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# The Leading Characters

- Horace Rumpole, barrister, loves the courtroom. Despite attempts by his friends and family to get him to move on to a more respectable position for his age.
- He only enjoys defending his clients at the <u>Old Bailey, London's Central Criminal</u> <u>Court</u>(中央刑事裁判所).
- A devotee of *Oxford Book of English Verse*, he often quotes Wordsworth.
- He privately calls his wife Hilda "She Who Must Be Obeyed".
- I must confess that I loved Miss Porter. I often think about her, and of the different course my home life might have taken, for Miss Porter was in no way *a girl born to command, or expect implicit obedience.*
- Had I married her I would no doubt have been spared the more *military aspect of*

*home life* with She Who Must Be Obeyed, whose tone of voice often seems more suited to the barrack square than to the boudoir.

# Life with Hilda 1

- Hectic passion has hardly been the keynote of my married life with *She Who Must Be Obeyed*, although I remember a holiday in Brittany when She showed an unwonted enthusiasm for the stuff (I have always put it down to the shellfish\*).
- Although embarrassing at the time, this holiday did ultimately produce the enduring benefit of my son Nicholas Rumpole.
- My son and I have, when he's at home, formed a strong but silent alliance against the almost invincible rule of She Who Must Be Obeyed.

\*regarded as aphrodisiac=媚薬

## Life with Hilda ②

- Your wish is my command! I muttered to She Who Must Be Obeyed in my best imitation of a slave out of Chou Chin Chow. She chose to ignore it.
- Rumpole, 'Try not to leave the kitchen looking as though it's been hit by a bomb.'
- 'If you're going to the loo, Rumpole, try to remember to switch the light off.'

# Judges (1)

- Mr Justice Vosper was a man who could well be capable of ordering muffins after a death sentence, if muffins and death sentences still existed.
- $\boldsymbol{\cdot}$  Why he was ever made a judge is one of the

unsolved mysteries of the universe.

• I lost ten cases in a row before Judge Bullingham, or the mad Bull. During defence speeches he slept ostentatiously, or explored his ear with his little finger, or industriously picked his nose.

#### Memorable or Unmemorable Quotes ①

- Lawyers and tarts are the two oldest professions in the world. And we always aim to please.
- Marriage is like pleading guilty, for an indefinite sentence. Without parole.
- $\boldsymbol{\cdot} A$  person who is tired of crime, is tired of life.
- I always read the Obituaries in The Times. They make me bloody glad to be alive.

#### Memorable or Unmemorable Quotes ②

- The trouble with lady barristers is that they talk more like men barristers than men barristers do.
- Only one thing is certain in the dubious world of the law. No one is harder on a lady than a lady barrister.
- If you call a clergyman in mitigation, he can be guaranteed to add at least a year to the sentence .
- Pommeroy's Wine Bar, that wonderful oasis of peace that lies between the battle of the Bailey and *the horrors of Home Life.*

#### Rape Case ①

• Then I put my problem to Hilda. 'Can you understand why an M.P., an Honourable Member, with a wife and a couple of kids should suddenly take it into his head to rape anyone?'

- 'An M.P.? What side's he on?'
- 'Labour.' \*
- 'Oh well then.' Hilda had no doubt about it.
  'It doesn't surprise me in the least.'

\*労働党

## Rape Case 2

- The next day the Honourable Member, Ken Aspen, was sitting in my Chambers, flanked by his solicitor's clerk and his wife, Anna.
- Aspen spoke in a slightly *modified public-school accent, and the just flattened vowels* were a concession to the workers.
- Mrs Aspen looked at me as though I was a regrettable necessity in their important lives, like drains.

## Pornography Case ①

- 'I would like the jury to read every word of these books and magazines,' said the prosecutor.
- 'Very well,' I shrugged at the jury. 'The prosecution is always far more interested in sex than we are.'
- I went to a call-box and telephoned the mansion flat and *She Who Must Be Obeyed.*
- 'Rumpole, when are you coming home?' The tones were not over-friendly.

## Pornography Case 2

 Maybe a day or two. Not that we're doing very much. Everyone's sitting around, taking it easy and reading pornography.'

- 'Reading pornography?' Hilda sounded incredulous.
- 'Yes, of course. What else would you like us to do?'
- 'Oh, do be your age, Rumpole!' Whereupon Hilda slammed down the receiver.

#### Divorce Case 1

- 'Then why are you leaving me Hilda?'
- 'You've changed, Rumpole. You don't go to work in the mornings. And as for the gin bottle!'
- 'You marked it! That was unforgivable.' 'Then don't forgive me.'
- 'An Englishman's gin bottle is his castle.'

#### Divorce Case 2

- 'My divorce collapsed under me. The clients were reconciled.'
- Because, however awful it is, however much they may hate each other, they don't want to be alone!
- Isn't that strange, Hilda? *They'd rather* have war together than a lonely peace.'

## Murder Case

- 'Now is the Winter of my Discontent, Made Glorious Summer\* by a first-class murder.'
  - Got to leave you now, Hilda. Murder calls.
- 'Why didn't you tell me we were back to murder? This is good news.' Hilda was remarkably cheerful that morning.
- 'Murder,' I told her, 'is certainly better than dancing.'

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*シェイクスピアの「リチャード3世」より
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## Pre-Retirement Stay in Miami 1

- The stuff to avoid is 'Thousand Island Dressing': so many islands, you might have thought, are hardly needed to provide a mixture of salad cream and tomato ketchup.
- I looked up at the relentlessly blue sky for signs of rain. 'Excellent climate, I'm sure,'I told Hilda, 'if you happen to be an orange.'

## Pre-Retirement Stay in Miami ②

- What was I doing, I asked myself, boring myself to death among a lot of geriatrics and citrus fruits, *when the London underground system was still capable of yielding such a fine vintage murder?*
- •I came to the clear conclusion that there was only one way for Rumpole to go; *sitting on the beach queuing up for death* was out; I would meet my end in the full flood of a final speech, and *with my wig on*.

#### 参加者一覧

相原悦夫	小澤正樹	大野和子	佐川光徳
安藤雅彦	豊田一男	坂井孝彦	今井真由美
棚橋征一	岡本真弘人	村井久美子	長谷川真弓
横堀由美	田中洋一郎	土屋政雄	中嶋秀隆
岡田茂富			

(敬称略)

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