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Book Review

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When There Are Too Many Lawyers ... There Is No Justice

Alan Manly, A.K.A. Publishing, \$24.95

If you've ever felt 'aggrieved', then this story of tenacious determination will have special significance.

In what is essentially a David-and-Goliath tussle that exposes the legal system, Manly shows how it can effortlessly squash the unknowing.

The astounding true story began with a dispute over \$115, and a prod from the lawful establishment, before it metamorphosed over 10 years involving every court in the country including the High Court of

Australia.

Manly worked at many jobs, but the subject of this book transpired, with the resulting frightening legal ordeal, after he worked for a company which was developing its own software products.

Manly and Julian Day were business associates and instigators of a new society to support IT professionals - Information Technology Society of Australia.

Their dealings with another man, Elliott Lurie, prompted Day to walk into a Sydney police station two decades ago.

Weary of ordinary legal advice and swelling costs, Manly took on the system after sacking his lawyers. Seeking 'justice' left Manly on the edge of bankruptcy.

A self-acknowledged manic obsessive compulsive, he's not only censured, prosecuted, assailed and insulted, but also steps across impostors, sexual hunters, suicide and the jobless.

The labyrinth of stratagem is mind-boggling, the sometimes comic re-telling easy to read and Manly's perseverance wholeheartedly admired.

Wise words from Chinese writer Lin Yutang lend credence to the true substance of this marathon escapade:

"When there are too many policemen there is no liberty.

When there are too many soldiers there is no peace.

Where there are too many lawyers there is no justice."

