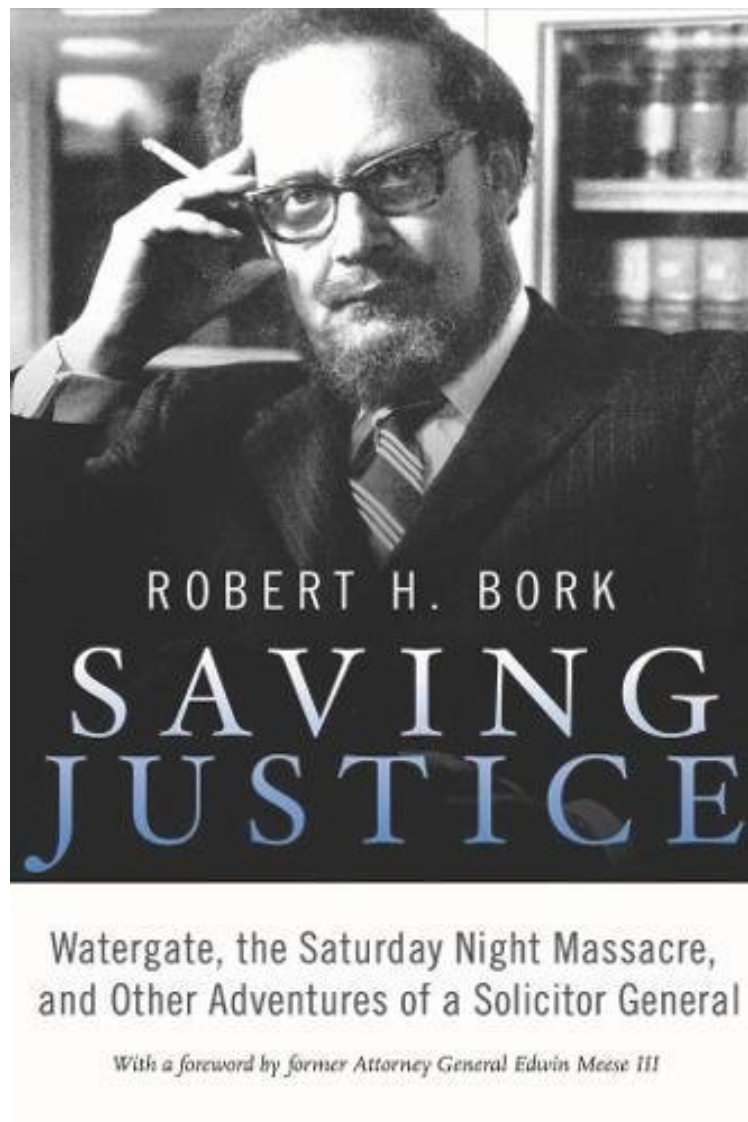


(Download) Saving Justice: Watergate, the Saturday Night Massacre, and Other Adventures of a Solicitor General

Saving Justice: Watergate, the Saturday Night Massacre, and Other Adventures of a Solicitor General

Robert H. Bork

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Robert H. Bork : Saving Justice: Watergate, the Saturday Night Massacre, and Other Adventures of a Solicitor General before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Saving Justice: Watergate, the Saturday Night Massacre, and Other Adventures of a Solicitor General:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. to do the dirty work of the Saturday Night MassacreBy KatmanduA

