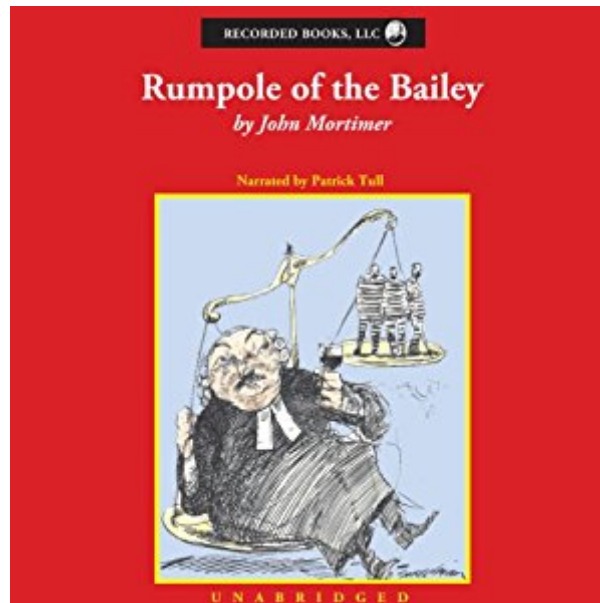




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# Rumpole Of The Bailey [Recorded Books]



## Synopsis

In the first of six witty short stories, 60s-something English barrister, Horace Rumpole, takes on the younger generation both at home and in the hallowed courtroom-while offending his esteemed colleagues and his draconian wife, Hilda.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

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## Customer Reviews

Witty and incisive, Rumpole of the Bailey contains six short stories about a British barrister as he takes on cases, deals with colleagues and family, and travels through the ups and downs of his life. Like any lawyer, Rumpole has to wade his way through the varying personalities he has to defend, some of them downright strange. In one case, he is chosen as defense counsel because the family expects him to lose. In another, he defends a British MP accused of rape who wants to be convicted so he can get away from his overly ambitious wife. In a third tale,, he is charmed by an attractive hippie who may or may not have been involved in the sale of a considerable amount of what the police always initially refer to as "a leafy substance."One of the most interesting aspects of Rumpole is his humanness. He admits to having been in love, at least emotionally if not physically, with women other than his wife, Hilda, known as She Who Must Be Obeyed, to whom he became wed as sort of a professional obligation.He drinks plenty of claret, and lectures his prospective daughter-in-law on the dangers of drinking water. He is saddened when the longtime Head Clerk of Chambers is found to be a petty embezzler, and tries to prevent his firing. While not a bleeding heart for his clients, and not at all blaming society as the impetus for any criminal activity, he is determined to do his best, and he does, once almost at the cost of his reputation and license.I have

not seen one solitary second of the television series that made Horace Rumpole a fixture for awhile on public television. I'm glad however, I took the route to Old Bailey.

Good book

Excellent story as expected print rather small but worth the read

another great Rumpole

I didn't enjoy it that much but parts are very humorous.

Considering it to be the first of the series, I enjoyed it a lot

This is a collection of short stories dealing with Rumpole and his clients. Of course, Hilda or She Who Must Be Obeyed, is a constant presence. The biggest problem is the English vernacular opposed to American slang. I decided to watch several of the stories that were presented as a series on BBC. Many of the nuances that are missed in the book are depicted on the screen. The humor is not the slapstick humor of I Love Lucy, but more like the Kramdens of the Honeymooners. The British court system is different than the American court system and the flow of the story suffers from this difference. I like the underlying lesson of each story, such as a parent's responsibility for a child or the loyalty of one employee to another employee

The inaugural book in the Rumpole saga presents one of the great characters of British crime fiction. It's Holmes with humor (excuse me; humour), Bertie Wooster with brains. A collection of short stories, all revolve around Horace Rumpole, a self-described "Old Bailey hack". He practices (almost) exclusively as a defense barrister, specializing in hopeless causes, spouting poetry and cigar ash with equal gusto. The book provides the background for the accompanying series on "PBS", and it is at least as much a credit to Leo McKern's portrayal of Horace Rumpole as it is to author John Mortimer's skill that the stories--now contained in three massive omnibuses--have such deep appeal.

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