



The Strange Alchemy of Life and Law

By Albie Sachs

Download now

Read Online ➔

The Strange Alchemy of Life and Law By Albie Sachs

From a young age Albie Sachs played a prominent part in the struggle for justice in South Africa. As a result he was detained in solitary confinement, tortured by sleep deprivation and eventually blown up by a car bomb which cost him his right arm and the sight of an eye. His experiences provoked an outpouring of creative thought on the role of law as a protector of human dignity in the modern world, and a lifelong commitment to seeing a new era of justice established in South Africa.

After playing an important role in drafting South Africa's post-apartheid Constitution, he was appointed by Nelson Mandela to be a member of the country's first Constitutional Court. Over the course of his fifteen year term on the Court he has grappled with the major issues confronting modern South Africa, and the challenges posed to the fledgling democracy as it sought to overcome the injustices of the apartheid regime.

As his term on the Court approaches its end, Sachs here conveys in intimate fashion what it has been like to be a judge in these unique circumstances, how his extraordinary life has influenced his approach to the cases before him, and his views on the nature of justice and its achievement through law.

The book provides unique access to an insider's perspective on modern South Africa, and a rare glimpse into the working of a judicial mind. By juxtaposing life experiences and extracts from judgments, Sachs enables the reader to see the complex and surprising ways in which legal culture transforms subjective experience into objectively reasoned decisions. With rare candour he tells of the difficulties he has when preparing a judgment, of how every judgment is a lie. Rejecting purely formal notions of the judicial role he shows how both reason and passion (concern for protecting human dignity) are required for law to work in the service of justice.

↓ [Download The Strange Alchemy of Life and Law ...pdf](#)

📖 [Read Online The Strange Alchemy of Life and Law ...pdf](#)

The Strange Alchemy of Life and Law

By Albie Sachs

The Strange Alchemy of Life and Law By Albie Sachs

From a young age Albie Sachs played a prominent part in the struggle for justice in South Africa. As a result he was detained in solitary confinement, tortured by sleep deprivation and eventually blown up by a car bomb which cost him his right arm and the sight of an eye. His experiences provoked an outpouring of creative thought on the role of law as a protector of human dignity in the modern world, and a lifelong commitment to seeing a new era of justice established in South Africa.

After playing an important role in drafting South Africa's post-apartheid Constitution, he was appointed by Nelson Mandela to be a member of the country's first Constitutional Court. Over the course of his fifteen year term on the Court he has grappled with the major issues confronting modern South Africa, and the challenges posed to the fledgling democracy as it sought to overcome the injustices of the apartheid regime.

As his term on the Court approaches its end, Sachs here conveys in intimate fashion what it has been like to be a judge in these unique circumstances, how his extraordinary life has influenced his approach to the cases before him, and his views on the nature of justice and its achievement through law.

The book provides unique access to an insider's perspective on modern South Africa, and a rare glimpse into the working of a judicial mind. By juxtaposing life experiences and extracts from judgments, Sachs enables the reader to see the complex and surprising ways in which legal culture transforms subjective experience into objectively reasoned decisions. With rare candour he tells of the difficulties he has when preparing a judgment, of how every judgment is a lie. Rejecting purely formal notions of the judicial role he shows how both reason and passion (concern for protecting human dignity) are required for law to work in the service of justice.

The Strange Alchemy of Life and Law By Albie Sachs Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #805530 in eBooks
- Published on: 2009-06-11
- Released on: 2009-06-11
- Format: Kindle eBook

 [Download The Strange Alchemy of Life and Law ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Strange Alchemy of Life and Law ...pdf](#)

Editorial Review

Review

"If I still had responsibility for the English judiciary I would encourage every judge for whom I was responsible to read this book. I am sure it would improve their understanding of what the job really involves and what justice is about." - Lord Woolf, from the preface

"The Strange Alchemy of Life and Law...is [Albie Sachs'] fascinating and honest account of how his own thinking, emotions and experiences contributed to some of the most startling, original, adventurous, far-reaching and moving decisions taken by any court in the world." - Marcel Berlins, *The Guardian*

