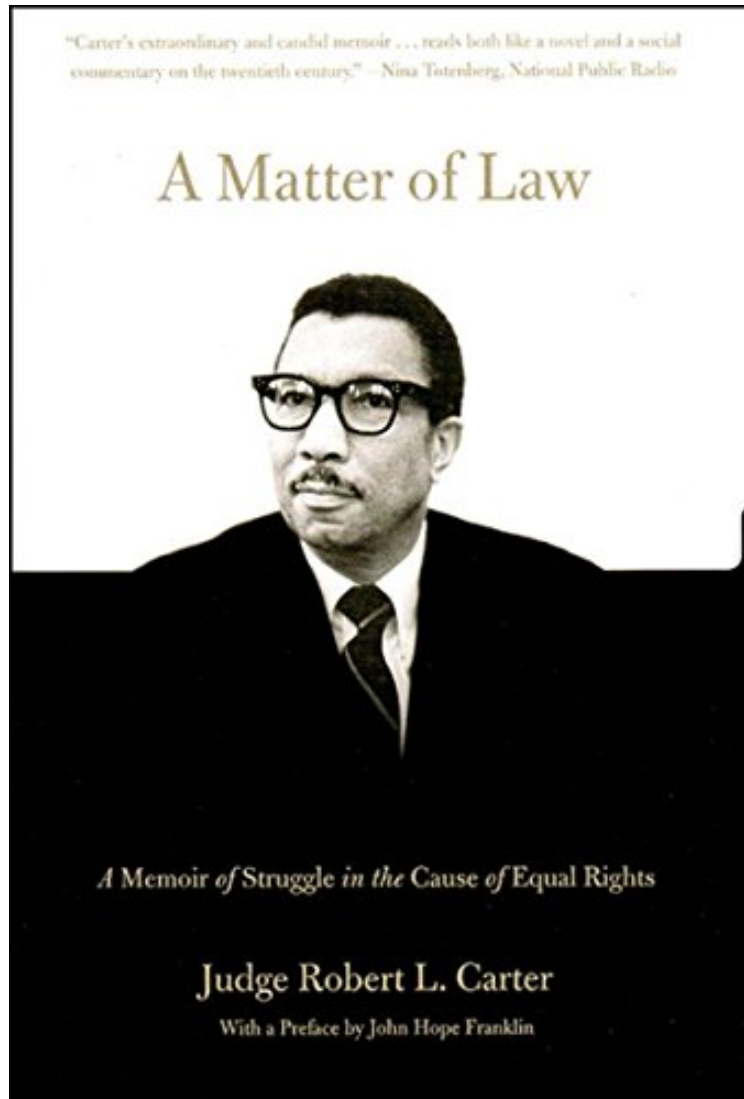


(Ebook free) A Matter Of Law: A Memoir Of Struggle In The Cause Of Equal Rights

A Matter Of Law: A Memoir Of Struggle In The Cause Of Equal Rights

Robert L. Carter

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Robert L. Carter : A Matter Of Law: A Memoir Of Struggle In The Cause Of Equal Rights before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Matter Of Law: A Memoir Of Struggle In The Cause Of Equal Rights:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. A brief memoirBy Jeffrey LeeperWhen reading about the history of the NAACP's and the Legal Defense Fund's struggle for human rights, we tend to hear more about Thurgood Marshall

and not enough about Robert Carter, who was an integral part of the fight. After many years, Robert Carter has shared his perspective with us. Tales from Carter's childhood and schooling are simply stated. Given the discrimination and hardship with which he grew up, these tales are more aptly labeled, "simply understated. His accomplishments through adversity are clearly laudable, but we don't get all the detail we would hope for. He does discuss a falling out between Marshall and him, and he also discusses grabs for power as Thurgood left. However, we don't get this level of detail on the cases. Regardless of the level of detail, this is a very informative read. I would recommend that anyone wanting to know more about our continuing struggle with civil rights should read this book.

As chief legal assistant to Thurgood Marshall and, later, as General Counsel to the NAACP, Robert L. Carter played a central role in crafting the legal strategy for the pivotal cases of the civil rights era arguing and winning over twenty pivotal cases before the Supreme Court, including *Brown v. Board of Education*, with Thurgood Marshall. *A Matter of Law* is the extraordinary story of Carter's struggle for equal rights for all Americans. Carter's history with the NAACP during its pivotal years (1945-1968) is at the center of this memoir, which offers a rare personal account of how the legal campaign in *Brown* was mounted. In the aftermath of *Brown*, Carter turned his attention to broadening the application of *Brown* to challenge racial inequality in Northern schools. His account of the NAACP's efforts to expose the pervasive nature of school segregation in the North brings this history to the forefront for the first time and is essential to any discussion of the limitations of the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s. Carter's post-NAACP career enabled him to participate in and reflect on the fight for racial justice from a variety of vantage points, most recently as a federal district judge in New York. He brings a fresh and critical perspective to bear on the long-term consequences of the civil rights movement and the need for new and innovative approaches to the continuing struggle for racial justice in America.

From Publishers Weekly In this dry but intriguing memoir, Carter, a U.S. District judge in New York, offers an insider's account of the legal battle to end segregation in the United States. Having served as Thurgood Marshall's chief legal assistant and then as General Counsel to the NAACP, Carter was pivotal in winning the *Brown v. Board of Education* case that outlawed racial segregation in public schools. Carter begins by describing his impoverished New Jersey childhood, the deaths of three of his siblings and the educational discrimination that "toughened him for later battles with racism." Although he also recounts his college years and his tumultuous experience in the army, Carter devotes most of the book to his legal career, detailing the events and strategies that led to the *Brown vs. Board* triumph. Perhaps most fascinating is Carter's take on the power struggles within the NAACP. Carter had a tepid relationship with Marshall, and he admits to feeling "hurt and angry" at being overlooked as his successor. Indeed, some may wonder if he still harbors a little of that anger; his portrayal of Marshall as a high-stakes gambler and an ambitious man who discarded people when their "usefulness to him was over" is less than flattering. Still, those who can take these details with a grain of salt and overlook Carter's plodding prose will find this a unique perspective on how the Civil Rights victory was won. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist Carter was a pivotal figure in the struggle for racial equality and one of the legal architects in the NAACP attack on racial segregation that culminated in the *Brown* decision. His memoir is as understated as he was effective as a legal tactician in the struggle. As deputy counsel to Thurgood Marshall, he provided the legal substantive content and context that Marshall evoked as the nation's premier civil rights advocate. Carter offers insight into the workings of the NAACP and the subsequent break off with its Legal Defense Fund, which led to Jack Greenberg's ascension as Marshall was appointed to the U.S. Court of Appeals. Carter exposes the undercutting of his initial effort to secure a position on the U.S. Federal Court by none other than U.S. congressman Adam Clayton Powell. Carter later came to Powell's rescue--at no charge--when the House attempted to unseat him. Carter, for more than 30 years serving on the federal bench in New York, is an example of social commitment and activism at its highest. Vernon Ford Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved About the Author Judge Robert L. Carter (1917-2012) was United States District Judge in the Southern District of New York. Judge Carter was a graduate of Lincoln University, the Howard University School of Law, and Columbia University Law School, and received numerous honorary degrees and awards.