Contra affair, he grilled Oliver North and John Poindexter in televised hearings. In this earnest, energetic autobiography, Liman, who died last year at 65, portrays a Reagan White House out of control, run by zealous aides. He lambastes the Reagan administration for its disdain for constitutional procedures and its use of covert actions circumventing our system of checks and balances. A lifelong liberal Democrat, Liman voices his opposition to capital punishment because of the discrimination and racism he sees in how the death penalty is applied. His experience as head of an independent investigation into the 1971 Attica prison rebellion, in which 29 inmates and 10 hostages were killed in upstate New York, convinced him that U.S. prisons, dens of institutionalized racism, systematically degrade and brutalize blacks and Hispanics. Liman has had some controversial clients, notably convicted junk-bond trader Michael Milken, whom he lamely defends here as a scapegoat "vilified as the symbol of greedy and uncaring capitalism." This memoir combines genuine courtroom drama and frank insights into trial lawyers' tactics, as Liman replays cases involving such clients as Steve Ross of Time Warner and flamboyant entrepreneur Charles Bluhdorn, who created the Gulf + Western conglomerate. 8-page bw photo insert. Agent, Wallace Literary Agency. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc.  
From Library Journal  
Dismayed by the distorted and unflattering image of the legal profession perpetuated by the O.J. Simpson cases, in the months prior to his death Liman put together an informative and revealing series of stories recounting his career as a high-profile attorney. As chief counsel to the Senate select committee investigating the Iran-contra affair in 1987, Liman pounded away at Oliver North for assisting in the creation of a covert action force that operated outside the restraints of Congressional oversight. In the public eye, however, North stole the show. Liman's staunch defense of Wall Street demon Michael Milken drew criticism from many who admired his Iran-contra work, but he explains that the rule of law allowed for both. One of a lawyer's greatest challenges in the multimedia age is overcoming the tendency to communicate in sound bites. Liman exhorts both his peers and future practitioners to ponder the admonition of Oliver Wendell Holmes not to allow principles of law to be bent on the altar of feelings and emotion. An excellent book for both practicing attorneys and law students.  
A Phillip Young Blue, New York State Supreme Court Criminal Branch Lib., New York  
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