"Mr Sachs's book is not just an appeal for sympathy for poor old judges who have to make difficult decisions but an invitation for public understanding of the abstract strengths as well as the humanity of the process." - John Forsyth, *The Scotsman*

"Sachs is a credible champion of those values not merely because his biography so faithfully embodies them, but also because of the candor and sincerity that characterize his writing-legal opinions as well as prose...makes a compelling case for the inextricable links between a biography and the bench." -Ryan Thoreson, *Boston Review*

"There is no more heroic, compassionate, or creative lawyer than Albie Sachs, and his book offers the gift of his vivid and humane first-hand account of serving as a judge, interpreting South Africa's post-apartheid Constitution, and pursuing justice on and off the bench." -Martha L. Minow, Jeremiah Smith Jr. Professor of Law and Dean of the Faculty of Law, Harvard Law School

"Sachs looks forward to a South African Constitutional Court doing justice for all...worth stealing a moment to heed Sachs's warning...poignant..."-*Newsweek*

"Sachs emerges from his narrative as an empathetic and humanistic judge deeply committed to a democratic South Africa. And besides, it is hard not to like a man who admits to doing his best thinking in the bathtub." -*Foreign Affairs*

"His arguments about the nature of judging and the role of dignity in the law will attract the attention of legal experts. Meanwhile, anyone with an interest in South Africa will appreciate Sachs' justification for explicitly

including socioeconomic rights in the South African constitution and his analysis of the logic behind the Truth and Reconciliation Commission."

--Nicolas van de Walle, Foreign Affairs

About the Author

Albie Sachs is a Justice on the Constitutional Court of South Africa.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Brenda Schweiger:

The book *The Strange Alchemy of Life and Law* can give more knowledge and information about everything you want. Why then must we leave the good thing like a book *The Strange Alchemy of Life and Law*? Some of you have a different opinion about book. But one aim this book can give many info for us. It is absolutely suitable. Right now, try to closer together with your book. Knowledge or data that you take for that, you are able to give for each other; you could share all of these. Book *The Strange Alchemy of Life and Law* has simple shape however, you know: it has great and large function for you. You can search the enormous world by open and read a e-book. So it is very wonderful.

Omar Carter:

Nowadays reading books are more than want or need but also be a life style. This reading addiction give you lot of advantages. Associate programs you got of course the knowledge the particular information inside the book in which improve your knowledge and information. The details you get based on what kind of guide you read, if you want get more knowledge just go with schooling books but if you want feel happy read one using theme for entertaining including comic or novel. Often the *The Strange Alchemy of Life and Law* is kind of publication which is giving the reader erratic experience.

Shay Price:

Reading can called imagination hangout, why? Because when you are reading a book specifically book entitled *The Strange Alchemy of Life and Law* the mind will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in each and every aspect that maybe not known for but surely might be your mind friends. Imaging each word written in a e-book then become one application form conclusion and explanation in which maybe you never get previous to. The *The Strange Alchemy of Life and Law* giving you an additional experience more than blown away your brain but also giving you useful info for your better life in this era. So now let us show you the relaxing pattern at this point is your body and mind are going to be pleased when you are finished reading it, like winning a. Do you want to try this extraordinary spending spare time activity?

Trudy Clark:

You are able to spend your free time to see this book this e-book. This The Strange Alchemy of Life and Law is simple to deliver you can read it in the recreation area, in the beach, train along with soon. If you did not possess much space to bring the particular printed book, you can buy the particular e-book. It is make you better to read it. You can save the particular book in your smart phone. So there are a lot of benefits that you will get when you buy this book.

**Download and Read Online The Strange Alchemy of Life and Law
By Albie Sachs #2B9IGVTK17L**

Read The Strange Alchemy of Life and Law By Albie Sachs for online ebook

The Strange Alchemy of Life and Law By Albie Sachs Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Strange Alchemy of Life and Law By Albie Sachs books to read online.

Online The Strange Alchemy of Life and Law By Albie Sachs ebook PDF download

The Strange Alchemy of Life and Law By Albie Sachs Doc

The Strange Alchemy of Life and Law By Albie Sachs Mobipocket

The Strange Alchemy of Life and Law By Albie Sachs EPub

2B9IGVTK17L: The Strange Alchemy of Life and Law By Albie Sachs