

Contents

<i>Preface</i>	<i>xix</i>
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	<i>xxi</i>
Chapter 1. The Big Picture	1
I. The Early Limitation of Tort Liability to the Contractual Relationship	2
<i>Winterbottom v. Wright</i>	2
II. An (Extreme) Example of Strict Products Liability: The Asbestos Cases	5
<i>Borel v. Fibreboard Paper Products Corp.</i>	5
Asbestos Changes	8
S. 3274, Fairness in Asbestos Injury Resolution Act of 2006	10
III. The Social Problem of Product Accidents	13
<i>Hammontree v. Jenner</i>	15
IV. A Reprise of Excessive Liability as a Reason for Limiting Tort Liability to the Contractual Relationship	19
<i>Strauss v. Belle Realty Co.</i>	20
Chapter 2. Doctrinal Foundations of Strict Products Liability	23
I. The Implied Warranty	23
A. Contaminated or Unwholesome Food	24
<i>Van Bracklin v. Fonda</i>	24
<i>Jacob E. Decker & Sons v. Capps</i>	27
B. Warranties in Nonfood Cases	32
<i>Seixas and Seixas v. Woods</i>	32
<i>Escola v. Coca Cola Bottling Co.</i>	36
C. The <i>Restatement (Second)</i> Rule of Strict Products Liability	42
Restatement (Second) of Torts	42
II. The Negligence Principle	47
A. The Demise of the Privity Bar to Negligence Liability	47
<i>Thomas v. Winchester</i>	47
<i>Macpherson v. Buick Motor Co.</i>	51
B. Proof of Negligence Liability	55
<i>Escola v. Coca Cola Bottling Co.</i>	56
C. The Evidentiary Rationale for Strict Liability	60
<i>Cole v. Goodwin & Story</i>	60

D.	The Negligence Foundation of the <i>Restatement (Third)</i> Restatement (Third) of Torts: Products Liability	65 66
Chapter 3.	The Substantive Basis of Products Liability	73
I.	Controversy Over the Liability Rule Stewart, Strict Liability for Defective Product Design: The Quest for a Well-Ordered Regime	73 74
II.	Strict Products Liability 1.0 <i>Halliday v. Sturm, Ruger & Co.</i> <i>Green v. Smith & Nephew Ahp, Inc.</i> <i>Denny v. Ford Motor Co.</i>	79 80 83 89
III.	Strict Products Liability 2.0 A. Incorporating the Risk-Utility Test into Strict Products Liability <i>Potter v. Chicago Pneumatic</i> <i>Bifolck v. Phillip Morris, Inc.</i> B. Defining Consumer Expectations with the Risk-Utility Test <i>Cipollone v. Liggett Group Inc.</i> Geistfeld, The Value of Consumer Choice in Strict Products Liability	96 97 97 102 106 107 111
Chapter 4.	Manufacturing Defects and Product Malfunctions	123
I.	Rationale(s) for Strict Liability Restatement (Third) of Torts: Products Liability	123 123
II.	Proof of Manufacturing Defect <i>Mckenzie v. SK Hand Tool Corp.</i>	126 126
III.	Food Cases <i>Allen v. Grafton</i> <i>Schafer v. JLC Food Systems, Inc.</i>	131 131 132
IV.	Product Malfunctions <i>Metropolitan Property & Casualty Co. v. Deere & Co.</i> <i>Sigler v. American Honda Motor Co.</i>	137 137 144
V.	Autonomous Vehicles and Products Liability: Problem Set 1	149
Chapter 5.	The “Unreasonably Dangerous” Requirement, Patent Defects, and the Element of Duty	153
I.	Different Interpretations of the “Unreasonably Dangerous” Requirement <i>Cronin v. J.B.E. Olson Corp.</i> <i>Luque v. Mclean</i> <i>Cepeda v. Cumberland Engineering Co.</i>	154 154 158 161
II.	Distinguishing Patent Defects from Patent Dangers	165
III.	The Element of Duty	170
IV.	Autonomous Vehicles and Products Liability: Problem Set 2	172

