

Selected Bibliography of Works on the U.S. Supreme Court and Its Justices

The Mortal Court · By Author & Annotated
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683 works · all 116 justices
Revised August 21, 2026

Note

This bibliography is generated from the master reading-list dataset behind The Mortal Court — every work cited on the justice-by-justice reading shelves and in the History of the Court reading room, in a consistent Chicago-style author–title format. Each work appears once. Alongside books it includes the significant articles, memoirs, correspondence, papers, dissertations and manuscript collections cited on the shelves. Court opinions, cited to the United States Reports on each justice’s page, are not listed here. Each entry carries a one-sentence note, taken from the assessment written for that work on the shelf it sits on. 42 of the 683 works have no such note and appear with their citation alone; nothing here was written to fill a gap.

The Works, by Author

Abraham, Henry J. “President Jefferson’s Three Appointments to the Supreme Court of the United States: 1804, 1807, and 1807.” *Journal of Supreme Court History* 31, no. 2 (2006): 141–154. [\[post-M&G\]](#)

The fullest modern account of Jefferson’s three appointments — Johnson, Livingston, Todd — and what the president hoped each would do to Marshall’s Court.

Ackerman, Bruce, Charles Fried, Norman Dorsen, et al. “Centennial Conference in Honor of Justice John Marshall Harlan.” *New York Law School Law Review* 36, no. 1. 1991. [\[post-M&G\]](#)

The major collective assessment of Harlan — Ackerman’s ‘Common Law Constitution of John Marshall Harlan’ and Fried’s ‘Conservatism of Justice Harlan’ are the landmark essays, with contributions from his clerks and critics.

Ainsworth, Scott H., and John Anthony Maltese. “National Grange Influence on the Supreme Court Confirmation of Stanley Matthews.” *Social Science History* 20, no. 1 (1996): 41–62. [\[post-M&G\]](#)

The dedicated study of the closest confirmation in Supreme Court history — 24 to 23, in 1881, after the Grange and anti-railroad forces nearly sank the corporate lawyer Matthews.

Allen, Austin. “Jacksonian Jurisprudence and the Obscurity of John Catron.” *Vanderbilt Law Review* 62, no. 2 (2009): 491–518. [\[post-M&G\]](#)

From the 2009 Vanderbilt symposium — printed immediately ahead of Finkelman’s McLean piece — the clearest short account of the man, the career, and the reasons for the obscurity.

Alschuler, Albert W. *Law Without Values: The Life, Work, and Legacy of Justice Holmes*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2000. [\[post-M&G\]](#)

The case against Holmes, argued in full.

Anderson, Judith Icke. *William Howard Taft: An Intimate History*. New York: W. W. Norton, 1981.

The psychological and personal life — a candid portrait of Taft’s marriage, his ambition (much of it Nellie’s), and the weight, literal and figurative, he carried through public life.

Angelillo, Joseph. “The ‘Unrepentant Secessionist’: The Nomination of L.Q.C. Lamar and the Retreat from Reconstruction.” *Journal of Supreme Court History* 46, no. 1 (2021): 42–61. [\[post-M&G\]](#)

The only substantial Lamar scholarship since Murphy’s 1973 biography — and a sharper-eyed one: the 1888 confirmation of a Confederate drafter of Mississippi’s secession ordinance read as a milestone in the North’s retreat from Reconstruction, not merely the reconciliation JFK celebrated.

Annis, David Leslie. “Mr. Bushrod Washington: Supreme Court Justice on the Marshall Court.” Ph.D. dissertation, University of Notre Dame, 1974.

Ariens, Michael S. “A Thrice-Told Tale, or Felix the Cat.” *Harvard Law Review* 107 (1994): 620. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The unsettling rejoinder: Ariens's argument that Frankfurter shaped — perhaps invented — the Roberts memorandum narrative to serve his own account of 1937.

Arkes, Hadley. *The Return of George Sutherland: Restoring a Jurisprudence of Natural Rights*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1994. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The natural-law philosopher Hadley Arkes's provocative rehabilitation of the leading 'Four Horseman' — an argument that Sutherland's jurisprudence of natural rights deserves revival, not scorn.

Arnold, Richard S., Harold H. Koh, Donald P. Lay and Karen N. Moore. “Dedication to Justice Harry A. Blackmun.” *Hamline Law Review* 8, no. 1 (January 1985). [\[M&G 6286, 6291, 6293, 6295\]](#)
Chief Judge Donald Lay's survey of the eleven Eighth Circuit years is the reason to want it — that is the stretch Greenhouse treats thinnest — and Harold Koh's fifty-four pages on the equal protection of aliens is the longest thing in it.

Ashe, Samuel A., ed. *Biographical History of North Carolina from Colonial Times to the Present*. Greensboro, NC: C. L. Van Noppen, 1905–17.

Atkinson, David N. *Leaving the Bench: Supreme Court Justices at the End*. Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas, 1999. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The study of how justices leave — death, resignation, decline, denial — and the book that gives this site its mortal-court thread.

Bader, William D., and Roy M. Mersky. “Justice Levi Woodbury: A Reputational Study.” *Journal of Supreme Court History* 23, no. 2 (1998): 129–142. [\[post-M&G\]](#)

Bader, William D., Henry J. Abraham & James B. Staab. “The Jurisprudence of Levi Woodbury.” *Vermont Law Review* 18, no. 2 (1994): 261–312. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The fullest modern assessment, from a team including Henry Abraham, the dean of judicial-appointments scholarship.

Baier, Paul R. “Edward Douglass White: Frame for a Portrait.” *Louisiana Law Review* 43, no. 4 (1983).
The best of the Louisiana historiography — Baier's evocative portrait of the Confederate veteran, sugar planter, and devout Catholic who became the first sitting associate justice elevated to Chief.

Bair, Robert R. & Robin D. Coblenz. “The Trials of Mr. Justice Samuel Chase.” *Maryland Law Review* 27, no. 4 (1967).
A compact legal history of the proceedings that produced the impeachment — the Fries and Callender trials, Chase's treatment of counsel and juries, the Baltimore grand-jury charge, and the Senate case.

Baker, Leonard. *Brandeis and Frankfurter: A Dual Biography*. New York: Harper & Row, 1984.
The two intertwined lives told as one — the mentor and the protégé, the era's most prominent Jewish justices, bound by ideology, ambition, and a remarkable collaboration.

Baker, Leonard. *John Marshall: A Life in Law*. New York: Macmillan, 1974.

Baker, Liva. *Felix Frankfurter: A Biography*. New York: Coward-McCann, 1969.
The first full narrative life, written for a general reader four years after Frankfurter's death — brisk, sympathetic, and still a good story, though it predates the opening of the papers and the modern scholarship.

Baker, Liva. *The Justice from Beacon Hill: The Life and Times of Oliver Wendell Holmes*. New York: HarperCollins, 1991. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
A big, readable one-volume life and times, strong on the Boston world that produced Holmes and on his long marriage to Fanny Dixwell.

Baldwin, Henry. *A General View of the Origin and Nature of the Constitution and Government of the United States*. Philadelphia: J. C. Clark, 1837.

The strangest book ever published by a sitting justice: a sprawling, self-financed treatise deducing the Constitution's nature from colonial history, written to justify his "middle course" between Marshall's nationalism and the compact theory of the nullifiers.

Ball, Howard, and Phillip J. Cooper. *Of Power and Right: Hugo Black, William O. Douglas, and America's Constitutional Revolution*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1992. [\[post-M&G\]](#)

The dual study of the two New Deal appointees who drove the rights revolution and then fell out — Douglas the restless individualist beside Black the disciplined textualist.

Ball, Howard. *A Defiant Life: Thurgood Marshall and the Persistence of Racism in America*. New York: Crown Publishers, 1998. [\[post-M&G\]](#)

A full scholarly biography by a political scientist, published the same year as Williams's and more focused on the law.

Ball, Howard. *Hugo L. Black: Cold Steel Warrior*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1996. [\[post-M&G\]](#)

The fullest modern scholarly biography after Newman's — Howard Ball is sharp on the contradictions: the former Klansman who became the Court's fiercest defender of civil liberties, the literal-minded textualist of ferocious will.

Barnhart, Bill, and Gene Schlickman. *John Paul Stevens: An Independent Life*. DeKalb, IL: Northern Illinois University Press, 2010. [\[post-M&G\]](#)

The fullest biography of Stevens, and the best starting point for a long and independent life.

Barnwell, Robert W., Jr. "Rutledge, 'The Dictator.'" *Journal of Southern History* 7 (1941): 215.

The standard study of Rutledge's extraordinary wartime governorship — the near-absolute powers South Carolina handed him as the British closed in, which earned him the nickname and made him the most powerful executive in revolutionary America.

Barrett, Amy Coney. *Listening to the Law: Reflections on the Court and the Constitution*. New York: Sentinel, 2025. [\[post-M&G\]](#)

Barrett's own reflective account of the Court, constitutional interpretation, and her path to the bench, published in 2025 — the closest thing to a self-portrait from the newest conservative justice.

Barrett, Amy Coney. "Originalism and Stare Decisis." *Notre Dame Law Review* 92, no. 5 (2017): 1921. [\[post-M&G\]](#)

Barrett's most cited academic article, from her years as a law professor, and essential for understanding the mind she brought to the bench.

Barry, Richard. *Mr. Rutledge of South Carolina*. New York: Duell, Sloan & Pearce, 1942.

Barry's study, though based on wide research and at times colorful, ultimately feels light rather than penetrating.

Baynes, Thomas E., Jr. "Yankee from Georgia: A Search for Justice Woods." *Supreme Court Historical Society Yearbook* 1978: 31–42. [\[M&G 9431\]](#)

The sole standalone study of Woods ever published — Baynes's search for the transplanted Ohio Union general who became a New South justice and wrote almost nothing memorable in six years.

Belknap, Michal R. *The Vinson Court: Justices, Rulings, and Legacy*. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2004. [\[post-M&G\]](#)

The only book-length treatment of the Vinson Court as a court — the loyalty-security cases, Youngstown, and the run-up to Brown that Vinson did not live to decide.

- Belknap, Michal R. "Mr. Justice Pitney and Progressivism." *Seton Hall Law Review* 16, no. 2 (1986): 381–423.
*The leading modern study of Pitney — Belknap's case that the author of *Coppage* was no simple reactionary but a New Jersey progressive whose labor decisions were more mixed, and more principled, than the caricature.*
- Belko, William S. *Philip Pendleton Barbour in Jacksonian America: An Old Republican in King Andrew's Court*. Tuscaloosa, AL: University of Alabama Press, 2016. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
Strict construction, states' rights, hostility to banks, tariffs, and internal improvements — the creed itself, carried by the Speaker who fought the Missouri Compromise restrictions, presided over Virginia's 1829–30 convention, and was Jackson's deliberate choice to plant the doctrine in Duvall's chair.
- Benedict, Michael Les. *The Impeachment and Trial of Andrew Johnson*. New York: W. W. Norton, 1973.
The standard scholarly account of the 1868 trial, where the ex-justice delivered his second historic performance: Curtis's opening for the defense framed impeachment as a legal proceeding requiring an indictable offense — the theory on which Johnson survived by one vote.
- Berry, Mary Frances. *Stability, Security, and Continuity: Mr. Justice Burton and Decision-Making in the Supreme Court, 1945–1958*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1978.
The scholarly study of Burton's Court years by the historian Mary Frances Berry, built from his meticulous diaries — a close look at how a modest Ohio Republican actually made decisions across the Vinson and Warren Courts.
- Beth, Loren P. *John Marshall Harlan: The Last Whig Justice*. Lexington, KY: University Press of Kentucky, 1992. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The standard scholarly life — Loren Beth reads Harlan as an old-fashioned Kentucky Whig whose nationalism and moral absolutism made him the Court's lonely conscience on race.
- Beveridge, Albert J. *The Life of John Marshall (4 vols.)*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1916–1919.
Magnificent and dated in equal measure: a senator's epic that fixed Marshall's heroic image for the twentieth century, built on prodigious research and an open loathing of Jefferson.
- Bickel, Alexander M. & Benno C. Schmidt Jr. *The Judiciary and Responsible Government, 1910–1921 (Oliver Wendell Holmes Devise History of the Supreme Court, vol. 9)*. New York: Macmillan, 1984.
The Holmes Devise volume for the White Court, 1910–1921.
- Bickel, Alexander M. *The Least Dangerous Branch: The Supreme Court at the Bar of Politics*. Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill, 1962.
The book that named the countermajoritarian difficulty, judicial review's standing quarrel with democratic government, and answered it with the passive virtues: the techniques by which a Court declines to decide.
- Binney, Horace. *Memorial sketch of Bushrod Washington*. Philadelphia: C. Sherman & Son, 1858.
- Biskupic, Joan. *American Original: The Life and Constitution of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2009. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The definitive biography, by a veteran Supreme Court journalist.
- Biskupic, Joan. *Breaking In: The Rise of Sonia Sotomayor and the Politics of Justice*. New York: Sarah Crichton Books, 2014. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The best biography — the veteran Court journalist Joan Biskupic on Sotomayor's rise from a Bronx housing project to the Court, and on the politics of the first Latina justice's appointment.
- Biskupic, Joan. *Nine Black Robes: Inside the Supreme Court's Drive to the Right and Its Historic Consequences*. New York: William Morrow, 2023. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The best single account of the conservative supermajority and how it was built.

Biskupic, Joan. *Sandra Day O'Connor: How the First Woman on the Supreme Court Became Its Most Influential Justice*. New York: Ecco, 2005. [post-M&G]

The first major biography, by the veteran Court journalist Joan Biskupic — written while O'Connor still sat, and definitive on how the pragmatic Arizonan became the swing vote who decided abortion, affirmative action, and religion for a generation.

Biskupic, Joan. *The Chief: The Life and Turbulent Times of Chief Justice John Roberts*. New York: Basic Books, 2019. [post-M&G]

The definitive biography, by the veteran Court journalist who has chronicled a generation of justices.

Black, Hugo L. *A Constitutional Faith*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1968. [M&G 6273]

Black's own credo, drawn from his 1968 Carpentier Lectures at Columbia, and the clearest statement of the philosophy that drove him.

Black, Hugo L. Edited by Irving Dilliard. *One Man's Stand for Freedom: Mr. Justice Black and the Bill of Rights — A Collection of His Supreme Court Opinions*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1963. [M&G 6281]

Martin and Goehlert list the book but omit Dilliard, which is the one fact about it that matters — an edited collection of opinions is an argument about which opinions count, and Dilliard made it.

Black, Hugo L. "Inside a Senate Investigation." *Harper's Magazine* 172 (February 1936): 275–286. [M&G 6275]

February 1936: Black is a sitting senator from Alabama running the lobbying investigation that made him nationally famous and feared, and he is writing about it himself, eighteen months before Roosevelt names him to the Court.

