

- 0. LET THEM LIVE! Story Preface
- 1. WHO WERE LEOPOLD & LOEB?
- 2. THE PERFECT CRIME
- 3. THE BRUTAL FACTS
- 4. WHY DID THEY DO IT?
- 5. CHANCE EVENTS DESTROY A PLAN
- 6. LEOPOLD MAKES A MISTAKE
- 7. TOO MUCH EVIDENCE
- 8. WHAT DO YOU MEAN NOT GUILTY?

9. LET THEM LIVE!

10. DID JUSTICE INTERVENE?

11. REHABILITATION WORKS for NATHAN LEOPOLD

12. DID IT STICK?

13. MORE COOL LINKS



THAT AWKWARD MOMENT WHEN, READING THE ALIENISTS' TESTIMONY, WE FIND WE ARE ALL SOMEWHAT INSANE



After psychologists (called "alienists" in 1924) testified at Leopold and Loeb's sentencing hearing, the *Chicago Tribune* published a cartoon mocking the testimony. Click on the image for a better view. Keep in mind that the words are from 1924 (when people, including cartoonists and press reporters, used descriptions we would not use today).

In one of the most famous final arguments in American legal history, Clarence Darrow called upon the judge, John R. Caverly, to show mercy. A passionate lawyer who could hold juries spellbound, Darrow spoke during a twelve-hour hearing.

He pleaded for life, even though he acknowledged that his clients had committed heinous deeds. He used psychiatrists (called "<u>alienists</u>" at the time) during the short trial (really an evidentiary hearing) to convince <u>the Judge</u> the boys were worth saving.

Darrow argued that Nathan and Richard were "too young to hang." He reminded Judge Caverly that "if these boys are to hang, you must do it." He pleaded with the court that if the sentences were death, it would not "help the children" who heard about the punishment.

Yet ... he acknowledged that his clients were "not fit to be at large."

As a <u>large</u> crowd <u>gathered</u> outside the <u>court house</u>, Darrow gave an argument causing tears to stream down nearly every face (including the Judge's). And it was that passionate, pleading, pathos-filled argument which convinced Judge Caverly to show mercy.

He gave both Leopold and Loeb life sentences for the murder of Bobby Franks. And ... he gave them each an additional "<u>99 years</u>" for Bobby's kidnapping.

Once again, <u>Darrow had won</u> an <u>unwinnable battle</u>. He gave his <u>young clients</u> a chance at rehabilitation.

At the time of sentencing, Darrow was able to <u>achieve in court</u> what he firmly believed in conscience—that everyone deserves a second chance.

Unbelievably ... his clients would live.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/LET-THEM-LIVE-Leopold-and-Loeb

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/LET-THEM-LIVE-Leopold-and-Loeb

Media Stream





Judge John R. Caverly Image online, courtesy the University of Missouri-Kansas City website. View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Judge-John-R.-Caverly

View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/The-Leopold-Loeb-Case

Judge Caverly - Leopold and Loeb

Leopold and Loeb - A Courthouse Crowd

Image, described above, online courtesy U.S. Library of Congress.

The Leopold-Loeb Case Image online, courtesy Google Books.

Image, described above, online via Library of Congress: DN-0077503, Chicago Daily News negatives collection, Chicago History Museum.

View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Judge-Caverly-Leopold-and-Loeb





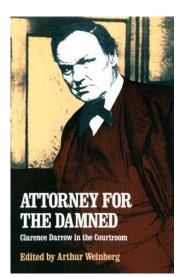


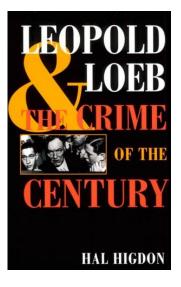


Leopold and Loeb - Chicago Street Scene Image online, courtesy U.S. Library of Congress. View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Leopold-and-Loeb-Chicago-Street-Scene

View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Leopold-and-Loeb-A-Courthouse-Crowd

Courthouse for the Case of Leopold and Loeb Image online, courtesy Library of Congress. View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Courthouse-for-the-Case-of-Leopold-and-Loeb









<u>Attorney for the Damned</u> Book-cover image, online via Amazon. View this asset at: <u>http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Attorney-for-the-Damned</u>

Leopold and Loeb: The Crime of the Century - by Hal Higdon Book-cover image online, courtesy Amazon. View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Leopold-and-Loeb-The-Crime-of-the-Century-by-Hal-Higdon

Leopold and Loeb - Courtroom Scene at Trial Image online, courtesy Library of Congress. View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Leopold-and-Loeb-Courtroom-Scene-at-Trial

Leopold and Loeb - 99 Years for Kidnapping Image onlline, courtesy Cook County Court. View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Leopold-and-Loeb-99-Years-for-Kidnapping Leopold and Loeb - Darrow's Final Argument Clip from "<u>Compulsion</u>," a 1959 film based on the story of Leopold and Loeb. Online, courtesy YouTube.

Director: Richard Fleischer

Producer: Richard D. Zanuck

Screenplay by: Richard Murphy

Based on the book, *Compulsion*, By Meyer Levin

Starring:

Orson Welles - Jonathan Wilk

Diane Varsi - Ruth Evans

Dean Stockwell - Judd Steiner

Bradford Dillman - Artie Strauss

E.G. Marshall - District Attorney Harold Horn

Martin Milner - Sid Brooks

Richard Anderson - Max Steiner

Gavin MacLeod - Padua, Horn's Assistant

Music: Lionel Newman

Cinematography: William C. Mellor

Editing: William H. Reynolds

Distributor: Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corporation

Release date: April 1, 1959 Run Time: 103 minutes View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Leopold-and-Loeb-Darrow-s-Final-Argument

