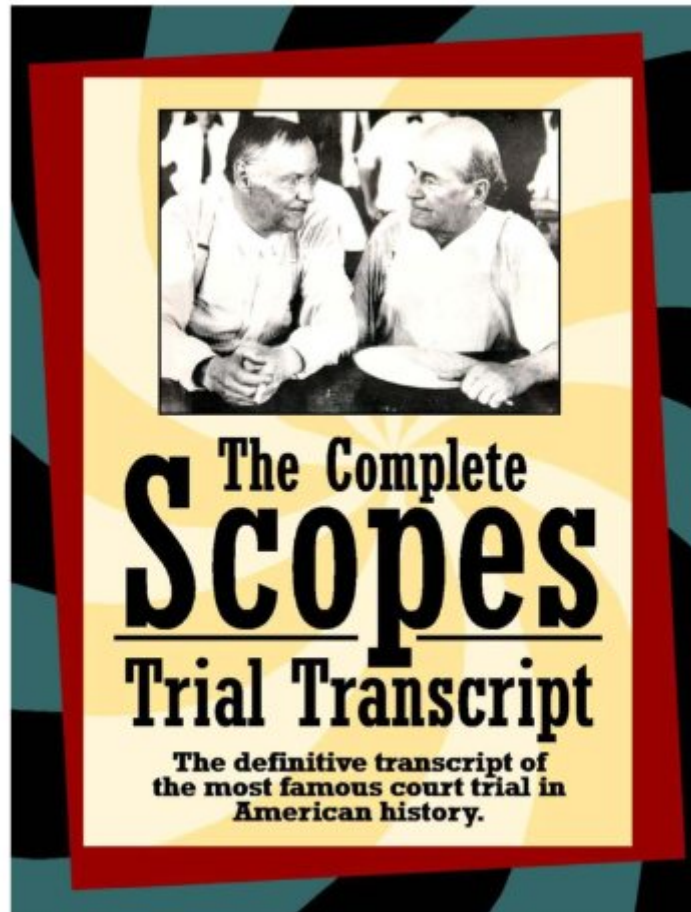


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The Complete Scopes Trial Transcript



Synopsis

The Scopes "Monkey Trial" is widely regarded as the greatest American trial of the Twentieth Century. The issues (evolution versus creation in the public schools), the politics (individual liberty versus populist democracy), the actors (William Jennings Bryan, Clarence Darrow, and H.L. Mencken, among others), and the setting (a small, struggling town in southeastern Tennessee with the ingenuity and confidence to host such a national event), all culminated in twelve remarkable days in the sweltering summer of 1925. Shortly after the trial, the National Book Company published *The World's Greatest Court Trial* (Cincinnati, Ohio, 1925), careful to use the word "Court" in the title so as not to offend Christian readers who would consider the trials of Jesus Christ to be the world's greatest by any important measure. This electronic version of the Scopes trial transcript is a faithful replication of that volume including the original pagination (with page numbers in brackets), the written testimony of experts who did not testify at the trial but who submitted the statements included herein, and the final speech to the jury by William Jennings Bryan which was never actually delivered but which was published separately after the trial. The transcript is a fascinating document despite the many typographical errors which plagued the original version which have been corrected in this version. In the following pages are some of the most memorable speeches, twists, and turns ever witnessed in American jurisprudential history.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Seeing this available for the Kindle Fire at a cheap \$3 was too good to pass up. But, there are some flaws with this digital version! First, for some reason, the author of this ebook centered ALL the text. Not flush left & ragged right OR justified (flush left & flush right) but centered. Ugh. This makes it extremely hard to follow the transcript. Second, although the description mentions the source of the transcript, the publisher left this out of the ebook version. At the least the text should acknowledge the original title and publisher. The original publisher (in 1925) went through considerable effort to create this transcript...and even acknowledges the "Chattanooga Times for the use of their transcript copy." (What's the point of including the original page numbers without a source???) And third, the description claims "The transcript is a fascinating document despite the many typographical errors which plagued the original version (and which are replicated in this electronic version)." Well, in this case, that's not exactly true! Many of the typographical errors are corrected. Not sure why this was claimed! With the exception of the bizarre centering of text, it's rather handy to have this extremely important piece of American history in a handy format...

For those who do not wish to rely on second-hand and sometimes distorted tales about the famous Scopes "Monkey Trial," this is a must read. It makes an excellent companion to *Inherit the Wind*, which was loosely based on the trial, or the many scholarly works about the famous clash between Clarence Darrow and William Jennings Bryan. The actual transcript reveals the true underlying legal issues, the oratorical and litigation skills of the participants, and some breathtaking moments of courtroom drama. It is also interesting to see how the transcript compares to the trial's fictionalization and scholarly analysis. Of course, it is a trial transcript and contains a lot that non-lawyers may find uninteresting, but I think it is overall an engaging read.

I feel I have to give it four stars because, I assume, that it is the true verbatim transcript of the trial! I found it very interesting. Some of the scientists' testimony was most educational! I will say this: I bought it mainly to see how truly the movie, "Inherit The Wind" depicted the actual trial. Well, hey, Hollywood is Hollywood, you know? I truly loved the movie and I must say, Hollywood didn't take TOO many liberties. But, in conclusion, I am glad I bought the "The Complete Scopes Trial Transcript" !

Needed this for more research in class.

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