Black, Hugo L. "The Bill of Rights." *New York University Law Review* 35 (April 1960): 865–881. [M&G 6272]

Black's 1960 James Madison Lecture, and the closest thing to a manifesto he ever wrote: the argument that the Bill of Rights means what it says, that "no law" means no law, and that the Fourteenth Amendment carried the whole of it against the states.

Black, Hugo L. "There Is a South of Union and Freedom." *Georgia Law Review* 2, no. 1 (Fall 1967): 10–15. [M&G 6283]

Six pages, free from Georgia's repository, and sharper than its length suggests: the Klan-member-turned-incorporationist writing about the South in 1967, in a tribute issue for Judge Elbert Tuttle of the Fifth Circuit — the judge who enforced desegregation — alongside Earl Warren and John Minor Wisdom.

Black, Hugo L., and Edmond Cahn. "Justice Black and First Amendment 'Absolutes': A Public Interview." *New York University Law Review* 37 (June 1962): 549–563. [M&G 6285]

Edmond Cahn asks and Black answers, in public, in 1962 — and it produced the most-quoted exchange in the literature of the First Amendment: "Congress shall make no law ... abridging the freedom of speech," and "that is what I believe it means."

Black, Hugo L., and Elizabeth Black. *Mr. Justice and Mrs. Black: The Memoirs of Hugo L. Black and Elizabeth Black*. New York: Random House, 1986. [not in M&G]

The intimate primary source — Black's own fragments of memoir joined to his wife Elizabeth's candid diaries of the later Court years, with a foreword by Justice Brennan.

Blackmun, Harry A. "The Marital Deduction and Its Use in Minnesota." *Minnesota Law Review* 36, no. 1 (December 1951): 50–64. [M&G 6299]

*Blackmun on estate tax, written in Minneapolis in 1951 while he was a tax and estates lawyer eight years from the Mayo Clinic's general counsel office and twenty-two years from *Roe v. Wade*.*

Blasi, Vincent, ed. *The Burger Court: The Counter-Revolution That Wasn't*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 1983.

The influential verdict on the Burger Court — a Yale symposium arguing that the Court expected to undo the Warren revolution mostly consolidated it instead.

Blatchford, Harriet W., comp. *The Blatchford Memorial*. 1871. [M&G 6306]

Listed by Martin and Goehlert as one of three Blatchford items, and it is worth being blunt about what it is: a family memorial to the Justice's GRANDFATHER, the Reverend Samuel Blatchford, D.D. (1767–1828) — his autobiography, memoir, obituary and funeral sermon, followed by descendant tables.

Blue, Frederick J. *Salmon P. Chase: A Life in Politics*. Kent, OH: Kent State University Press, 1987.

The other modern scholarly biography, and the fullest account of the political Chase.

Bond, James E. *I Dissent: The Legacy of Justice James Clark McReynolds*. Fairfax, VA: George Mason University Press, 1992. [post-M&G]

The only book-length study, and a fair-minded one about a man easy to caricature.

Bowen, Catherine Drinker. *Yankee from Olympus: Justice Holmes and His Family*. Boston: Little, Brown, 1944.

The famous popular life — Catherine Drinker Bowen's romantic, best-selling biography of Holmes and his family that fixed his image for a generation.

Bradbury, James Ware; Walter Chandler. "Memoir of Nathan Clifford" (Maine Historical Society, 1887) & "Nathan Clifford: A Triumph of Untiring Effort" (ABA Journal 11, 1925).

The memorial tradition, as the FJC's bibliography lists it: Bradbury — a former senator who knew him — for the Maine Historical Society, and Chandler (who also wrote the Catron centenary) with the bar's self-made-man framing.

Bradley, Charles, ed. *Miscellaneous Writings of the Late Hon. Joseph P. Bradley, with a Sketch of His Life*. Newark, NJ: L. J. Hardham, 1902.

No biography of Bradley has ever been written — this memorial volume, assembled by his son with a life sketch and assessments of his judicial record and dissents, is the closest thing that exists.

Bradley, Craig, ed. *The Rehnquist Legacy*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006. [post-M&G]

A scholarly assessment of the whole tenure, gathered just after his death — essays on federalism, criminal procedure, religion, and judicial administration that take the measure of a Chief who moved the law steadily rightward and ran the building with quiet efficiency.

Brandeis, Louis D. *Other People's Money and How the Bankers Use It*. New York: Frederick A. Stokes, 1914.

Brandeis's own manifesto against monopoly and 'the curse of bigness' — the muckraking classic on how investment bankers used other people's money to control American industry.

Brennan, William J., Jr. *The Constitution of the United States: Contemporary Ratification*. 1985.

Brennan's credo, delivered as a 1985 address at Georgetown and the most influential judicial answer to the originalism then ascendant under Attorney General Edwin Meese.

Brewer, David J. *The United States: A Christian Nation*. Philadelphia: John C. Winston, 1905.

Brewer's famous Haverford lectures expanding on his Holy Trinity dictum — the canonical primary source for the 'Christian nation' idea from the justice who put the phrase into the U.S. Reports.

Breyer, Stephen. *Active Liberty: Interpreting Our Democratic Constitution*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2005.

[post-M&G]

Breyer's judicial manifesto, and the clearest statement of the pragmatic philosophy he offered as the alternative to originalism.

- Breyer, Stephen. *Breaking the Vicious Circle: Toward Effective Risk Regulation*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1993. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The pre-bench Breyer, the administrative-law scholar — his influential little book on how to make risk regulation rational, a window on the expert, consequences-minded cast of mind he would bring to the Court.
- Breyer, Stephen. *Making Our Democracy Work: A Judge's View*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2010. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
Breyer's fullest statement of his judicial philosophy — the argument that the Court earns its authority by making the Constitution work for a democratic society, weighing purposes and consequences rather than parsing text alone.
- Breyer, Stephen. *Reading the Constitution: Why I Chose Pragmatism, Not Textualism*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2024. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
Breyer's parting argument, written just after his retirement — a direct rebuttal to the textualism and originalism now ascendant on the Court, and the clearest statement of the pragmatic alternative he spent three decades defending.
- Breyer, Stephen. *The Authority of the Court and the Peril of Politics*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2021. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
Breyer's last book before retiring, and his answer to a moment of crisis over the Court's legitimacy.
- Breyer, Stephen. *The Court and the World: American Law and the New Global Realities*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2015. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
Breyer's argument that American judges can no longer decide cases in isolation from the wider world — that commerce, security, treaties, and human rights increasingly require attention to foreign and international law.
- Brisbin, Richard A., Jr. *Justice Antonin Scalia and the Conservative Revival*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1997. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The first serious scholarly study of Scalia's method and its place in the conservative legal movement — a close reading of the opinions through his first decade that remains a standard analytical account.
- Brister, E. M. P. *Centennial History of the City of Newark and Licking County, Ohio* (2 vols.). Chicago: S. J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1909. [\[M&G 9432\]](#)
The fullest life of Woods anyone wrote, and it is a county subscription history.
- Brock, David. *The Real Anita Hill: The Untold Story*. New York: Free Press, 1993. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
Bestselling 1993 attack on Hill's credibility, arguing she invented the charges — later repudiated by its own author, who said publicly in 2001 that he had lied in it.
- Brodhead, Michael J. *David J. Brewer: The Life of a Supreme Court Justice, 1837–1910*. Carbondale, IL: Southern Illinois University Press, 1994. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The standard biography and the only full one, from Southern Illinois University Press.
- Bronner, Ethan. *Battle for Justice: How the Bork Nomination Shook America*. New York: W. W. Norton, 1989.
A Boston Globe correspondent's blow-by-blow of the 1987 Bork fight, built on interviews across the White House, the Justice Department, and the senators who beat him.
- Brookhiser, Richard. *John Marshall: The Man Who Made the Supreme Court*. New York: Basic Books, 2018. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The most concise and quotable of the modern popular lives — Marshall in a week rather than a month.
- Brown, Francis Joseph. *The Social and Economic Philosophy of Pierce Butler*. Washington, DC: Catholic University of America Press, 1945.
The only book-length study of Butler — a Catholic University monograph on the conservative Minnesota Democrat's philosophy, and the fullest account of the most reticent of the Four Horsemen.

- Brown, H. B. "The Dissenting Opinions of Justice Daniel." *American Law Review* 21, no. 6 (1887): 869–900.
A thirty-page audit of Daniel's dissents, by an author generally identified as Henry Billings Brown — who would join the Court himself in 1891.
- Brown, Steven P. *John McKinley and the Antebellum Supreme Court: Circuit Riding in the Old Southwest*. Tuscaloosa, AL: University of Alabama Press, 2012. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The subtitle is the thesis: a study of circuit riding in the Old Southwest, with McKinley as its exhausted exemplar.
- Brown, William Garrott. *The Life of Oliver Ellsworth*. New York: Macmillan, 1905.
For a century the only full biography, and still valuable: Brown wrote gracefully, worked from materials some of which are no longer easily traced, and fixed the standard narrative of Ellsworth's life.
- Budiansky, Stephen. *Oliver Wendell Holmes: A Life in War, Law, and Ideas*. New York: W. W. Norton, 2019.
[\[post-M&G\]](#)
The best modern single-volume life — narrative, humane, and unillusioned.
- Burt, Robert A. *Two Jewish Justices: Outcasts in the Promised Land*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1988.
A short, influential meditation on Brandeis and Frankfurter as Jewish outsiders — Burt reads their jurisprudence through assimilation and marginality, arguing that the immigrant's anxiety to belong helped shape Frankfurter's deference to the American majority.
- Byrnes, James F. *All in One Lifetime*. New York: Harper & Brothers, 1958.
Byrnes's autobiography, and a revealing self-portrait of a man at the center of power for four decades.
- Byrnes, James F. *Speaking Frankly*. New York: Harper & Brothers, 1947.
Byrnes's insider account of the early Cold War — his eighteen months as Truman's Secretary of State, the fraught Council of Foreign Ministers, and the hardening toward the Soviet Union.
- Calvani, Terry. "The Early Legal Career of Howell Jackson." *Vanderbilt Law Review* 30 (1977): 39–72.
The one substantial scholarly study of Jackson — the Tennessee Whig's rise through the wreckage of the postwar South to the federal bench.
- Canellos, Peter S. *The Great Dissenter: The Story of John Marshall Harlan, America's Judicial Hero*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2021. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The readable modern life, and a bestseller for good reason.
- Capen, Nahum, ed. *Writings of Levi Woodbury, LL.D.: Political, Judicial and Literary* (3 vols.). Boston: Little, Brown, 1852.
The only published edition of Woodbury's writings — three volumes gathered the year after his death, spanning the political, judicial, and literary careers.
- Capowski, Vincent J.; Philip D. Wheaton. "The Making of a Jacksonian Democrat" (Fordham diss., 1966) & "Levi Woodbury, Jacksonian Financier" (Maryland diss., 1955).
Two doctoral dissertations — the rise to 1831, and the Treasury years — that between them contain most of a biography that was never written.
- Cardozo, Benjamin N. *Law and Literature and Other Essays and Addresses*. New York: Harcourt, Brace, 1931.
The collection whose title essay is a classic on judicial prose — Cardozo, himself one of the great stylists ever to sit on a bench, on the craft of the written opinion.
- Cardozo, Benjamin N. *The Growth of the Law*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 1924.
The sequel to The Nature of the Judicial Process — Cardozo's further meditation on how judges make law within the constraints of precedent and principle.

- Cardozo, Benjamin N. *The Nature of the Judicial Process*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 1921.
The most influential little book ever written about judging, drawn from Cardozo's 1921 Storrs Lectures at Yale.
- Carmon, Irin, and Shana Knizhnik. *Notorious RBG: The Life and Times of Ruth Bader Ginsburg*. New York: Dey Street Books, 2015. [post-M&G]
The book that crystallized the phenomenon — an affectionate, illustrated life built from the Tumblr that made an octogenarian justice a pop-culture hero, blending the biography with her landmark dissents.
- Carney, Thomas E. "The Political Judge: Justice John McLean's Pursuit of the Presidency." *Ohio History* 111 (2002): 121–144. [post-M&G]
The dedicated study of McLean's perennial candidacies — courted by the Anti-Masons, Whigs, Free Soilers, and Republicans across nearly forty years while sitting as a justice.
- Casto, William R. "James Iredell and the American Origins of Judicial Review." *Connecticut Law Review* 27, no. 2 (1995). [post-M&G]
An influential specialized study arguing that Iredell grounded judicial review in popular sovereignty and the authority of a written constitution, rather than in judicial enforcement of free-floating natural law.
- Casto, William R. "Oliver Ellsworth: 'I have sought the felicity and glory of your Administration.'". In *Seriatim: The Supreme Court Before John Marshall* (1998). [post-M&G]
The best concise, Court-centered introduction — Ellsworth's judicial service in thirty pages (pp. 292–321), with particular attention to his deference to the executive in foreign affairs and his practical, Connecticut-bred jurisprudence.
- Casto, William R. *Oliver Ellsworth and the Creation of the Federal Republic*. Second Circuit Committee on History and Commemorative Events, 1997. [post-M&G]
The essential scholarly study of Ellsworth's constitutional work, by the historian who has done more than anyone to recover him — authoritative on the Judiciary Act's drafting, Ellsworth's Calvinist intellectual formation, and his statecraft.
- Casto, William R. *The Supreme Court in the Early Republic: The Chief Justiceships of John Jay and Oliver Ellsworth*. Columbia, SC: University of South Carolina Press, 1995. [post-M&G]
The standard scholarly account of the pre-Marshall Court as an institution — circuit riding, the grand jury charges, Chisholm, the refusal of advisory opinions, and the move away from seriatim opinions.
- Casto, William R. "Oliver Ellsworth's Calvinism: A Biographical Essay on Religion and Political Psychology in the Early Republic." *Journal of Church and State* 36, no. 3 (1994): 507–526. [post-M&G]
The best single piece on what actually made Ellsworth run.
- Cate, Wirt Armistead. *Lucius Q.C. Lamar: Secession and Reunion*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1935.
The big one — nearly six hundred pages from the University of North Carolina Press, written when men who had known Lamar were barely a generation gone.
- Catron, John. "Biographical Letter from Justice Catron." *United States Monthly Law Magazine* 5, no. 2 (1852): 145–151.
The self-made man tells his own story: the poverty, the missing schooling, the war service under Jackson, the mountain practice.
- Chandler, Adam D. "Slow and Steady: David Souter's Life in the Law." *Yale Law Journal Forum* (2010). [post-M&G]
The best short study of Souter's jurisprudence — a refutation of the 'stealth justice' caricature, showing a consistent Harlan-style common-law incrementalism running from the confirmation hearings to the late dissents.

