

Ivy Briefs: True Tales of a Neurotic Law Student

By Martha Kimes

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From first-day nerves to first-year grades, from bizarre job interviews to bar exam insanity, *Ivy Briefs* pulls back the curtain on the marbled halls of law school, revealing the absurdity often bubbling beneath the surface.

Meet Martha Kimes: a naïve small-town girl with strong neurotic tendencies who has (due to an inexplicable stroke of luck) been admitted to Columbia Law School. She's a Midwesterner in the middle of Manhattan, a student on the verge of a nervous breakdown. In her candid memoir -- the best of its kind since *One L* and the only one written by a woman -- Kimes makes her way through law school, doing battle with a memorable cast of characters:

The Sadistic Professor: Every law student's nemesis, the Sadistic Professor takes pity on no one. The Socratic Method is his favorite torture device, and he's got staying power that rivals that of the Energizer Bunny.

The Gunner: So enamored with the sound of his own voice, he finds it physically impossible to keep his hand from gunning up into the air every time a professor asks a question. Ten minutes into the start of the school year, everyone is already sick of the Gunner.

The Do-gooder: Lurking behind a kind exterior is a pit bull ready to pounce on those who don't plan to devote their legal careers to public service. But would she be so quick to categorize all those who dare go into corporate law as loathsome, soulless warriors for the devil if she, too, had student loans to repay?

The Boarding School Bastard: He wears a firmly pressed pin-striped oxford shirt and has a condescending attitude bigger than most European countries. By definition he is better than you because he went to Exeter. And he'll never let you forget it.

With sharp wit, dead-on aim, and a healthy dose of self-deprecation, Kimes proves that it is possible to survive law school with both your sense of humor and your sanity intact.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly
First time author Kimes is entertaining and funny in recounting her three years at one of the country's premier law schools. A smart young woman with a good, but not always engaged, sense of perspective, Kimes jumps from the University of Wisconsin to Columbia Law School on the wings of a spectacular showing on the LSATs. Once there, she faces the predictable sadistic professor, hypercompetitive fellow students and, of course, rampant elitism. Kimes is happy to treat with an equal measure of humor the highly stylized courting dance between summer law clerks and mega law firms, as well as the foreboding horrors of the bar exam. Though some stories seem hyperbolic and re-created conversations can be suspiciously pat, Kimes captures with accuracy the gestalt of the law school experience. Kimes did get a job at what she calls "Lavish Law Firm." But she eventually left to join the Make-a-Wish Foundation, which may be her final comment on the world of big-time law. The self-deprecating wit, catty observations and healthy sense of the absurd with which Kimes describes her approach-avoidance reactions to the world of law school raise the book above the ordinary. *(May)*
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Review
"A must-read for anyone contemplating law school; and for those who have already graduated, a sidesplitting review of the law school experience -- torts and all." -- Karen Quinn, author of *The Ivy Chronicles* and *Wife in the Fast Lane*

"Martha Kimes's candid tale of attending Columbia Law School is Legally Blonde meets One L. Told with sweet self-awareness and pervasive wit, I couldn't help but cheer Kimes on as she faced every daunting law school challenge, transforming herself from fearful Midwesterner to cool and confident Ivy League grad. *Ivy Briefs* makes me want to hug Kimes...and then hire her as my attorney." -- Jen Lancaster, author of *Bitter Is the New Black* and *Bright Lights, Big Ass*

"With pitch-perfect dialogue and witty observations, Martha Kimes delivers a funny and charming look at the trials and tribulations of law school. I give *Ivy Briefs* an A." -- Alison Pace, author of *Pug Hill* and *Through Thick and Thin*

"Martha Kimes has written a *One L* for the next generation. *Ivy Briefs* is a great addition to the reading list for anyone even thinking about law school." -- Jeremy Blachman, author of *Anonymous Lawyer*

"The self-deprecating wit, catty observations and healthy sense of the absurd with which Kimes describes her approach-avoidance reactions to the world of law schol raise the bok above the ordinary ." -- *Publisher's Weekly*

About the Author
Martha Kimes is a graduate of Columbia Law School. She lives in Phoenix, Arizona, with her husband, Joe, and their two sons.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Harold Martinez:

Have you spare time for a day? What do you do when you have considerably more or little spare time? Yep, you can choose the suitable activity with regard to spend your time. Any person spent their own spare time to take a wander, shopping, or went to the particular Mall. How about open as well as read a book eligible Ivy Briefs: True Tales of a Neurotic Law Student? Maybe it is being best activity for you. You realize beside you can spend your time using your favorite's book, you can smarter than before. Do you agree with the opinion or you have different opinion?

Angela Heller:

Reading a guide tends to be new life style with this era globalization. With reading through you can get a lot of information which will give you benefit in your life. Together with book everyone in this world can share their idea. Ebooks can also inspire a lot of people. A lot of author can inspire their reader with their story or maybe their experience. Not only the story that share in the ebooks. But also they write about the knowledge about something that you need illustration. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your sons or daughters, there are many kinds of book that exist now. The authors in this world always try to improve their expertise in writing, they also doing some research before they write for their book. One of them is this Ivy Briefs: True Tales of a Neurotic Law Student.

Edward Foland:

People live in this new morning of lifestyle always make an effort to and must have the time or they will get wide range of stress from both way of life and work. So , if we ask do people have time, we will say absolutely sure. People is human not really a huge robot. Then we inquire again, what kind of activity have you got when the spare time coming to anyone of course your answer will certainly unlimited right. Then ever try this one, reading ebooks. It can be your alternative within spending your spare time, typically the book you have read is Ivy Briefs: True Tales of a Neurotic Law Student.

Sheila Whitley:

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