fascinating "insider account" by Solicitor General Robert Bork, suddenly promoted to Acting Attorney General of the Justice Department, to do the dirty work of the Saturday Night Massacre, of which he opposed. An amazing perspective of one of political history's most critical moments - the title "Saving Justice" means just that. Judge Bork did what he had to do in order to avoid sending the nation into a tailspin, when the Nixon administration was faltering and the country's position from an international perspective was about to collapse. A must read for all modern history aficionados, regardless of your political preference. Highly recommended. 11 of 12 people found the following review helpful. Bork on Bork By Ronald H. Clark Whatever one may think about Judge Bork (who died on December 19, 2012), and believe me I have had my moments, the core essential truth about him shines throughout this brief book: he was first of all always a teacher, whether at Yale, while in the Department of Justice, on the D.C. Circuit bench, or while serving in conservative think tanks. I found this, presumably his last book, extremely fascinating. This is because he writes with his usual clarity and precision; injects some examples of his infectious and subversive sense of humor; and makes sure the reader understands what in his view the actual facts were, let the chips fall where they may. While the book is obviously concerned in part with Watergate, there is much more to indulge in here as well. He first takes the time to educate the reader a bit on the office of the Solicitor General, about which I have found few non-Washington types are familiar. Bork then discusses how he got the job of SG, including his few interactions with President Nixon. Bork's observations on Nixon, throughout the book, I found extremely interesting and much more perceptive than most of the material I have read on the President. A particularly interesting discussion involves when Justice Douglas (no hero to Bork) enjoined the continued bombing of Cambodia and how SG Bork was able to neutralize this action with the help of the remainder of the Supreme Court. While the main event, Watergate, is developing, SG Bork becomes involved in the investigation and resignation of Spiro Agnew. The possibility of dual impeachments of the President and VP is the background overhanging Bork's actions during this episode. Even more pressure arises when he is invited to undertake the role of Nixon's lead defense counsel. When it rains, it pours, as they say. The core of the book is, of course, his discussion of the "Saturday Night Massacre." The insights Bork adds, having been the key participant, to this drama alone justify reading this book. Particularly important were the steps now Acting AG Bork undertook to ensure the professional completion of the Watergate investigation, the continued independent functioning of DOJ, and that things did not fly out of control. A cool hand on the wheel is always nice in a major crisis. The book runs around 130 pages, including a few endnotes. I found only a few mistakes which I am sure the Judge would have corrected had he seen the book in galleys: Griffin Bell was not the Maryland U.S. Attorney who led the Agnew investigation (p. 37); Earl Silbert was the Washington, D.C., U.S. Attorney (not an AUSA) during the Watergate investigation (p. 71); and Johns Hopkins is not located in Annapolis (p. 113). I don't know if the Judge left behind material for a complete autobiography--but I sure hope so after reading what may be his last important lesson for us. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. I wish it were longer! By Mazda 6 This is a fascinating glimpse into recent history. It reveals the all-too-humanness of some of the major political players of the era. I remember well the trouncing Bork took at his confirmation hearings and was impressed by his humility in response. It was not a bright moment in our nation's history! He brings into focus some of the behind-the-scenes maneuvering and conflicting ideals that were playing out. Hopefully he will gain some belated respect. With his insider's knowledge of what was going on, I wish the book could have been much longer, but the book is definitely worth-while reading.

In June 1973, Judge Robert Bork was plucked from a quiet life of academia at Yale University and planted in the tumultuous soil of constitutional crisis by a Nixon administration barreling toward collapse. From the ousting of Vice President Spiro Agnew to the discharge of the Watergate special prosecutor, an event known as the Saturday Night Massacre, *Saving Justice* offers a firsthand, insider account of the whirlwind of events that engulfed the administration during the last half of 1973 and the first few months of 1974. This important volume provides a revelatory look into the inner workings of the Justice Department during some of the most consequential months of the Nixon administration.

Bork deserves to be remembered by a grateful nation for the services he rendered in preventing disarray in the Justice Department at a moment of unprecedented assault on the rule of law, and for facilitating the removal of a president during Washington days that were darker than most people today can imagine. His book confirms the axiom that our ignorance of history makes us libel our own times. George Will Robert Bork was a remarkable American patriot. Absolutely a fascinating book. Mark Levin While certainly Judge Bork's confirmation struggle was an important political inflection point, what he did for the life of the law in this country and in defense of the Constitution greatly overshadows that one moment. Leonard A. Leo, Federalist Society