Chandler, Walter. "The Centenary of Associate Justice John Catron." *Tennessee Law Review* 15, no. 1 (1937): 32–51.

The home-state tradition's fullest tribute, marking a hundred years from the 1837 appointment — commemorative in the manner of the genre (compare O'Rear on Todd and Schneider on Trimble), with Tennessee detail the national literature skips.

Chin, Gabriel J. "The Plessy Myth: Justice Harlan and the Chinese Cases." *Iowa Law Review* 82 (1996): 151. [post-M&G]

The canonical corrective to Harlan hagiography — the great color-blind dissenter was reliably hostile to Chinese litigants, in Plessy's own text ('a race so different from our own') and beyond.

Chrisman, Robert, and Robert L. Allen, eds. *Court of Appeal: The Black Community Speaks Out on the Racial and Sexual Politics of Clarence Thomas vs. Anita Hill*. New York: Ballantine, 1992. [post-M&G]

Forty-one essays gathered by the editors of The Black Scholar, ranging from conservative to radical, with the hearing chronology and organizational position papers, on how Black America argued over Thomas and Hill.

Christensen, George A. "Here Lies the Supreme Court: Revisited." *Journal of Supreme Court History* 33, no. 1 (2008): 17–41. [post-M&G]

A census of the justices' graves, and it earns its place here because for Woods the small verifiable facts are the scarce ones.

Clark, Floyd Barzilia. *The Constitutional Doctrines of Justice Harlan*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 1915.

The first scholarly study of Harlan's jurisprudence — a Johns Hopkins monograph published four years after his death, dated in method but foundational, and still cited for its early map of the great dissents.

Clark, Hunter R. *Justice Brennan: The Great Conciliator*. Birch Lane Press, 1995. [post-M&G]

A portrait organized around the quality that made Brennan effective — the warmth and patience with which he built majorities, 'with five votes you can do anything.'

Clifford, Philip Greely. *Nathan Clifford, Democrat (1803–1881)*. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1922.

The grandson is loyal but not blind, and the book preserves correspondence and Maine detail found nowhere else: the party man's climb — Jacksonian legislator, Polk's Attorney General, the minister who carried the ratified Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, Buchanan's doughface appointee.

Clifton, James M. "Alfred Moore." *Dictionary of North Carolina Biography* (William S. Powell, ed.) (1991). [post-M&G]

The best available account of Moore's whole life: the Cape Fear planter dynasty, Revolutionary service at Moore's Creek Bridge and Charleston, the resignation from the army after his father's death, the British destruction of his Buchoi rice plantation, nine years as North Carolina's attorney general, the appointment to Iredell's seat, and the quiet exit.

Cole, Donald B. *Jacksonian Democracy in New Hampshire, 1800–1851*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1970.

The standard monograph on the political machine Woodbury rode from Concord to the cabinet to the Court — with Woodbury himself as its central figure.

Coletta, Paolo E. *The Presidency of William Howard Taft*. Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas, 1973.

The standard scholarly account of the troubled 1909–1913 presidency — the tariff, the Ballinger–Pinchot affair, and the rupture with Theodore Roosevelt that split the Republican Party and cost Taft the White House.

Colucci, Frank J. *Justice Kennedy's Jurisprudence: The Full and Necessary Meaning of Liberty*. Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas, 2009. [post-M&G]

The best single study of how Kennedy thought, and the natural starting point given the absence of a full biography.

Connor, Henry G. *John Archibald Campbell: Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court, 1853–1861*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1920.

The first biography, written by a sitting federal judge — Henry Groves Connor of North Carolina — with a judge's sympathy for the impossible position.

Conroy, James B. *Our One Common Country: Abraham Lincoln and the Hampton Roads Peace Conference of 1865*. Guilford, CT: Lyons Press, 2014. [\[post-M&G\]](#)

Campbell aboard the River Queen in February 1865, one of three Confederate commissioners facing Lincoln and Seward — the same Seward whose 1861 assurances he had carried.

Cook, Adrian. *The Alabama Claims: American Politics and Anglo-American Relations, 1865–1872*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 1975.

The standard monograph on the Alabama Claims settlement — the great Anglo-American arbitration Nelson helped negotiate as a member of the Joint High Commission in 1871, at age seventy-eight, in the most consequential public service of his late career.

Cotter, Daniel S. *The Chief Justices: The Seventeen Men of the Center Seat, Their Courts, and Their Times*. Twelve Tables Press, 2019. [\[post-M&G\]](#)

A chapter apiece for all seventeen chiefs from Jay to Roberts: how each reached the center seat, who sat beside him, and the decisions his Court is remembered for — a survey rather than a reference.

Countryman, Edwin. "Samuel Nelson." *The Green Bag* 19, no. 6 (1907): 329–334.

The Gilded Age legal magazine's affectionate profile — the New York bar's memory of its greatest chief justice a generation after his death.

Countryman, Vern. *The Judicial Record of Justice William O. Douglas*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1974.

The scholarly counterweight to the biographies' color — Countryman's systematic survey of what Douglas actually did on the bench across thirty-six years, the longest tenure in the Court's history.

Cover, Robert M. *Justice Accused: Antislavery and the Judicial Process*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 1975.

One of the most influential books ever written about American judging, and Woodbury is among its exhibits: the study of antebellum judges who applied proslavery law while professing personal opposition — the 'moral-formal dilemma' in its sharpest form.

Cox, Archibald. *The Court and the Constitution*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1987.

Judicial review traced as an evolving practice from English antecedents through desegregation and abortion, written from a frankly liberal standpoint by Watergate's special prosecutor.

Coyle, Marcia. *The Roberts Court: The Struggle for the Constitution*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2013. [\[post-M&G\]](#)

The best narrative of the Roberts Court's first decade, told through four blockbusters: guns, campaign finance, health care, voting rights.

Cray, Ed. *Chief Justice: A Biography of Earl Warren*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1997. [\[post-M&G\]](#)

The fullest cradle-to-grave narrative — Ed Cray's thorough, readable life, strong on the California political career that shaped the man before Eisenhower named him and came to regret it.

Crew, Spencer R. *Thurgood Marshall: A Life in American History*. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2019. [\[post-M&G\]](#)

Currie, David P. *The Constitution in the Supreme Court: The Second Century, 1888–1986*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1986.

Case-by-case criticism of constitutional decisions from Fuller to Burger, judging each Court on the craft of its opinions — an approach one reviewer dismissed as "chronology without history."

Currie, David P.; Frank H. Easterbrook. "The Most Insignificant Justice: A Preliminary Inquiry" & "...Further Evidence." *University of Chicago Law Review* 50, no. 2 (1983): 466–503.

The most entertaining scholarship ever written about Todd — a deadpan empirical competition for judicial insignificance in which Currie crowns Todd and Easterbrook, marshaling further evidence, presses the claims of Gabriel Duvall.

Curtis, Benjamin R., Jr., ed., with George Ticknor Curtis. *A Memoir of Benjamin Robbins Curtis, LL.D., with Some of His Professional and Miscellaneous Writings* (2 vols.). Boston: Little, Brown, 1879.

The Victorian monument, assembled by his son with his brother George Ticknor Curtis, the constitutional historian — and the indispensable primary trove: correspondence, the poisonous resignation exchange with Taney, the impeachment argument, and the professional writings.

Cushing, John D. "A Revolutionary Conservative: The Public Life of William Cushing, 1732–1810." unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, Clark University, 1960.

No biography of Cushing has ever been published — and this dissertation is the only full-length life ever written, by the scholar who owned the subject.

Cushing, John D. "The Cushing Court and the Abolition of Slavery in Massachusetts: More Notes on the 'Quock Walker Case.'". *American Journal of Legal History* 5, no. 2 (1961): 118–144.

The foundational modern examination of the 1783 Jennison ruling that tradition credits with ending slavery in Massachusetts — and of how much (or little) Cushing's jury charge actually decided.

Cushman, Barry. *Rethinking the New Deal Court: The Structure of a Constitutional Revolution*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1998. [post-M&G]

The essential modern frame for Roberts's reputation — Cushman's revisionist case that the 1937 'switch in time' was doctrinal evolution, not political capitulation, which if right acquits Roberts of the charge that defines him.

Cushman, Barry. "The Secret Lives of the Four Horsemen." *Virginia Law Review* 83 (1997): 559. [post-M&G]

The most-cited essay ever written about the Court's conservative bloc — Cushman's demolition of the cartoon Four Horsemen, drawing on their private papers to recover four working judges rather than four villains.

Cushman, Clare, ed. *The Supreme Court Justices: Illustrated Biographies, 1789–2012*. 3rd ed. Thousand Oaks, CA: CQ Press, 2013. [post-M&G]

The Supreme Court Historical Society's illustrated capsule lives — the reliable standard for a justice with no biography, each with a portrait.

Cushman, Clare. "Father on the Bench: Justice William R. Day and Kinship Recusal." *Journal of Supreme Court History* 46, no. 1 (2021): 62–80. [post-M&G]

The only substantial Day scholarship since the 1946 biography — a study of a problem Day lived daily: his sons practiced before the Court, and his recusal practice became an early case study in judicial-family ethics.

Custer, Lawrence B. "Bushrod Washington and John Marshall: A Preliminary Inquiry." *American Journal of Legal History* 4 (1960).

The classic examination of the Court's closest working partnership — whether Bushrod was Marshall's shadow or an independent mind who happened to agree.

- Dalin, David G. *Jewish Justices of the Supreme Court: From Brandeis to Kagan*. Waltham, MA: Brandeis University Press, 2017. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
Collective portrait of the eight Jewish justices from Brandeis to Kagan — their nominations and the antisemitism that met them, the "Jewish seat" convention, and their relations with the presidents who chose them.
- Danelski, David J. *A Supreme Court Justice Is Appointed*. New York: Random House, 1964.
A small classic of Court scholarship, and the closest thing to a Butler book.
- Danforth, John C. *Resurrection: The Confirmation of Clarence Thomas*. New York: Viking, 1994. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The 1991 fight as run by Thomas's chief Senate champion — his former boss in Missouri, and an ordained Episcopal priest — who recounts doing whatever it took and nearly losing his soul to rage.
- Davies, Ross E. "Recognition and Volition: Remembering the Retirement of Justice Gabriel Duvall." *The Journal of Law* 4, no. 1 (2014): 1–10. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The strangest endgame of any early justice: profoundly deaf, Duvall would not resign until he understood that Roger Taney, a fellow Marylander, would be nominated for his seat.
- Davies, Ross E. "William Cushing, Chief Justice of the United States." *University of Toledo Law Review* 37, no. 3 (2006). [\[post-M&G\]](#)
A detailed revisionist study of the strange 1796 episode.
- Davis, Junius. *Alfred Moore and James Iredell, Revolutionary Patriots*. Address to the Supreme Court of North Carolina. Raleigh: North Carolina Society of the Sons of the Revolution, 1899.
- Davis, Michael D., and Hunter R. Clark. *Thurgood Marshall: Warrior at the Bar, Rebel on the Bench*. Secaucus, NJ: Carol Publishing Group, 1992. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
- Davis, Sue. *Justice Rehnquist and the Constitution*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1989.
The first serious study of Rehnquist's constitutional philosophy — Sue Davis on the consistent conservatism behind the early solo dissents, written when he was still the Court's right flank rather than its Chief.
- De Hart, Jane Sherron. *Ruth Bader Ginsburg: A Life*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2018. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The definitive biography, the product of years of research and interviews with Ginsburg herself.
- Dean, John W. *The Rehnquist Choice: The Untold Story of the Nixon Appointment That Redefined the Supreme Court*. New York: Free Press, 2001. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
Nixon's own White House counsel, working from the Nixon tapes, reconstructs the accidental, cynical, and finally fateful process that put Rehnquist on the Court in 1971 — 'Renchburg,' as Nixon kept calling him.
- Degnan, Daniel A. "William Paterson: Small States' Nationalist." In *Seriatim: The Supreme Court Before John Marshall*. 1998. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The best concise, Court-centered treatment.
- Delaplaine, Edward S. *The Life of Thomas Johnson*. New York: F. H. Hitchcock, 1927.
The only full-length biography devoted to Johnson and therefore the natural starting point — detailed on the Maryland politics, Revolutionary service, friendship with Washington, governorship, constitutional work, Federal City commission, and brief Court tenure.
- Dias, Elizabeth, and Lisa Lerer. *The Fall of Roe: The Rise of a New America*. New York: Flatiron Books, 2024. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
Two New York Times reporters' deeply sourced history of the movement that ended Roe — with Alito as the justice who wrote the opinion and weathered the leak.

- Dillon, Mark C. *The First Chief Justice: John Jay and the Struggle of a New Nation*. Albany, NY: State University of New York Press, 2022. [post-M&G]
A focused, thoughtful study of Jay's formative role in establishing the early Supreme Court and federal judiciary.
- Dodson, Scott, ed. *The Legacy of Ruth Bader Ginsburg (2nd ed.)*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2022. [post-M&G]
The major posthumous scholarly volume — Totenberg, Herma Hill Kay, Linda Kerber, the Siegels, and others assessing the advocate and the justice, updated after her death with a foreword by Justice Breyer.
- Donald, David, ed. *Inside Lincoln's Cabinet: The Civil War Diaries of Salmon P. Chase*. New York: Longmans, Green, 1954.
Chase's Civil War diaries, edited by the great Lincoln scholar David Herbert Donald — the Treasury secretary's candid, often self-serving record of the Cabinet's inner life, from war finance to the feuds with Seward and the maneuvering against Lincoln.
- Dorsen, David M. *The Unexpected Scalia: A Conservative Justice's Liberal Opinions*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2017. [post-M&G]
A liberal friend's case-by-case study of the roughly 135 times Scalia's method produced liberal results — flag burning, confrontation rights, sentencing.
- Dorsen, Norman. "The Second Mr. Justice Harlan: A Constitutional Conservative." *New York University Law Review* 44 (1969): 249.
The single most-cited Harlan article — his former clerk's portrait of the 'constitutional conservative,' the phrase that has framed every discussion of Harlan since.
- Douglas, William O. *Go East, Young Man: The Early Years*. New York: Random House, 1974.
Douglas's own account of the rise — the hardscrabble Yakima boyhood, the bout with polio, Columbia Law, Wall Street, Yale, and the New Deal SEC that carried him to the Court at forty.
- Douglas, William O. *Of Men and Mountains*. New York: Harper & Brothers, 1950.
His best-loved book — a lyrical memoir of the Cascades that made Douglas a hero to the conservation movement and shaped the environmental jurisprudence he would later write from the bench.
- Douglas, William O. *Points of Rebellion*. New York: Random House, 1970.
The incendiary little book that nearly got him impeached — Douglas's defense of dissent and the youth revolt of 1969, published as Gerald Ford was building a House case to remove him.
- Douglas, William O. *The Court Years, 1939–1975: The Autobiography of William O. Douglas*. New York: Random House, 1980.
The second volume — Douglas on his thirty-six years as a justice, settling scores with colleagues and recounting the great cases, the impeachment attempts, and the four marriages.
- Dowd, Morgan D. "Justice Story and the Politics of Appointment." *American Journal of Legal History* 9, no. 4 (1965): 265–285.
How the fourth choice became the appointment of the century: Cushing's death, the failed nominations of Levi Lincoln, Alexander Wolcott, and John Quincy Adams, Jefferson's warnings from Monticello, and Madison's gamble on a thirty-two-year-old Salem lawyer his own party distrusted.
- Downs, Harry. "Unlikely Abolitionist: William Cushing and the Struggle Against Slavery." *Journal of Supreme Court History* 29, no. 2 (2004). [post-M&G]
The strongest focused treatment of Cushing's role in the Quock Walker cases and the effective end of slavery as a legally protected institution in Massachusetts — and it confronts the tension between Cushing's constitutional ruling and his own social and family connections to slaveholding New England.

