Pupillage Reading Suggestions

Overruled by Sam Fowles



Timely, captivating and accessible. Sam Fowles' selection of cases and passionate commentary provide a perfect platform for reading about the interplay between the law and the political landscape of Britain in recent years. Interweaved are Sam's own experiences from his practice, which colour the book with a personal touch. The short sections and subsections make this a great one for casual holiday reading.

People Like Us by Hashi Mohamed



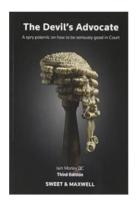
Hashi Mohamed's story will have you saying "just one more page" again and again. Although Hashi practices as a planning barrister, "People like us" is not just a book for aspiring lawyers. For anyone with an interest in social mobility and equality —important topics for the Bar and all those interacting with it — this is a must read. Whilst the book gives many personal accounts, the author wants the reader to work hard by reflecting on their own journey through British society. A truly fascinating read. I particularly enjoyed the chapters on Language and Employment.

Speeches that changed the world - Quercus



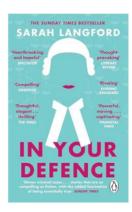
During pupillage, several members of the Bar and Bench have stressed to me the importance of expert use of language. Any aspiring barrister should therefore consider their use of language and how to develop the main 'tool of the trade'. For an entertaining and informative way of approaching this topic, I would recommend delving into this collection of historical speeches. Each arranged into three sections (the speech, the person, the story) it is ideal for picking and choosing content on holiday. Several can be listened to on YouTube so you can decide how you might approach the speech.

The Devil's Advocate by Jain Morley KC (then QC)



Described as a "spry polemic" by the author, this book is packed full of useful advice and practical tips for anyone heading towards a career at the Bar (or mystified by how it is done by those already there). Iain Morley's tone is encouraging, direct and concise — I felt accountable as the reader, even before I've begun on my feet. Your highlighter may run dry on this one! On page 1, Iain assures the reader that the whole book will take around 4 hours to read, however I would speed through this book at your peril. The lessons and reflection points are too good to miss.

In Your Defence by Sarah Langford



Some years ago, I went to Waterstones in search of some reading material. I was toying with the idea of a career change, so with my curiosity spiked, I turned to reading for inspiration. The two books that I caught my eye in the modest "Law" section were Tom Bingham's "The Rule of Law" (a brilliant read) and "In your defence" by Sarah Langford.

Sarah bears all in these enthralling stories from her practice as a criminal barrister. The paramount importance of the individual in criminal law, encapsulated by Sarah's choice to give the names of individuals to chapters, is the red thread that runs through this read. Providing a glimpse into the emotional and mental challenges faced by barristers, Sarah's accounts are sure to provoke reflection on the criminal justice system and all those who engage with it.

Other titles worthy of review:

- Spider Woman: A life, Brenda Hale, Baronness Hale of Richmond
- The Art of the Advocate, Richard du Cann