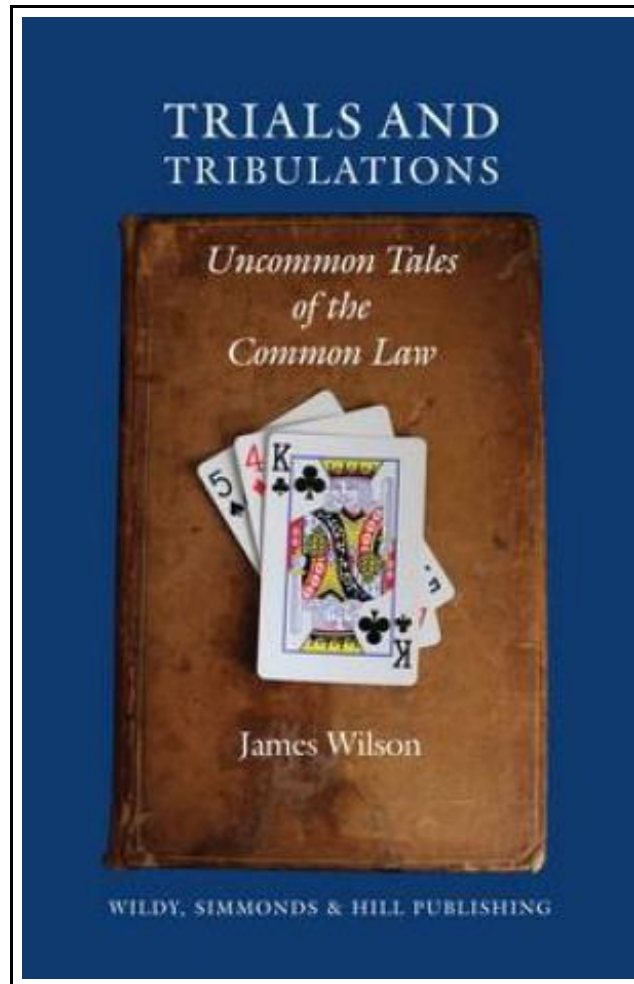


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Hardback. Book Condition: New. Not Signed; Description: Why are court cases such a fertile source for writers of fiction and non-fiction alike? For a start, they usually have a beginning, middle and end; and a ready cast of characters playing defined roles. They always have an inherent crisis to be resolved. But they also contain a great deal of human interest: behind the theatrics and etiquette of the courtroom, and the often arcane language and concepts of the law, there are real people seeking answers to real-life problems. The common law is sometimes made by faceless corporations, or rich and powerful individuals seeking to preserve their money or reputation. Just as often, however, it is made by ordinary people who are not seeking fame or wealth, but who are simply trying to right whatever they believed has been wronged. This book is a collection of 50 stories of notable court cases spanning more than a century. There are great ethical dilemmas - the tragic case of the conjoined twins where one, but not both, could survive, or the football fan Tony Bland who was left in a persistent vegetative state after the Hillsborough Disaster, and whose family faced the tragic choice of ending treatment. There are significant legal cases such as *Donoghue v Stevenson* and *Carlill v Carbolic Smoke Ball Company*. There are also great Victorian scandals such as Oscar Wilde's fall from high society, or the wrongful imprisonment of Captain Dreyfus. Then there are more topical cases, such as those involving religion and the law and the 'clash of rights' that sometimes occurs when devout people find their conscience will not allow them to act according to the law. And then there are cases that can only be described as absurd. The writer Julie Burchill was once sued by...



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