- Drinard, Elliott J. "John Blair, Jr., 1732–1800." *Proceedings of the Virginia State Bar Association* 39 (1926): 436–448. [M&G 6303]
- Dunne, Gerald T. *Hugo Black and the Judicial Revolution*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1977. [not in M&G]
An early, admiring study of Black's remaking of constitutional law — the drive to 'incorporate' the Bill of Rights against the states and read the First Amendment as an absolute.
- Dunne, Gerald T. *Justice Joseph Story and the Rise of the Supreme Court*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1970.
The livelier predecessor to Newmyer — a brisk, quotable narrative distilled from Dunne's string of 1960s Harvard Law Review articles.
- Dunne, Gerald T. *Monetary Decisions of the Supreme Court*. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 1961.
A compact classic — barely a hundred pages — that gives the greenback saga its ending.
- Dunne, Gerald T. "Bushrod Washington and the Mount Vernon Slaves." *Supreme Court Historical Society Yearbook* 5 (1980): 25–29.
The first dedicated treatment of the ugliest fact of Washington's life — his sale of fifty-four enslaved people from Mount Vernon in 1821, while serving as president of the American Colonization Society.
- Dunne, Gerald T. "The Story-Livingston Correspondence (1812–1822)." *American Journal of Legal History* 10 (1966): 224–236.
The only dedicated scholarly article on Livingston as a justice — his private letters to Joseph Story, which are among the few windows into the Marshall Court's internal life from a justice who left almost no judicial paper trail.
- Easterbrook, Frank H. "The Most Insignificant Justice: Further Evidence." *University of Chicago Law Review* 50, no. 2 (1983): 481–503.
The reply brief in the funniest exchange in American legal scholarship.
- Eisler, Kim Isaac. *A Justice for All: William J. Brennan, Jr., and the Decisions That Transformed America*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1993. [post-M&G]
The first full biography, written before the papers opened — Eisler is good on Brennan the vote-counter and coalition-builder, the Irish-Catholic New Jersey judge who became the liberal engine of two Courts.
- Ellis, Richard E. *The Jeffersonian Crisis: Courts and Politics in the Young Republic*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1971.
The classic political history of the Jeffersonian assault on the Federalist judiciary — the strongest broad context for the impeachment, placing the trial alongside the repeal of the Judiciary Act of 1801, Stuart v. Laird, and the struggle over the federal courts' place in the constitutional order.
- Elsmere, Jane Shaffer. *Justice Samuel Chase*. Muncie, IN: Janevar, 1980.
The only other full-length life of Chase besides Stormy Patriot — published the same year, from a small Indiana press, and fuller on the judicial career and the impeachment trial.
- Ely, James W., Jr. *The Chief Justiceship of Melville W. Fuller, 1888–1910*. Columbia, SC: University of South Carolina Press, 1995. [post-M&G]
The modern institutional reappraisal, in South Carolina's Chief Justiceships series.
- Ely, James W., Jr. "Rufus W. Peckham and Economic Liberty." *Vanderbilt Law Review* 62, no. 2 (2009): 591. [post-M&G]
The leading modern reassessment of the man who wrote Lochner — Ely's case that Peckham was no crude tool of capital but a coherent economic-liberty jurist in the Jacksonian antimonopoly tradition.

Epstein, Lee, and Eric A. Posner. *What Is Oral Argument For?* University of Chicago Public Law and Legal Theory Research Paper No. 26-22 (2026). [post-M&G]

Twenty terms of transcripts and 368,369 speaking turns, asking what the hour is actually for: finds that a justice's ideology and distance from the median predict how much they talk while the attorneys' experience predicts almost nothing, and argues that a literature counting interruptions without conditioning on participation has been measuring the wrong thing.

Epstein, Lee, Andrew D. Martin, Kevin M. Quinn, and Jeffrey A. Segal. "Ideology and the Study of Judicial Behavior." In *Ideology, Psychology, and Law*, ed. Jon Hanson (2012). [post-M&G]

The readable account of what an ideology score is and is not — why political scientists treat ideology as indispensable to explaining judging, how the measures are actually built, and which methodological and normative objections to them remain unanswered.

Epstein, Lee, William M. Landes, and Richard A. Posner. *Inferring the Winning Party*. *Journal of Legal Studies* 39, no. 2 (2010): 433–467. [post-M&G]

Tests the courthouse folk wisdom that the side asked more questions loses, finds that it holds, and uses the pattern to separate two accounts of what the questioning is for: a legalistic search for truth, or a realistic strategy for influencing colleagues.

Epstein, Lee, William M. Landes, and Richard A. Posner. *The Behavior of Federal Judges: A Theoretical and Empirical Study of Rational Choice*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2013. [post-M&G]

A political scientist, an economist and a sitting federal judge treat judges as labour-market actors with pecuniary and non-pecuniary motives, and test the consequences across district courts, circuit courts and the Supreme Court — not only votes and outcomes but opinion length, citations, dissents, and questions asked at oral argument.

Ewald, William. "James Wilson and the Drafting of the Constitution." *University of Pennsylvania Journal of Constitutional Law* 10, no. 5 (2008). [post-M&G]

An exceptionally detailed reconstruction of Wilson's work at the Convention.

Fairman, Charles. *Mr. Justice Miller and the Supreme Court, 1862–1890*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1939.

The monument, and still unsurpassed.

Fairman, Charles. *Reconstruction and Reunion, 1864–88, Part One (Oliver Wendell Holmes Devise History of the Supreme Court, vol. 6)*. New York: Macmillan, 1971.

The monumental Holmes Devise volumes for the Court from 1864 to 1888, and the standing institutional frame for this site across those decades.

Fairman, Charles. *Reconstruction and Reunion, 1864–88, Part Two (Oliver Wendell Holmes Devise History of the Supreme Court, vol. 7)*. New York: Macmillan, 1987.

The second half of Fairman, published sixteen years after the first and a separate book, and the one that matters here.

Farrand, Max, ed. *The Records of the Federal Convention of 1787* (4 vols., rev. ed.). New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 1937.

The indispensable printed collection for what the Convention's future justices actually did at Philadelphia: the notes, the plans and their variants, and Madison's account of the speeches.

Fassett, John D. *New Deal Justice: The Life of Stanley Reed of Kentucky*. New York: Vantage Press, 1994. [post-M&G]

The one full biography, by a lawyer who clerked for Reed and knew him well.

- Fede, Andrew T. "Not the Most Insignificant Justice: Reconsidering Justice Gabriel Duvall's Slavery Law Opinions Favoring Liberty." *Journal of Supreme Court History* 42, no. 1 (2017): 8–27. [post-M&G]
The key Duvall study between Easterbrook's 1983 needle and Thomas's 2020 book.
- Fehrenbacher, Don E. *The Dred Scott Case: Its Significance in American Law and Politics*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1978.
The Pulitzer-winning definitive history of the case, and still the standard against which all Dred Scott scholarship is measured.
- Feldman, Noah. *Scorpions: The Battles and Triumphs of FDR's Great Supreme Court Justices*. New York: Twelve, 2010. [post-M&G]
The best narrative group biography of the Roosevelt Court — Black, Douglas, Frankfurter and Jackson, "scorpions in a bottle," whose rivalries made and unmade doctrine.
- Felix, Antonia. *Sonia Sotomayor: The True American Dream*. New York: Berkley Books, 2010. [post-M&G]
An accessible earlier biography, strong on the Puerto Rican family, the childhood diabetes, and the Princeton-and-Yale ascent.
- Fernandez, Mark F. "John Blair (1731–1800)." In *Dictionary of Virginia Biography*. Richmond: Library of Virginia, 1998. [post-M&G]
The best concise account of Blair's whole public life — especially useful on his Virginia judgeships, the uncertain evidence surrounding Commonwealth v. Caton, the 1788 judicial remonstrance, the Convention, circuit riding, Chisholm, Penhallow, and his resignation for poor health.
- Ferren, John M. *Salt of the Earth, Conscience of the Court: The Story of Justice Wiley Rutledge*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2004. [post-M&G]
The definitive biography, by a judge of the D.C. Court of Appeals who spent years recovering a justice history had let slip.
- Fiebelman, Herbert U.; James L. Noles Jr. "John McKinley of Alabama" (*Alabama Lawyer* 22, 1961) & "Alabama's Forgotten Justices: John McKinley and John A. Campbell" (*Alabama Lawyer* 63, 2002). [post-M&G]
The home-state bar's two remembrances, forty years apart, as the FJC's bibliography lists them — Fiebelman's the fuller career sketch, Noles's a double portrait pairing McKinley with Alabama's other justice, John Archibald Campbell.
- Field, Stephen J. *Personal Reminiscences of Early Days in California, with Other Sketches*. 1893.
Field's own memoir of the Gold Rush frontier — the vigilante justice, the mining-camp law, and the feuds that forged the most combative justice of the Gilded Age.
- Fine, Sidney. *Frank Murphy* (3 vols.: *The Detroit Years*; *The New Deal Years*; *The Washington Years*). Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press, 1984.
The monumental scholarly biography, three volumes and nearly two decades in the making, and one of the fullest lives ever written of any justice.
- Finkelman, Paul. "John McLean: Moderate Abolitionist and Supreme Court Politician." *Vanderbilt Law Review* 62, no. 2 (2009): 519–566. [post-M&G]
Finkelman, elsewhere the Court's sternest prosecutor on slavery, gives McLean real credit: the lone Prigg dissenter, the Dred Scott dissenter, the one justice antislavery America trusted.

- Finkelman, Paul. *Supreme Injustice: Slavery in the Nation's Highest Court*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2018. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
Three justices — Marshall, Story and Taney — tried for their records on slavery, with Story's chapter the most unsettling because expectations are highest.
- Fish, Peter Graham. *Federal Justice in the Mid-Atlantic South: United States Courts from Maryland to the Carolinas, 1789–1835*. Washington, DC: Administrative Office of the United States Courts, 2002. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
An institutional history rather than a biography, but the most useful book for placing Blair's circuit service in the world of the early federal courts of the Mid-Atlantic South — the demanding circuit system that occupied far more of an early justice's time than the Court's small appellate docket.
- Fiss, Owen M. *Troubled Beginnings of the Modern State, 1888–1910* (Oliver Wendell Holmes Devise History of the Supreme Court, vol. 8). New York: Macmillan, 1993. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The Holmes Devise volume for the early Fuller Court, 1888–1910.
- Flanders, Henry. *The Lives and Times of the Chief Justices: John Jay and John Rutledge* (Vol. 1). Philadelphia: Lippincott, 1855. [\[M&G 5899\]](#)
A substantial nineteenth-century account of the first two Chief Justices.
- Flanders, Henry. *The Lives and Times of the Chief Justices: William Cushing, Oliver Ellsworth, John Marshall* (Vol. 2). Philadelphia: Lippincott, 1858. [\[M&G 5899\]](#)
- Fortas, Abe. *Concerning Dissent and Civil Disobedience*. New York: New American Library, 1968.
The 1968 mass-market bestseller — a sitting Supreme Court justice telling a nation on fire when law-breaking protest is defensible and when it isn't.
- Foskett, Ken. *Judging Thomas: The Life and Times of Clarence Thomas*. New York: William Morrow, 2004. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
A balanced journalistic biography by an Atlanta reporter who interviewed Thomas and those around him — strong on the Pin Point, Georgia origins and the long road to the Court.
- Frank, David A., and Francis J. Mootz III, eds. *The Rhetoric of Judging Well: The Conflicted Legacy of Justice Anthony M. Kennedy*. University Park, PA: Pennsylvania State University Press, 2023. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
*The major post-retirement scholarly volume — fifteen scholars on *Romer*, *Casey*, and *Obergefell*, on 'the sweet mystery of life,' and on the blind spots.*
- Frank, John P. *Justice Daniel Dissenting: A Biography of Peter V. Daniel, 1784–1860*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1964.
Daniel dissented against corporations, banks, admiralty, federal roads — against the nineteenth century itself — with a consistency no colleague matched.
- Frank, John P. *Mr. Justice Black: The Man and His Opinions*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1949. [\[not in M&G\]](#)
The first full-length study of Black, written by his own former law clerk with an introduction by Charles Beard — the book that started Black scholarship, published while the justice still had two decades to serve.
- Frankfurter, Felix, and James M. Landis. *The Business of the Supreme Court: A Study in the Federal Judicial System*. New York: Macmillan, 1928.
The foundational study of the federal judicial system, written with his protégé James Landis — a dense institutional history of the Court's jurisdiction and workload that launched a whole field and is still a starting point in it.

Frankfurter, Felix. *The Case of Sacco and Vanzetti: A Critical Analysis for Lawyers and Laymen*. Boston: Little, Brown, 1927.

Frankfurter's own famous intervention — the Harvard professor's coolly devastating dissection of the trial, first an Atlantic Monthly article and then this book, which made him a national figure and a marked man to the Boston establishment.

Frankfurter, Felix. "Mr. Justice Roberts." *University of Pennsylvania Law Review* 104 (1955): 311.

The primary document of the switch controversy: Frankfurter's memorial essay publishing Roberts's own posthumous memorandum explaining his 1937 votes.

Freedman, Max, ed. *Roosevelt and Frankfurter: Their Correspondence, 1928–1945*. Boston: Little, Brown, 1967.

The extraordinary FDR–Frankfurter letters — the professor as presidential adviser, talent scout, and sounding board, documenting an intimacy with power almost unimaginable for a soon-to-be and then sitting justice.

Freyer, Tony. *Hugo L. Black and the Dilemma of American Liberalism*. Glenview, IL: Scott, Foresman, 1990.

