

## Review #10 : *Witness for the Prosecution* (1957)

Tyrone Power and Marlene Dietrich

### TRAILER

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KsVN1hv9D5c>

### SYNOPSIS

The star of the film, Tyrone Power, has been accused of murdering a wealthy older woman. His wife Marlene Dietrich seems to be doing all she can to sell him out, appearing as... the star witness for the prosecution. Oscar-nominated Charles Laughton is the brilliant and ailing English barrister defending Power. What he brings to Billy Wilder's 1957 courtroom thriller is his tremendous wit and intellect. Wilder weaved thrills and smiles as well as any director. In this, he was wise to anchor the supporting cast with mainstays of the stiff upper lip. John Williams, not to mention Laughton's control-freak assistant Elsa Lanchester, are bloody good...



### REVIEW

The plot twists 'n' turns a dozen ways from Sunday and even when you think you know how it ends, there are STILL more surprises to come. Through the whole plot, Dietrich winds up being the most fascinating character. Her performance works out perfectly. But she and Power are merely the star attractions in *Witness For The Prosecution*. The main dish is Charles Laughton. Considering how ironic and cynical our society has become, it's stunning that brilliant old pros like Wilder and Laughton aren't more popular today. After this movie, they've become personal heroes of mine +++