

[DOWNLOAD] Darrow: A Biography

## Darrow: A Biography

*Kevin Tierney*

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**Kevin Tierney : Darrow: A Biography** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Darrow: A Biography:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. AN EXCELLENT BIOGRAPHY OF AN OFTEN MISPORTRAYED FIGUREBy Steven H ProppAmerican lawyer Clarence Darrow (1857-1938) is often remembered only as the "infidel" lawyer opposing William Jennings Bryan at the so-called "Monkey Trial" of John Thomas Scopes. But he had a very important and influential career both before and after this famous trial, as a famous labor lawyer, and later criminal lawyer---including of the infamous "thrill killers" Leopold and Loeb. (Of fifty criminal trials with the death penalty at stake, only one person defended by Darrow---his first---ever received the death penalty.) He also defended the African-American family of Dr. Ossian Sweet, whose home was attacked by a white mob.Darrow began as a corporate lawyer, working for a railway company, but eventually, "To him there was a stark contradiction in being a railroad lawyer by day and a radical by night; the more radical causes he adopted, the more intolerable his position seemed." However, "In spite of his fierce desire for truth, his avid reading, and his consistent pursuit of the pleasures of the mind, he was no scholar."Tierney offers many insights about Darrow and his manner of working: e.g., "He performed best in a thoroughgoing confrontation, when reconciliation was neither desired nor practicable."; "Darrow always had a tendency to say things more for their effect than because they were true." Tierney also observes that "Acting on behalf of clients with whom he sympathized politically, and whose cause he believed in, he had lost the professional quality of objectivity. In his ardent desire that a political persuasion should be vindicated, he had all too often ignored or suppressed the unpleasant particulars of a case in favor of bringing out its supposed political

implications. "Espousing many controversial views (such as his outspoken agnosticism), and often attacked as an advocate of "free love" as well as Socialism, Tierney says that "Darrow was about as much a free lover as a socialist--- which is to say not much at all." In his willingness to talk with and assist young lawyers, "Darrow never forgot that he got his first chance because of the kindness of men who were already established, and even at the pinnacle of his fame he would put work aside to help a young unknown." This is an excellent biography for anyone interested in Darrow. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Darrow, much of a character By Csar Gonzlez Rouco This is a wonderful biography. I knew that Darrow was much of a character (I had read "Summer for the Gods" by Edward Larson), but I was somehow afraid that his life would be boring: after all, the book is bulky, near 450 pages of small print, and there were no previous comments on it. I took the chance and I am glad of it. Tierney manages to narrate Darrow 's life and times in such a way that I could not put it down, and read it in less than a month's time. So I recommend it with five stars. Other biographies I do recommend are "Tocqueville" by Andre Jardin and "Abraham Lincoln: A Biography" by Benjamin P. Thomas. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Darrow, much of a character By Csar Gonzlez Rouco This is a wonderful biography. I knew that Darrow was much of a character (I had read "Summer for the Gods" by Edward Larson), but I was somehow afraid that his life would be boring: after all, the book is bulky and there were no previous comments on it. I took the chance and I am glad of it. Tierney manages to narrate Darrow 's life and times in such a way that I could not put it down, and read it in less than a month's time. So I recommend it with five stars. Other biographies I do recommend are "Tocqueville" by Andre Jardin and "Abraham Lincoln: A Biography" by Benjamin P. Thomas.

Hard Cover; Very Good +; Dust Jacket - Very Good; Pink paper covered boards with cloth spine. Illus. dustjacket small chip rear bottom edge, mylar protected. Plain endpapers, 490pp., photo illus. The first major biography of the legendary courtroom firebrand. Internally tight and clean. A very nice copy. [Hertford, NC. USA]