[not in M&G]

A compact interpretive biography (Library of American Biography) framing Black around the central tension of twentieth-century liberalism — majoritarian democracy against individual rights.

Friedman, Leon, and Fred L. Israel, eds. *The Justices of the United States Supreme Court: Their Lives and Major Opinions*. New York: Chelsea House, 1969. [M&G 5904]

The standard reference set, and for many of the justices no one has written a book about, the fullest connected account of the life in print.

Friendly, Fred W. *Minnesota Rag: The Dramatic Story of the Landmark Supreme Court Case That Gave New Meaning to Freedom of the Press*. New York: Random House, 1981.

*How a bigoted Minnesota scandal sheet, shut down under the state's gag law and bankrolled on appeal by the Chicago Tribune's Colonel McCormick, produced *Near v. Minnesota* and the rule against prior restraint.*

Gal, Allon. *Brandeis of Boston*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1980.

The study of the formative Boston decades — the corporate lawyer's transformation into the 'People's Lawyer,' the fights over insurance, railroads, and monopoly that made his name before Woodrow Wilson sent him to the Court.

Garrow, David J. *Liberty and Sexuality: The Right to Privacy and the Making of *Roe v. Wade**. New York: Macmillan, 1994. [post-M&G]

Gass, Edmond C. "The Constitutional Opinions of Justice John Catron." *East Tennessee Historical Society's Publications* 8 (1936): 54–73.

Gellman, David N. *Liberty's Chain: Slavery, Abolition, and the Jay Family of New York*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2022. [post-M&G]

A valuable modern study of the most complicated part of Jay's legacy: his involvement in antislavery activity while he and his family remained connected to slavery.

Gerber, Scott Douglas, ed. *Seriatim: The Supreme Court Before John Marshall* (the Rutledge chapter). 1998.

[post-M&G]

The most useful scholarly judicial context — an essay on each major pre-Marshall justice, reconstructing the constitutional ideas they brought to the early Court.

Gerber, Scott Douglas. "Deconstructing William Cushing." In *Seriatim: The Supreme Court Before John Marshall* (1998). [post-M&G]

The best modern starting point.

- Gerber, Scott Douglas. *First Principles: The Jurisprudence of Clarence Thomas*. New York: New York University Press, 1999. [post-M&G]
The early study of Thomas's constitutional method — Gerber's argument that a coherent 'liberal originalism,' rooted in the natural-rights principles of the Declaration, runs through his opinions.
- Gerhart, Eugene C. *America's Advocate: Robert H. Jackson*. Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill, 1958.
The standard biography, written soon after Jackson's death by a lawyer who admired him.
- Gibson, Larry S. *Young Thurgood: The Making of a Supreme Court Justice*. Amherst, NY: Prometheus Books, 2012. [post-M&G]
The definitive account of the formation — the Baltimore boyhood, Lincoln University, and the Howard Law years under Charles Hamilton Houston that turned Marshall into a lawyer.
- Ginsburg, Ruth Bader, with Amanda L. Tyler. *Justice, Justice Thou Shalt Pursue: A Life's Work Fighting for a More Perfect Union*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2021. [post-M&G]
The posthumously completed capstone — her writings, speeches, and a landmark 2019 conversation with the Berkeley law professor Amanda Tyler on the equal-protection campaign she built as an advocate.
- Ginsburg, Ruth Bader. *My Own Words*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2016. [post-M&G]
A collection of Ginsburg's own writings and speeches, spanning from childhood editorials to major opinions and dissents, with introductions by her authorized biographers.
- Glad, Betty. *Charles Evans Hughes and the Illusions of Innocence: A Study in American Diplomacy*. Urbana, IL: University of Illinois Press, 1966.
The study of Hughes the diplomat — his years as Harding and Coolidge's Secretary of State, the Washington Naval Conference, and the 'illusions' Glad argues shaped an idealistic American approach to a dangerous world.
- Glen, Patrick J. "Harvard and Yale Ascendant: The Legal Education of the Justices From Holmes to Kagan." *UCLA Law Review Discourse* 58 (2010): 129–154. [post-M&G]
Twenty-six pages in the UCLA Law Review's online companion, and the useful half is one dateable fact: the Ivy League's grip on the Court is recent, not ancient, and Kagan in 2010 was the first bench of nine to be entirely Ivy-trained. Frozen at that moment, though, and answered by events: Glen closes by urging the president to look outside Harvard and Yale, which is what happened in 2020. Its eight-page appendix relists the whole Court at every nomination since 1902, so Holmes appears in it dozens of times, and it counts only law-school graduates, which drops 64 of the 116 justices out of its own subject.
- Glennon, Robert J., Jr. "Justice Henry Billings Brown: Values in Tension." *University of Colorado Law Review* 44 (1973): 553–606.
The one significant scholarly study of Brown as a whole jurist rather than as Plessy's author — the comfortable Yankee moderate whose 'values in tension' produced both the era's worst opinion and a surprisingly progressive record on labor and admiralty.
- Goebel, Julius, Jr. *Antecedents and Beginnings to 1801 (Oliver Wendell Holmes Devise History of the Supreme Court, vol. 1)*. New York: Macmillan, 1971.
The opening volume of the Holmes Devise history, running from the traditions behind Article III through the Judiciary Act of 1789 to the Court's first decade, with a statistical appendix on its early business.
- Goff, John S. "Mr. Justice Trimble of the United States Supreme Court." *Register of the Kentucky Historical Society* 58, no. 1 (1960): 6–28.
The standard account: the Virginia birth and Kentucky frontier boyhood, the rise through the land-title bar to the state's highest court, the offices he reportedly declined because judging paid less than practice, nine years as federal district judge, and the two-term Supreme Court career cut off by sudden death at fifty-one.

- Goldberg, Arthur J. *Equal Justice: The Warren Era of the Supreme Court*. Evanston, IL: Northwestern University Press, 1971.
Goldberg's Rosenthal Lectures — the ex-justice's own defense of the Warren Court he served, including the argument against the death penalty he had pressed from the bench in Rudolph v. Alabama.
- Goldberg, Arthur J.; Daniel Patrick Moynihan, ed. *The Defenses of Freedom: The Public Papers of Arthur J. Goldberg*. New York: Harper & Row, 1966.
Goldberg's public papers — labor lawyer, Secretary of Labor, justice, UN ambassador — edited, remarkably, by Daniel Patrick Moynihan.
- Goldman, Roger L., and David Gallen. *Justice William J. Brennan, Jr.: Freedom First*. New York: Carroll & Graf, 1994. [post-M&G]
A short biographical study paired with generous selections from Brennan's major opinions — a convenient one-volume way to meet both the man and the work.
- Goodwin, Doris Kearns. *The Bully Pulpit: Theodore Roosevelt, William Howard Taft, and the Golden Age of Journalism*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2013. [post-M&G]
Half of Goodwin's 900-page epic is a full Taft biography — the most widely read treatment of the man in half a century, carrying him from Cincinnati through the presidency to the 1912 rupture with Roosevelt.
- Gordan, John D., III. *The Fugitive Slave Rescue Trial of Robert Morris: Benjamin Robbins Curtis on the Road to Dred Scott*. Clark, NJ: Talbot Publishing, 2013. [post-M&G]
The only book-length Curtis study besides Streichler — his 1851 work enforcing the Fugitive Slave Act in Boston, prosecuting the rescuers of Shadrach Minkins.
- Gordon, Ann D. *The Trial of Susan B. Anthony*. Washington, DC: Federal Judicial Center, 2005. [post-M&G]
Hunt's one appearance on history's stage — on the wrong side of it — told authoritatively and free.
- Gorsuch, Neil M. *A Republic, If You Can Keep It*. New York: Crown Forum, 2019. [post-M&G]
Gorsuch in his own words — on textualism, the role of courts, and the constitutional order.
- Gorsuch, Neil M. *The Future of Assisted Suicide and Euthanasia*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2006. [post-M&G]
Gorsuch's only academic monograph — the book of his Oxford doctorate, arguing against legalization from the intrinsic value of human life.
- Gorsuch, Neil M., with Janie Nitze. *Over Ruled: The Human Toll of Too Much Law*. New York: Harper, 2024. [post-M&G]
His second book, and the fullest statement of his broader worldview: an argument, through human stories, that a country buried under too many laws and regulations loses liberty and dignity in the process.
- Gostin, Larry, ed. "Justice Harry A. Blackmun: The Supreme Court and the Limits of Medical Privacy." *American Journal of Law and Medicine* 13, nos. 2–3 (1987): 153–525. [M&G 6289, 6292, 6296]
Martin and Goehlert index three articles out of this issue as though they were unrelated; they are three of thirteen pieces in a symposium devoted to Blackmun, and the two they leave out are the two you would most want — a tribute by Brennan and Remarks by Blackmun himself.
- Gould, Lewis L. *Chief Executive to Chief Justice: Taft betwixt the White House and Supreme Court*. Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas, 2014. [post-M&G]
The study of the interregnum — Taft's years out of office (1913–1921) as a Yale professor and public man, campaigning quietly for the Chief Justiceship he had wanted all along and finally won from Harding.

- Graber, Mark A. *Dred Scott and the Problem of Constitutional Evil*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006. [post-M&G]
The major revisionist study — Graber's unsettling case that Taney's opinion was a plausible reading of a Constitution that really did protect slavery, which makes the evil constitutional rather than judicial.
- Graetz, Michael J., and Linda Greenhouse. *The Burger Court and the Rise of the Judicial Right*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2016. [post-M&G]
The best single book for understanding the Burger years, and the natural entry point given the absence of a finished Burger biography.
- Greenburg, Jan Crawford. *Supreme Conflict: The Inside Story of the Struggle for Control of the United States Supreme Court*. New York: Penguin Press, 2007. [post-M&G]
The inside story of the conservative campaign to remake the Court that produced Roberts's own appointment — Jan Crawford Greenburg's well-sourced account of the nominations from Reagan through Roberts and Alito.
- Greene, Meg. *Elena Kagan: A Biography*. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood, 2013. [post-M&G]
- Greenhouse, Linda. *Becoming Justice Blackmun: Harry Blackmun's Supreme Court Journey*. New York: Times Books, 2005. [post-M&G]
The first book written from Blackmun's newly opened papers, and still the best introduction to the man and his transformation.
- Greenya, John, and Mark Paoletta. *Gorsuch: The Judge Who Speaks for Himself*. New York: Threshold Editions, 2018. [post-M&G]
The closest thing to a biography currently available, published shortly after his confirmation.
- Grier, Robert C. Letter to President-elect James Buchanan, February 23, 1857. James Buchanan Papers, Historical Society of Pennsylvania.
Days later the president-elect piously promised at his inauguration to submit to a decision he already knew.
- Gronlund, Mimi Clark. *Supreme Court Justice Tom C. Clark: A Life of Service*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 2010. [post-M&G]
An affectionate, well-researched biography by Clark's daughter, drawing on family papers and personal memory.
- Gugin, Linda C. & James E. St. Clair. *Sherman Minton: New Deal Senator, Cold War Justice*. Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Society Press, 1997. [post-M&G]
The definitive biography, by the authors who also wrote the standard life of Fred Vinson.
- Gunther, Gerald. *Learned Hand: The Man and the Judge*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1994. [post-M&G]
- Gutgold, Nichola D. *The Rhetoric of Supreme Court Women: From Obstacles to Options*. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2012. [post-M&G]
A communication scholar's rhetorical study of the first four women on the Court, reading O'Connor, Ginsburg, Sotomayor and Kagan through confirmation testimony, opinions, public lectures and interviews.
- Haines, Charles Grove. *The Role of the Supreme Court in American Government and Politics, 1789–1835*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1944.
The Court's first half-century read from an avowedly Jeffersonian standpoint, treating Marshall's judicial review as one arm of a Federalist project to centralize national power.
- Hall, A. Oakey. "Justice Samuel Blatchford." *The Green Bag* 5, no. 11 (November 1893): 489–492. [M&G 6307]
Four pages by a former mayor of New York who knew him, written four months after his death — the only near-contemporary magazine profile, and the single item the Federal Judicial Center's own scholarship bibliography lists for Blatchford.

- Hall, Kermit L. & Mark David Hall, eds. *Collected Works of James Wilson* (2 vols.). Indianapolis: Liberty Fund, 2007. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The principal modern collection of Wilson's writings: revolutionary pamphlets, constitutional arguments, ratification speeches, law lectures, and judicial materials, with a scholarly introduction.
- Hall, Kermit L., et al., eds. *The Oxford Companion to the Supreme Court of the United States*. 2nd ed. New York: Oxford University Press, 2005. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
More than a thousand entries on cases, justices, doctrines, and concepts, the second edition taking in the 800-odd decisions handed down since the first — the one-volume desk reference to reach for first.
- Hall, Mark David. "James Wilson: Democratic Theorist and Supreme Court Justice." In *Seriatim: The Supreme Court Before John Marshall* (1998). [\[post-M&G\]](#)
*The best concise, Court-centered introduction — connecting Wilson's theory of popular sovereignty to his circuit duties and early opinions, especially *Chisholm v. Georgia*.*
- Hall, Mark David. *The Political and Legal Philosophy of James Wilson, 1742–1798*. Columbia, MO: University of Missouri Press, 1997. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The best systematic study of Wilson's ideas.
- Hamilton, Virginia Van der Veer. *Hugo Black: The Alabama Years*. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1972. [\[not in M&G\]](#)
The essential book on the formation — the Alabama boyhood, the police-court judge and prosecutor, the Klan membership, and the New Deal senator, all before the 1937 appointment that shocked the country.
- Harlan, John M. *What Part Does the Oral Argument Play*. *Cornell Law Quarterly* 41, no. 1 (1955): 6–11.
A sitting justice's answer, six pages long: there is no substitute for the Socratic exchange "in getting at the real heart of an issue," argument is "perhaps the most effective weapon you have got," and — from a diary Harlan kept of his own impressions — the view he held at the end of the argument day usually turned out to be the one he settled on.
- Harlan, Malvina Shanklin. *Some Memories of a Long Life, 1854–1911*. New York: Modern Library, 2002. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The justice's wife's memoir, written in 1915 and lost for nearly a century until it surfaced in the Supreme Court Historical Society's journal and was published as a book with an introduction by Ruth Bader Ginsburg.
- Harper, Fowler V. *Justice Rutledge and the Bright Constellation*. Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill, 1965.
The first study of Rutledge, by his friend the law professor Fowler Harper — an admiring account of the New Deal liberal who died at fifty-five after only six years on the Court.
- Hart, Albert Bushnell. *Salmon Portland Chase*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1899.
The classic life, from Houghton Mifflin's American Statesmen series, by the eminent Harvard historian Albert Bushnell Hart.
- Hasen, Richard L. *The Justice of Contradictions: Antonin Scalia and the Politics of Disruption*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2018. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The critical reckoning with the legacy — the election-law scholar Richard Hasen argues that Scalia's slashing style and disruptive method did as much to coarsen legal argument as his originalism did to reshape it.
- Haskett, Richard C. "William Paterson, Attorney General of New Jersey: Public Office and Private Profit in the American Revolution." *William and Mary Quarterly*, 3rd ser., 7 (1950).
A focused archival study of Paterson's years as New Jersey's first attorney general — how public prosecution, private practice, wartime confiscation, and professional advancement overlapped in the Revolutionary state.

Haw, James, Francis F. Beirne, Rosamond R. Beirne & R. Samuel Jett. *Stormy Patriot: The Life of Samuel Chase*. Baltimore: Maryland Historical Society, 1980.

Written by four Maryland historians, Stormy Patriot follows Chase from provincial Annapolis and Revolutionary politics through the Continental Congress, state judgeships, Supreme Court service, and impeachment.

Haw, James. *John & Edward Rutledge of South Carolina*. Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press, 1997.

[post-M&G]

The strongest modern account.

Haygood, Wil. *Showdown: Thurgood Marshall and the Supreme Court Nomination That Changed America*.

New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2015. [post-M&G]

A dual narrative built around the 1967 confirmation hearings — the Southern senators' days of interrogation intercut with the life that had led Marshall to that table.

Healy, Thomas. *The Great Dissent: How Oliver Wendell Holmes Changed His Mind — and Changed the History of Free Speech in America*. New York: Metropolitan Books, 2013. [post-M&G]

The finest book on Holmes's most consequential change of heart.

Heffron, Paul T. "The Early Years of Justice Moody." *Essex Institute Historical Collections* 123, no. 4 (1987): 309–330.

The study of Moody before Washington — the Essex County prosecutor (of Lizzie Borden, among others) who became Roosevelt's favorite reformer.

Heffron, Paul T. "Theodore Roosevelt and the Appointment of Mr. Justice Moody." *Vanderbilt Law Review* 18, no. 2 (1965): 545–568.

The standard account of the closest presidential-justice relationship of the era — TR's Navy Secretary and trust-busting Attorney General, sent to the Court in 1906 to carry the Square Deal inside.

Hellman, George S. *Benjamin N. Cardozo: American Judge*. New York: Whittlesey House, 1940.

The first biography, published two years after Cardozo's death by a friend and man of letters — affectionate and literary, thin on the law but rich on the shy, ascetic bachelor behind the opinions.

Hemingway, Mollie, and Carrie Severino. *Justice on Trial: The Kavanaugh Confirmation and the Future of the Supreme Court*. Washington, DC: Regnery, 2019. [post-M&G]

The conservative counter-narrative, by a journalist and a legal activist who defend Kavanaugh and portray the opposition to him as a coordinated campaign of character assassination.

Hemingway, Mollie. *Alito: The Justice Who Reshaped the Supreme Court and Restored the Constitution*. 2026.

[post-M&G]

The first full-length Alito biography, published in April 2026 — written with clear sympathy (Hemingway is a Federalist editor and co-author of the Kavanaugh book on his colleague's shelf), which readers should weigh; a critical or scholarly life does not yet exist.

Hendel, Samuel. *Charles Evans Hughes and the Supreme Court*. New York: King's Crown Press, 1951.

The standard study of Hughes the jurist — Samuel Hendel's analysis of the constitutional record across both tenures, from the Progressive-era associate justice to the Chief who steered the Court through 1937.

Hickox, Charles F., III, and Andrew C. Laviano. "William Paterson," *Journal of Supreme Court History*. 1992.

[post-M&G]

Higginbotham, Don, Donna E. Kelly, and Lang Baradell, eds. *The Papers of James Iredell*. 3 vols. Raleigh, NC: Division of Archives and History, North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, 1976–2003. [post-M&G]

The foundational modern primary-source edition, covering 1767–1789 with scholarly annotation.

Highsaw, Robert B. *Edward Douglass White: Defender of the Conservative Faith*. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1981.

The standard biography, from LSU Press — fitting, since White never really left Louisiana.

Hill, Anita. *Speaking Truth to Power*. New York: Doubleday, 1997. [post-M&G]

Hill's own telling, six years on: the Oklahoma farm childhood, the years working under Thomas at the Education Department and the EEOC, the 1991 testimony, and what it cost her afterward.

Hirsch, H. N. *The Enigma of Felix Frankfurter*. New York: Basic Books, 1981.

The controversial psychobiography — a Freudian reading that traces Frankfurter's judicial rigidity and his hunger for approval to the wounds of personality, and argues the great liberal professor curdled into a defensive, embittered justice.

Hirshman, Linda. *Sisters in Law: How Sandra Day O'Connor and Ruth Bader Ginsburg Went to the Supreme Court and Changed the World*. New York: Harper, 2015. [post-M&G]

The intertwined story of the first two women on the Court — Hirshman on how the conservative O'Connor and the liberal Ginsburg, so different in method and temperament, together transformed the place of women in American law.

Hobson, Charles F. *The Great Chief Justice: John Marshall and the Rule of Law*. Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas, 1996. [post-M&G]

The best short study of what Marshall actually did as a judge — written by the longtime editor of the Papers of John Marshall, who knew the working jurist from the inside of his own files.

Hockett, Jeffrey D. *New Deal Justice: The Constitutional Jurisprudence of Hugo L. Black, Felix Frankfurter, and Robert H. Jackson*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 1996. [post-M&G]

A systematic comparison of three Roosevelt appointees — Black, Frankfurter and Jackson — who agreed about the New Deal and then split bitterly over rights and restraint.

Hoffer, Peter Charles, and N. E. H. Hull. *Impeachment in America, 1635–1805*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 1984.

The standard scholarly history of early American impeachment — colonial precedents, state practice, and the federal experiments — culminating in the Chase trial.

Hoffer, Williamjames Hull. "William Paterson and the National Jurisprudence: Two Draft Opinions on the Sedition Law of 1798 and the Federal Common Law." *Journal of Supreme Court History* 22, no. 2 (1997): 36–50. [post-M&G]

The only substantial modern study of Paterson's actual work as a justice — built on two draft opinions on the Sedition Act and the federal common law of crimes.

Holmes, Oliver Wendell, Jr. *The Common Law*. Boston: Little, Brown, 1881.

The book that made him, and still the most famous sentence in American jurisprudence: 'The life of the law has not been logic: it has been experience.'

Holt, Michael F. *By One Vote: The Disputed Presidential Election of 1876*. Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas, 2008. [post-M&G]

The modern account of the disputed 1876 election: the improvised fifteen-member commission, five justices among them, and the party-line 8–7 that settled it.

Holt, Wythe. "John Blair: 'A Safe and Conscientious Judge.'" In *Seriatim: The Supreme Court Before John Marshall* (1998). [post-M&G]

The essential modern treatment.

Hoogenboom, Ari & Herbert Ershkowitz, eds. "Levi Woodbury's 'Intimate Memoranda' of the Jackson Administration." *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography* 92, no. 4 (1968): 507–515.
A reminder that the Library of Congress archive is full of material like this, waiting for the biographer who never comes.

Horner, Frederick. *The History of the Blair, Banister, and Braxton Families Before and After the Revolution*. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott, 1898. [M&G 6304]
Martin and Goehlert list this as one of only three Blair items, so it is worth saying what it is: a 257-page family genealogy in five parts, of which chapter three — pages 64 to 80, with a portrait plate captioned 'signer of the Constitution of the United States and associate justice United States Supreme Court' — is the Justice.

Horwitz, Morton J. *The Warren Court and the Democratic Constitution*. Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press, 2024. [post-M&G]
With a foreword by Erwin Chemerinsky; the standout recent Warren Court book.

Horwitz, Morton J. *The Warren Court and the Pursuit of Justice*. New York: Hill and Wang, 1998. [post-M&G]
The great legal historian Morton Horwitz's brief, incisive synthesis of the Warren Court's jurisprudence — the best short book on why its expansion of rights amounted to a second Reconstruction.

Howard, J. Woodford, Jr. *Mr. Justice Murphy: A Political Biography*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1968.
The best one-volume life, and a fair-minded one.

Howe, Mark DeWolfe, ed. *Holmes–Laski Letters: The Correspondence of Mr. Justice Holmes and Harold J. Laski, 1916–1935*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1953.
The great correspondence — nearly twenty years of letters between the aging Holmes and the young English socialist Harold Laski, ranging over law, books, politics, and life with unmatched wit and candor.

Howe, Mark DeWolfe, ed. *Holmes–Pollock Letters: The Correspondence of Mr. Justice Holmes and Sir Frederick Pollock, 1874–1932 (2 vols.)*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1941.
Less political fireworks than Laski, more law and more candor; many Holmes readers prefer it.

Howe, Mark DeWolfe, ed. *Touched with Fire: Civil War Letters and Diary of Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., 1861–1864*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1946.
Holmes's Civil War letters and diary — the young officer of the Twentieth Massachusetts, thrice wounded, in his own voice at the source of everything.

Howe, Mark DeWolfe. *Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes (2 vols.: The Shaping Years, 1841–1870; The Proving Years, 1870–1882)*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1957.
The authorized biography, by Holmes's own secretary and literary executor — two magisterial volumes that carry him from Brahmin boyhood through the Civil War to the eve of the bench.

Hudspeth, Harvey G. "Howell Edmunds Jackson and the Making of Tennessee's First Native-born Supreme Court Justice." *Tennessee Historical Quarterly* 58 (1999): 140–155. [post-M&G]
The main modern account of Jackson's improbable appointment — a Democrat named by Republican Benjamin Harrison — and of the two-year tenure that ended with his dying return for the income-tax rehearing in Pollock.

Huebner, Timothy S. "Roger B. Taney and the Slavery Issue: Looking beyond—and before—Dred Scott." *Journal of American History* 97, no. 1 (2010): 17–38. [post-M&G]
The essential modern article and the engine of any fair verdict.

- Huebner, Timothy S. *The Southern Judicial Tradition: State Judges and Sectional Distinctiveness, 1790–1890*. Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press, 1999. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The fullest scholarly treatment of Catron in print — a chapter-length portrait inside Huebner's group study of the South's great state judges.
- Hughes, Charles Evans. “Roger Brooke Taney.” *American Bar Association Journal* 17 (1931).
Two sitting Chief Justices formally rehabilitating a predecessor — Hughes at the pendulum's far swing, Warren, of all people, renewing the absolution the year after Brown.
- Hughes, Charles Evans. *The Autobiographical Notes of Charles Evans Hughes*. Edited by David J. Danelski and Joseph S. Tulchin. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1973.
Hughes in his own words — the candid notes he wrote for his family, edited by David Danelski and Joseph Tulchin, covering the whole career with the reticence and precision that were his hallmark.
- Hughes, Charles Evans. *The Supreme Court of the United States: Its Foundation, Methods and Achievements*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1928.
Hughes's own book on the institution he would soon lead again — the Columbia lectures he gave in the interval between his two tenures, a lucid insider's account of the Court's history, methods, and self-inflicted wounds (Dred Scott, the Legal Tender reversal).
- Hutchinson, Dennis J. *The Man Who Once Was Whizzer White: A Portrait of Justice Byron R. White*. New York: Free Press, 1998. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The standard biography, by a legal scholar who clerked for White and knew him for decades.
- Hutchinson, Dennis J. “The Ideal New Frontier Judge.” *Supreme Court Review* 1997: 373. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
- Hylton, J. Gordon. “The Perils of Popularity: David Josiah Brewer and the Politics of Judicial Reputation.” *Vanderbilt Law Review* 62, no. 2 (2009): 567. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
Hylton's mature reassessment, from the Vanderbilt symposium on forgotten justices: how the most famous judge in America circa 1900 — lecturer, essayist, public moralist — became a Lochner-era punchline, and what the collapse says about how judicial reputations are made.
- Ides, Allan. “The Jurisprudence of Justice Byron White.” *Yale Law Journal* 103 (1993): 419. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The standard jurisprudential assessment, by White's own former clerk, published while the justice still sat — the case that White's resistance to both ideological camps was itself a coherent judicial philosophy.
- Jackson, Ketanji Brown. *Lovely One: A Memoir*. New York: Random House, 2024. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
Jackson's bestselling memoir, and the natural introduction to the newest justice — its title the English meaning of her West African name, Ketanji Onyika.
- Jackson, Robert H. *That Man: An Insider's Portrait of Franklin D. Roosevelt*. Edited by John Q. Barrett. New York: Oxford University Press, 2003. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
Jackson's unpublished memoir of Franklin Roosevelt, written in the 1950s and edited a half-century later by the Jackson scholar John Q. Barrett — an intimate, shrewd portrait of the president Jackson served as Attorney General and admired as a friend.
- Jackson, Robert H. *The Nürnberg Case*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1947.
Jackson's own account of the case he built against the Nazi leadership, including the opening statement that many regard as the greatest courtroom address of the century — 'the wrongs which we seek to condemn and punish have been so calculated, so malignant, and so devastating, that civilization cannot tolerate their being ignored, because it cannot survive their being repeated.'

Jackson, Robert H. *The Struggle for Judicial Supremacy: A Study of a Crisis in American Power Politics*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1941.

Jackson's own account of the court-packing crisis, written as Attorney General on the eve of his appointment — a New Dealer's brief against the old Court's war on Roosevelt's program, and a classic of political constitutionalism in its own right.

Jackson, Robert H. *The Supreme Court in the American System of Government*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1955.

Jackson's valedictory — the Godkin Lectures, published just after his sudden death — a lucid, modest reflection on the Court's real and proper power by the finest writer ever to sit on it.

Jacobi, Tonja, and Dylan Schweers. *Justice, Interrupted*. *Virginia Law Review* 103, no. 7 (2017): 1379–1487.

[post-M&G]

The study that established it: female justices speak less often and use fewer words than their male colleagues, and are nonetheless interrupted at a significantly higher rate — by the other justices, and by the advocates, against the Court's own rules.

Jacobi, Tonja, and Matthew Sag. *The New Oral Argument*. *Notre Dame Law Review* 94, no. 3 (2019): 1161–1253. [post-M&G]

Fifty-five years of transcripts, and the finding that the justices stopped asking questions and started making arguments — more words, longer speeches, more interruptions, more comments aimed at the side they will vote against — with the break dated to 1995 and tied to the polarization of the politics outside the Court.

Jacobsen, John Gregory. *Jackson's Judges: Six Appointments Which Shaped a Nation*. Covenant Books, 2024.

[post-M&G]

A recent group study of all six Jackson appointees, and the one work the Federal Judicial Center's bibliography lists for Baldwin.

James, Rawn, Jr. *Root and Branch: Charles Hamilton Houston, Thurgood Marshall, and the Struggle to End Segregation*. New York: Bloomsbury Press, 2010. [post-M&G]

The intertwined story of Charles Hamilton Houston and his student Thurgood Marshall — the mentor who built the legal theory and the protégé who carried it to victory over Plessy.

Jay, William. *The Life of John Jay: With Selections from His Correspondence and Miscellaneous Papers* (2 vols.). New York: J. & J. Harper, 1833.

The first Jay biography — written by his son, with generous selections from the correspondence, and the source every later life builds on.

Jeffries, John C., Jr. *Justice Lewis F. Powell, Jr.: A Biography*. New York: Fordham University Press, 1994.

[post-M&G]

One of the great judicial biographies, and the indispensable book on Powell.

Jenkins, John A. *The Partisan: The Life of William Rehnquist*. New York: PublicAffairs, 2012. [post-M&G]

The fullest single-volume life, and the natural starting point — but a critical one, and readers should know it.

Jensen, Merrill, ed. *The Documentary History of the Ratification of the Constitution, Vol. III: Connecticut* (the “Landholder” essays). Madison, WI: Wisconsin Historical Society Press, 1978.

Ellsworth's thirteen pseudonymous “Landholder” essays, published in the Connecticut Courant and American Mercury in 1787–88, were among the most effective ratification advocacy in New England — and the best sustained record of his constitutional thinking in his own voice.

- Johnson, Herbert A. *The Chief Justiceship of John Marshall, 1801–1835*. Columbia, SC: University of South Carolina Press, 1997. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The accessible one-volume institutional history of the Marshall Court, by a coeditor of the Marshall Papers — how the Court actually worked, case by case and term by term.
- Johnson, Herbert A., Charles T. Cullen, and Charles F. Hobson, eds. *The Papers of John Marshall*. 12 vols. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1974–2006. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The scholarly foundation: correspondence, legal papers, and judicial materials, splendidly annotated — with Hobson's introductions amounting to a biography in themselves.
- Johnson, Timothy R. *Oral Arguments and Decision Making on the United States Supreme Court*. Albany: State University of New York Press, 2004. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The book-length statement of the information-gathering account: justices use argument to learn the legal and policy options in a case, the preferences of the other institutions that will have to live with the result, and the institutional rules that constrain what they can do about it.
- Johnson, William. *Sketches of the Life and Correspondence of Nathanael Greene* (2 vols.). Charleston, SC: A. E. Miller, 1822.
The only sitting justice ever to publish a major two-volume biography — his life of the Revolutionary general, researched and written between circuits.
- Johnston, Henry P., ed. *The Correspondence and Public Papers of John Jay* (4 vols.). New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1890–93.
For the reader who wants Jay in his own words tonight.
- Jones, Howard. *Mutiny on the Amistad: The Saga of a Slave Revolt and Its Impact on American Abolition, Law, and Diplomacy*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1987.
The standard account of the Mende captives' revolt and the case it became: the Hartford circuit proceedings, John Quincy Adams's argument, and the 1841 opinion holding the captives free.
- Jones, Michael E. "Five New Hampshire U.S. Supreme Court Justices: Woodbury, Clifford, Chase, Stone and Souter." *New Hampshire Bar Journal* 33, no. 4 (1992): 6–12. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The home-state genre — New Hampshire's five justices surveyed together, from Woodbury to the newly seated David Souter.
- "Justice John Blair and the Letter of the Law." *Colonial Williamsburg Journal*. 2006. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
- "Justice Wm. Burnham Woods." *The Washington Law Reporter* 15, no. 23 (1887): 357–59.
It is an unsigned obituary in the issue of 8 June 1887, three and a half weeks after Woods died, reprinted from the Ohio Law Journal and credited at the foot.
- Kagan, Elena. "Confirmation Messes, Old and New." *University of Chicago Law Review* 62 (1995): 919. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The essay that called confirmation hearings a 'vapid and hollow charade' — quoted back at her, endlessly, at her own vapid and hollow charade in 2010.
- Kagan, Elena. "Presidential Administration." *Harvard Law Review* 114 (2001): 2245. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
Kagan's most influential scholarship — the canonical modern account of presidential control over the administrative state, drawn from her Clinton White House years.
- Kairys, David. *Law with Liberty and Justice for Some: A Critique of the Conservative Supreme Court*. New York: New Press, 1993. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
Thirty-one decisions on speech, voting, religion, equal protection, and privacy, read by a veteran civil rights lawyer as evidence that the liberal rulings of the 1960s were the aberration.

- Kalman, Laura. *Abe Fortas: A Biography*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 1990.
The definitive biography, exhaustively researched and judicious.
- Kalman, Laura. *The Long Reach of the Sixties: LBJ, Nixon, and the Making of the Contemporary Supreme Court*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2017. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
- Kaminski, John P., and Jennifer Lawton. “Duty and Justice at ‘Every Man’s Door’: The Grand Jury Charges of Chief Justice John Jay, 1790–1794.” *Journal of Supreme Court History* 31, no. 3 (2006): 235–251. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The fullest study of the charges that were the early federal judiciary's real public voice — Jay's courtroom civic sermons, reprinted in newspapers up and down the seaboard.
- Kaplan, David A. *The Most Dangerous Branch: Inside the Supreme Court in the Age of Trump*. New York: Crown, 2018. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
David Kaplan's critical, behind-the-scenes narrative of the modern Court — the argument that the justices, Roberts foremost, have grasped more power than a democracy should grant them, and should be more modest than they are.
- Karlan, Pamela S., Diane P. Wood, Karen Nelson Moore and others. “The Jurisprudence of Justice Harry A. Blackmun.” *Dickinson Law Review* 97, no. 3 (Spring 1993): 421–626. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The final major reckoning written while Blackmun was still on the bench, and free in full.
- Kaufman, Andrew L. *Cardozo*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1998. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The definitive biography, thirty years in the making, by a Harvard law professor who once clerked at the Court.
- Kennedy, Anthony M. *Life, Law & Liberty: A Memoir*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2025. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
Kennedy's own account, published in October 2025 — Sacramento, the 1987 nomination after Bork, and unusually candid reflections on Casey, Obergefell, and the swing-seat decades.
- Kennedy, John F. *Profiles in Courage* (the Lamar chapter). 1956.
The reason most readers have heard of Lamar at all.
- Kens, Paul. *Justice Stephen Field: Shaping Liberty from the Gold Rush to the Gilded Age*. Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas, 1997. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The modern biography and the natural first read.
- Kens, Paul. *The Supreme Court under Morrison R. Waite, 1874–1888*. Columbia, SC: University of South Carolina Press, 2010. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The only book-length modern treatment of the Court Woods actually served on — Waite's, from 1874 to 1888 — in the University of South Carolina Press series on the chief justiceships.
- Kent, Charles A., ed. *Memoir of Henry Billings Brown, Late Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States*. New York: Duffield, 1915.
Brown left an autobiographical sketch, and after his death his Detroit friend Charles Kent published it with connecting material — and this slim volume remains, more than a century on, the closest thing to a biography Brown has.
- Kiel, Daniel. *The Transition: Interpreting Justice from Thurgood Marshall to Clarence Thomas*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2023. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
Paired study of Thurgood Marshall and Clarence Thomas and the 1991 succession that joined them, tracing two opposed constitutional routes toward the same end of fuller Black citizenship.
- Kierner, Cynthia A. *Traders and Gentlefolk: The Livingstons of New York, 1675–1790*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 1992. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The scholarly study of the Livingston dynasty of New York, in which Brockholst Livingston is a minor figure.

- Killenbeck, Mark R. "William Johnson, the Dog That Did Not Bark?" *Vanderbilt Law Review* 62, no. 2 (2009): 407–445. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The essential modern re-examination — from the same 2009 Vanderbilt symposium that reassessed Samuel Chase and Bushrod Washington.
- King, Gilbert. *Devil in the Grove: Thurgood Marshall, the Groveland Boys, and the Dawn of a New America*. New York: Harper, 2012. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The Pulitzer Prize winner — King's gripping reconstruction of the 1949 Groveland case in Florida, where Marshall and the LDF defended four young Black men falsely accused of rape amid lynch mobs, a murderous sheriff, and Klan terror.
- King, Willard L. *Lincoln's Manager, David Davis*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1960.
The one full biography, and still the standard life six decades on.
- King, Willard L. *Melville Weston Fuller: Chief Justice of the United States, 1888–1910*. New York: Macmillan, 1950.
King recovers the improbable rise: the Augusta, Maine, boy and Bowdoin graduate who became a Chicago railroad and commercial lawyer and active Democrat, never held federal office, and was Grover Cleveland's out-of-nowhere pick for the center chair after Waite died.
- Klinkhamer, Marie Carolyn. *Edward Douglass White: Chief Justice of the United States*. Washington, DC: Catholic University of America Press, 1943.
The standard scholarly biography — Marie Klinkhamer's life of the Confederate soldier and Louisiana sugar planter who became the ninth Chief Justice and gave American law the antitrust 'rule of reason.'
- Knowles, Helen J. *The Tie Goes to Freedom: Justice Anthony M. Kennedy on Liberty*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2009. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The best study of Kennedy's constitutional thought — Helen Knowles's argument that a coherent conception of liberty, not mere difference-splitting, runs through his opinions on speech, dignity, and gay rights.
- Knox, John. *The Forgotten Memoir of John Knox: A Year in the Life of a Supreme Court Clerk in FDR's Washington*. Edited by Dennis J. Hutchinson and David J. Garrow. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2002. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The most vivid inside account of any justice's chambers ever published — McReynolds's 1936–37 clerk recorded his employer's cruelty, his bigotry, and the strange loneliness of the household, against the backdrop of the Court-packing fight.
- Kobylka, Joseph F., Tony Mauro, Daniel Farber and others. "Reflections on Judging: A Discussion Following the Release of the Blackmun Papers." *Missouri Law Review* 70, no. 4 (Fall 2005): 965–1308. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
A symposium on what the Blackmun papers revealed, held as they opened.
- Koh, Harold Hongju, Nan D. Hunter and others. "Justice Blackmun and Judicial Biography: A Conversation With Linda Greenhouse." *Brooklyn Law Review* 72, no. 1 (Fall 2006): 1–236. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The reason to come is Harold Koh's "Unveiling Justice Blackmun" — Koh conducted the roughly five-hundred-page oral history over the eighteen months after the retirement, so this is the man who asked the questions writing about the man who answered them.
- Konefsky, Samuel J. *Chief Justice Stone and the Supreme Court*. New York: Macmillan, 1945.
The only other book-length Stone study besides Mason's great biography — a contemporary analysis of his chief justiceship written while Stone still presided, valuable precisely for its before-the-verdict perspective on the wartime Court.

Konefsky, Samuel J. *John Marshall and Alexander Hamilton: Architects of the American Constitution*. New York: Macmillan, 1964.

The classic paired study tracing how Hamilton's constitutional vision — implied powers, national supremacy, the sanctity of contract — became law through Marshall's opinions.

Kroninger, Robert H. *Sarah and the Senator*. Berkeley, CA: Howell-North Books, 1964.

*The book-length account of the maddest story in Supreme Court history — the Sharon divorce scandal, Sarah Althea Hill, and David Terry's vendetta against Field, which ended with a U.S. marshal shooting Terry dead at a railroad lunchroom in 1889 and the Court blessing it in *In re Neagle*.*

Kurland, Philip B., ed. *Felix Frankfurter on the Supreme Court: Extrajudicial Essays on the Court and the Constitution*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1970.

Kurland's collection of Frankfurter's non-judicial writing on the Court and Constitution — the single best volume of the justice in his own analytical voice.

Labbé, Ronald M. & Jonathan Lurie. *The Slaughterhouse Cases: Regulation, Reconstruction, and the Fourteenth Amendment*. Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas, 2003. [\[post-M&G\]](#)

The standard history of the 1873 decision that first construed the Fourteenth Amendment and narrowed it for a century.

Lamar, Clarinda Pendleton. *The Life of Joseph Rucker Lamar, 1857–1916*. 1926.

The one full life, written by the justice's widow ten years after his death.

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Interviews with all nine sitting justices plus retired Justice O'Connor, gathered for a C-SPAN documentary and rounded out by court reporters, advocates, and the Clerk of the Court.

Lane, Charles. *The Day Freedom Died: The Colfax Massacre, the Supreme Court, and the Betrayal of Reconstruction*. New York: Henry Holt, 2008. [\[post-M&G\]](#)

The dark side of the same Court, told as narrative history.

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Frankfurter's own diaries, with a long biographical introduction by Joseph Lash — gossipy, self-justifying, and indispensable, the justice's unguarded running commentary on colleagues, presidents, and cases.

Lawrence, Albert. "Biased Justice: James C. McReynolds of the Supreme Court of the United States." *Journal of Supreme Court History* 30, no. 3 (2005): 244–270. [\[post-M&G\]](#)

The standard scholarly treatment of what makes McReynolds unique in the Court's history: an antisemitism so open he refused to speak to Brandeis, sit for photographs with him, or attend Cardozo's memorial.

Lawrence, Alexander A. *James Moore Wayne: Southern Unionist*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1943.

The standard biography for eighty years, by a Savannah lawyer-historian with access to the family materials and the city's memory.

Lazarus, Edward. *Closed Chambers: The First Eyewitness Account of the Epic Struggles Inside the Supreme Court*. New York: Times Books, 1998. [\[post-M&G\]](#)

A Blackmun clerk's account of October Term 1988 — capital punishment, race, abortion — attacked on publication for breaching the confidentiality of chambers.

Leach, Richard H. "Rediscovery of Samuel Nelson." *New York History* 34, no. 1 (1953): 64–71.

The one modern scholarly attempt to pull Nelson out of the footnotes, and its title concedes the situation: a half-century judge obscured precisely because he generated no scandals and joined no crusades.

- Leach, Richard H.; Frank J. Williams & William D. Bader. "A Model for a Successful Legal Career" (*ABA Journal*, 1955) & "Maverick Lawyer and Independent Jurist" (*Roger Williams U. L. Rev.*, 2012). [\[post-M&G\]](#)
That the bar keeps reaching for Curtis as its exemplar is itself the finding.
- Leonard, Charles A. *A Search for a Judicial Philosophy: Mr. Justice Roberts and the Constitutional Revolution of 1937*. Millwood, NY: KTO Press, 1971.
The closest thing to a full study of Roberts, built around the question that shadows him: did he switch in 1937 from principle or from fear of Roosevelt's court-packing plan?
- Lettieri, Ronald John. *Connecticut's Young Man of the Revolution: Oliver Ellsworth*. Hartford: American Revolution Bicentennial Commission of Connecticut, 1978.
- Leuchtenburg, William E. *The Supreme Court Reborn: The Constitutional Revolution in the Age of Roosevelt*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1995. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The best account of the 1937 crisis — the collision between Roosevelt's New Deal and the Four Horsemen, the court-packing plan, and the shift of doctrine that made the plan unnecessary.
- Levitan, David M. "Mahlon Pitney, Labor Judge." *Virginia Law Review* 40, no. 6 (1954): 733–770.
*The classic examination of the record Pitney is remembered for — the full run of his labor opinions, from *Coppage* to his quiet votes sustaining workmen's compensation.*
- Levitan, David M. "The Jurisprudence of Mr. Justice Clarke." *Miami Law Quarterly* 7, no. 1 (1952).
The one dedicated study of Clarke's six years of opinions — the Wilson appointee whose liberal dissents alongside Brandeis and Holmes hinted at the justice he might have become had he stayed.
- Lewis, Anthony. *Gideon's Trumpet*. New York: Random House, 1964.
*The classic account of *Gideon v. Wainwright*: Clarence Earl Gideon's petition from prison, Abe Fortas's court-appointed argument, and the 1963 holding that a poor defendant must be given a lawyer.*
- Lewis, Anthony. *Make No Law: The Sullivan Case and the First Amendment*. New York: Random House, 1991. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
New York Times v. Sullivan told whole — the 1960 advertisement, the Montgomery commissioner's \$500,000 libel suit, the 1964 decision — set inside a broader history of American free speech.
- Lewis, Meredith Kolsky. "Justice William Johnson and the History of Supreme Court Dissent." *Georgetown Law Journal* 83 (1995): 2069. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
- Lewis, Walker. *Without Fear or Favor: A Biography of Chief Justice Roger Brooke Taney*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1965.
The other full biography — warmer, faster, written for general readers by a Maryland lawyer who spent years in the family materials.
- Library of Congress. *Hugo LaFayette Black Papers — Manuscript Division, Library of Congress*. Washington, DC: Library of Congress, 2011. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
130,000 items in 513 containers, spanning 1883 to 1976 and covering both careers: correspondence, notebooks, case files, speeches, and the Senate papers as well as the Court ones.
- Lima, Lazaro. *Being Brown: Sonia Sotomayor and the Latino Question*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2019. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
- Litman, Leah. *Lawless: How the Supreme Court Runs on Conservative Grievance, Fringe Theories, and Bad Vibes*. New York: One Signal/Atria, 2025. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
Irreverent polemic from a Michigan law professor and Strict Scrutiny co-host, arguing that the six-justice majority runs on conservative grievance rather than the originalism it professes.

Lofgren, Charles A. *The Plessy Case: A Legal-Historical Interpretation*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1987.

Lofgren's monograph is the standard account of Plessy as law — where 'separate but equal' came from (antebellum Massachusetts, of all places), how the doctrine traveled through railroad cases and state courts, and why Brown's opinion struck almost no one in 1896 as a thunderbolt.

Long, Michael G., ed. *Marshalling Justice: The Early Civil Rights Letters of Thurgood Marshall*. New York: Amistad, 2011. [post-M&G]

Hundreds of Marshall's letters from the 1930s and 1940s — the years of dangerous fieldwork building the cases that became Brown.

Lovelace, Ryan. *Search and Destroy: Inside the Campaign against Brett Kavanaugh*. 2019. [post-M&G]

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Lurie, Jonathan. *The Chief Justiceship of William Howard Taft, 1921–1930*. Columbia, SC: University of South Carolina Press, 2019. [post-M&G]

Lurie's focused study of what Taft actually built from the center chair: the Judiciary Act of 1925 and the certiorari revolution, the campaign for the Supreme Court building, the lobbying of presidents about appointments.

Lurie, Jonathan. *William Howard Taft: The Travails of a Progressive Conservative*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2012. [post-M&G]

The modern scholarly reassessment, strong on the through-line of Taft's career — a judicial temperament miscast in the presidency and finally at home on the bench.

Lurie, Jonathan. "Mr. Justice Bradley: A Reassessment." *Seton Hall Law Review* 16 (1986): 343–376.

The standard modern scholarly assessment of Bradley — the Legal Tender appointment, the 1877 Electoral Commission vote, and the great Fourteenth Amendment opinions, weighed by a leading Court historian.

Lurie, Jonathan. "Stanley Matthews: A Case Portrait of Gilded Age High Court Jurisprudence." *Journal of Supreme Court History* 33, no. 2 (2008). [post-M&G]

The best single treatment of what Matthews actually did with his eight years — above all Yick Wo and Hurtado, the pair of 1880s opinions that still anchor equal-protection and due-process law.

Lynch, David. *The Role of Circuit Courts in the Formation of United States Law in the Early Republic: Following Supreme Court Justices Washington, Livingston, Story and Thompson*. Portland, OR: Hart, 2018. [post-M&G]

The rare modern monograph on how justices actually made law on circuit, where the vast bulk of their judging happened — with Washington, Livingston, Story and Thompson as its principal subjects.

Magliocca, Gerard N. *Washington's Heir: The Life of Justice Bushrod Washington*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2022. [post-M&G]

From William & Mary and the apprenticeship under Justice James Wilson (whose seat he would eventually fill) through thirty-one years on the Court, the inheritance of Mount Vernon and George Washington's papers, the founding presidency of the American Colonization Society, and the 1821 sale of enslaved people from Mount Vernon that scandalized even his contemporaries.

Magnet, Myron. *Clarence Thomas and the Lost Constitution*. New York: Encounter Books, 2019. [post-M&G]

The conservative brief for Thomas as the Court's most important originalist — Magnet's admiring argument that Thomas has spent decades trying to restore a 'lost Constitution' of limited government and natural rights.

Magrath, C. Peter. *Morrison R. Waite: The Triumph of Character*. New York: Macmillan, 1963.

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- Maltz, Earl M. "Biography is Destiny: The Case of Justice Peter V. Daniel." *Brooklyn Law Review* 72, no. 1 (2006): 199–210. [post-M&G]
The limiting case of how far ideology can substitute for judging, and a caution about what a life appointment preserves.
- Maltz, Earl M.; R. Owen Williams. "The Unlikely Hero of Dred Scott" (*Cardozo L. Rev.*, 1996), "The Last Angry Man" & "Benjamin Curtis: Top of the List" (*Chicago-Kent L. Rev.* 82, 2007). [post-M&G]
- Manaster, Kenneth A. *Illinois Justice: The Scandal of 1969 and the Rise of John Paul Stevens*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2001. [post-M&G]
The making of the justice — Kenneth Manaster's account of the 1969 Illinois judicial-corruption scandal that Stevens, as special counsel, helped expose, lifting an obscure Chicago antitrust lawyer toward the bench.
- Marcus, Maeva, et al., eds. *The Documentary History of the Supreme Court of the United States, 1789–1800*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1985–2007. [post-M&G]
Eight volumes in nine: the essential documentary source for the Court's first decade — appointment records, correspondence, circuit materials, press accounts, and the Court's own rough and final minutes.
- Markstein, Charlotte. "United States Supreme Court Decision: United States v. Cruikshank (1876)." *Evalyn Clark Memorial Travel Fellowship report, Vassar College* (2019). [post-M&G]
Seven hundred words by a Vassar undergraduate reporting a research trip, and the only published account by anyone who has actually opened the thing.
- Marshall, John. *An Autobiographical Sketch*. Edited by John Stokes Adams. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press, 1937.
Marshall telling his own story to his closest colleague — modest, wry, and revealing in what it lingers on (Valley Forge, his father) and what it hurries past.
- Marshall, Thurgood. *The Constitution's Bicentennial: 'The Government They Devised Was Defective from the Start'*. 1987.
Marshall's most famous speech, delivered as the nation prepared to celebrate the Constitution's two-hundredth anniversary — and a bracing refusal to celebrate uncritically.
- Martin, Andrew D., and Kevin M. Quinn. *Dynamic Ideal Point Estimation*. *Political Analysis* 10, no. 2 (2002): 134–153. [post-M&G]
The paper that made judicial ideology a moving quantity: a Bayesian item-response model fitted to every vote from 1953 to 1999, yielding one ideal point per justice per term and showing that many justices' preferences do not stay still — the measure behind every claim of drift on this site.
- Mason, Alpheus Thomas. *Brandeis: A Free Man's Life*. New York: Viking, 1946.
The authorized biography, written with access to Brandeis and his papers, and for sixty years the standard.
- Mason, Alpheus Thomas. *Harlan Fiske Stone: Pillar of the Law*. New York: Viking Press, 1956.
The definitive biography, and one of the great judicial lives.
- Mason, Alpheus Thomas. *William Howard Taft: Chief Justice*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1965.
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- Maveety, Nancy. *Justice Sandra Day O'Connor: Strategist on the Supreme Court*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 1996. [post-M&G]
The political scientist's study of O'Connor's method — the deliberate, accommodationist, case-by-case strategy that made her the Court's median vote and, for years, its most powerful member.

- Mayer, Jane, and Jill Abramson. *Strange Justice: The Selling of Clarence Thomas*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1994. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The most thorough investigative account of the 1991 confirmation and the Anita Hill hearings, by two distinguished journalists.
- Mayes, Edward. *Lucius Q.C. Lamar: His Life, Times, and Speeches, 1825–1893*. Nashville: Publishing House of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, 1896.
The monumental contemporary life-and-letters, by Lamar's son-in-law — nearly nine hundred pages of biography and speeches published three years after his death.
- McClain, Charles J. *In Search of Equality: The Chinese Struggle against Discrimination in Nineteenth-Century America*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1994. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The essential context for Yick Wo.
- McClellan, James. *Joseph Story and the American Constitution: A Study in Political and Legal Thought*. Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press, 1971.
The standard study of Story as a thinker: his Christian natural-law foundations, his Burkean conservatism, his nationalism, and the tensions among all three.
- McCloskey, Robert G. *The American Supreme Court*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1960.
In print and revised since 1960, the short interpretive survey built on the claim that the Court's strength lies in never straying far from public sentiment — later editions by Sanford Levinson.
- McCowan, George S., Jr. "Chief Justice John Rutledge and the Jay Treaty." *South Carolina Historical Magazine* 52 (1961): 10.
The dedicated study of the episode that defines Rutledge — his furious July 1795 speech against the Jay Treaty, delivered weeks after accepting the recess appointment as Chief Justice, which handed the Senate its reason to reject him that December.
- McCurdy, Charles W. "Blatchford, Samuel (1820–1893)." In *Encyclopedia of the American Constitution*, edited by Leonard W. Levy et al. New York: Macmillan, 1986. [\[not in M&G\]](#)
Short, signed, and by a serious historian of Gilded Age law — the only piece of modern analysis of Blatchford that exists outside Arnold Paul's chapter, and the one it cites.
- McCurdy, Charles W. "Justice Field and the Jurisprudence of Government-Business Relations: Some Parameters of Laissez-Faire Constitutionalism, 1863–1897." *Journal of American History* 61, no. 4 (1975): 970–1005.
The most influential Field article ever written — McCurdy's demolition of the caricature of Field as a corporate tool, recasting him as a principled Jacksonian drawing a line between public power and private right.
- McDevitt, Matthew. *Joseph McKenna: Associate Justice of the United States*. Washington, DC: Catholic University of America Press, 1946.
The only full biography, from a Catholic University of America dissertation — and frankly protective of its subject, but the sole sustained account of a genuinely unlikely justice.
- McFeatters, Ann Carey. *Sandra Day O'Connor: Justice in the Balance*. Albuquerque, NM: University of New Mexico Press, 2005. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
A concise, readable life for the general reader, tracing the ranch-girl-to-swing-vote arc with a journalist's eye.
- McGinty, Brian. *Lincoln and the Court*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2008. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
The best single book on the wartime Court: Taney's dying resistance, habeas corpus, and the Prize Cases, where one changed vote would have declared the blockade unconstitutional.

- McGinty, Brian. *The Body of John Merryman: Abraham Lincoln and the Suspension of Habeas Corpus*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2011. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
Taney's strange last act: a Maryland secessionist lieutenant arrested in May 1861, a dying Chief Justice riding to Baltimore to order the army to produce him, and a president who declined to obey.
- McKeown, M. Margaret. *Citizen Justice: The Environmental Legacy of William O. Douglas*. Lincoln, NE: Potomac Books, 2022. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
A federal judge's study of the conservationist justice — Douglas's decades of activism for wilderness, his famous hikes and protest marches, and the tangled ethics of a sitting justice who lobbied and litigated for the causes he loved.
- McKoski, Raymond J. *David Davis, Abraham Lincoln's Favorite Judge*. Urbana, IL: University of Illinois Press, 2025. [\[post-M&G\]](#)
Only the second full biography of Davis ever written — and the first since 1960.
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- Rotunda, Ronald. *John Marshall and the Cases That United the States of America*. Twelve Tables Press, 2018. [post-M&G]
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The contemporary authorized life, by Chase's private secretary at the Treasury and published the year after his death — partisan and adulatory, but close to the documents and the man, and a primary source in its own right.

- Schwartz, Bernard, ed. *The Burger Court: Counter-Revolution or Confirmation?* New York: Oxford University Press, 1998. [post-M&G]
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- Schwartz, Bernard. *A History of the Supreme Court*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1993. [post-M&G]
A one-volume narrative history running from 1790 to 1992, justice by justice, with set-piece chapters on Dred Scott, Lochner, Brown, and Roe and a partial rehabilitation of Roger Taney.
- Schwartz, Bernard. *Behind Bakke: Affirmative Action and the Supreme Court*. New York: New York University Press, 1988.
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- Schwartz, Bernard. *Super Chief: Earl Warren and His Supreme Court — A Judicial Biography*. New York: New York University Press, 1983.
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The definitive study of the five justices Lincoln named: the politics that put Swayne in John McLean's Ohio seat in 1862 (McLean had recommended him repeatedly before dying), Lincoln's criteria — Union loyalty, antislavery, geographic fit — and the wartime Court that upheld the blockade, the greenbacks, and martial law.

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The standard popular account of the defining rivalry — Marshall and his cousin Jefferson fighting over what the Constitution actually created, from Marbury through Burr.
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The one full biography, and a sympathetic, clear-eyed one.
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The definitive single-volume life: comprehensive, authoritative, and beautifully written.
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The definitive biography, and a rich account of twentieth-century American liberalism through one career.

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- Suits, Steve. *Hugo Black of Alabama: How His Roots and Early Career Shaped the Great Champion of the Constitution*. Montgomery, AL: NewSouth Books, 2005. [post-M&G]
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Mark Tushnet's scholarly account of law and politics on the Roberts Court — the academic counterpart to the journalists' narratives, mapping the blocs, the doctrinal stakes, and the Chief's institutional caution.

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