Chapter 6. Design Defects	177
I. Emerging Consensus or Widespread Disagreement?	178
A. “Exclusive” Reliance on the Consumer Expectations Test	178
B. “Exclusive” Reliance on the Risk-Utility Test	179
C. Combining the Two Tests	180
<i>Soule v. General Motors Corp.</i>	180
II. The Risk-Utility Test Applied	186
A. Reasonable Alternative Design	187
Restatement (Third) of Torts: Products Liability	188
B. Balancing the Risk-Utility Factors	192
<i>Laplante v. American Honda Motor Corp.</i>	195
<i>Dawson v. Chrysler Corp.</i>	200
III. The Role of Consumer Choice	207
A. Foreseeable Product Use	207
<i>Salazar v. Wolo Mfg. Group</i>	208
B. Inherent Product Dangers and Categorical Liability	210
<i>Dreisonstok v. Volkswagenwerk, A.G.</i>	211
<i>In re: Depuy Orthopaedics, Inc. Pinnacale Hip Implant</i>	
<i>Product Liability Litigation</i>	217
<i>Linegar v. Armour of America</i>	222
C. Optional Safety Equipment	228
<i>Scarangella v. Thomas Built Buses, Inc.</i>	228
IV. Limits on the Duty to Design: Technological Feasibility and “State of the Art”	235
Restatement (Third) of Torts: Products Liability	235
<i>Boatland of Houston v. Bailey</i>	238
<i>Hyjek v. Anthony Industries</i>	244
V. Autonomous Vehicles and Products Liability: Problem Set 3	248
 Chapter 7. Warning Defects	 253
I. Information and Consumer Choice	253
<i>Watkins v. Ford Motor Co.</i>	253
II. The Substantive Basis of the Liability Rule	257
<i>Anderson v. Owens-Corning Fiberglass Corp.</i>	257
<i>Vassallo v. Baxter Healthcare Corp.</i>	261
III. To Whom Must the Warning Be Directed?	265
A. The Average or Ordinary Consumer	266
<i>Johnson v. American Standard, Inc.</i>	266
<i>Livingston v. Marie Callender’s, Inc.</i>	271
<i>Medina v. Louisville Ladder, Inc.</i>	275
B. The Role of Intermediaries	279
<i>Sowell v. American Cyanamid Co.</i>	279
<i>Hoffman v. Houghton Chemical Corp.</i>	282
IV. The Type of Risks Encompassed by the Duty to Warn	287
<i>American Tobacco Co., Inc. v. Grinnell</i>	288
<i>Liriano v. Hobart Corp.</i>	295
<i>Moran v. Faberge, Inc.</i>	303

V.	The Adequacy of Disclosure	311
	<i>Jones v. Amazing Products, Inc.</i>	311
	<i>Macdonald v. Ortho Pharmaceutical Corp.</i>	313
	<i>Broussard v. Continental Oil Co.</i>	318
VI.	The Risk-Utility Test	323
	<i>Campos v. Firestone Tire & Rubber Co.</i>	323
	<i>Hood v. Ryobi America Corp.</i>	324
VII.	The Risk-Utility Test Applied	327
VIII.	The Post-Sale Duty to Warn	329
	<i>Great Northern Insurance Co. v. Honeywell International, Inc.</i>	329
IX.	Autonomous Vehicles and Products Liability: Problem Set 4	336
Chapter 8. The Relation Between Warnings and Product Design		341
I.	The Duty to Warn as a Complete Substitute for the Duty to Design	341
	<i>Skyhook Corp. v. Jasper</i>	342
II.	Separating the Duty to Design from the Duty to Warn	344
	<i>Klein v. Sears, Roebuck and Co.</i>	344
	<i>Klopp v. Wackenhut Corp.</i>	349
III.	Incorporating Both the Design and the Warning into the Risk-Utility Test	351
	<i>Uniroyal Goodrich Tire Co. v. Martinez</i>	351
	<i>Hood v. Ryobi America Corp.</i>	358
IV.	Autonomous Vehicles and Products Liability: Problem Set 5	362
Chapter 9. Medical Products and the Exemption of “Unavoidably Unsafe” Products from Strict Products Liability		365
I.	“Unavoidably Unsafe Products” and Design Defects	366
	<i>Brown v. Superior Court</i>	366
	<i>Freeman v. Hoffman-La Roche, Inc.</i>	372
II.	Manufacturing Defects and Product Malfunctions	381
	<i>Rogers v. Miles Labs, Inc.</i>	381
	<i>Transue v. Aesthetech Corp.</i>	385
III.	Autonomous Vehicles and Products Liability: Problem Set 6	390
Chapter 10. Products Liability in the “Age of Statutes”		393
I.	Statutory Violations as Proof of Defect	394
	<i>Harned v. Dura Corp.</i>	394
II.	The Regulatory Compliance Defense	399
	<i>Ramirez v. Plough, Inc.</i>	400
III.	Statutory Preemption of Tort Claims	409
	<i>Williamson v. Mazda Motor of America</i>	410
III.	Autonomous Vehicles and Products Liability: Problem Set 7	418

Chapter 11. Factual Causation	423
I. The But-For Test	424
<i>Crossley v. General Motors Corp.</i>	424
<i>Liriano v. Hobart Corp.</i>	429
<i>Daubert v. Merrell Dow Pharmaceuticals, Inc.</i>	433
II. Proof of Causation in Warning Cases	440
A. The Subjective Standard	440
B. The Objective Standard	441
C. The Heeding Presumption	442
<i>Coffman v. Keene Corp.</i>	442
III. Proof of Causation in Warranty Cases	448
<i>Baxter v. Ford Motor Co.</i>	449
<i>Baxter v. Ford Motor Co.</i>	451
IV. Enhanced Injury	456
<i>Trull v. Volkswagen of America, Inc.</i>	457
<i>Story Parchment Co. v. Paterson Parchment Paper Co.</i>	463
<i>May v. Portland Jeep</i>	465
V. Factual Uncertainty Regarding the Tortfeasor's Identity: Alternative and Market-Share Liability	469
<i>Sindell v. Abbott Laboratories</i>	469
<i>Brown v. Superior Court</i>	476
<i>Smith v. Eli Lilly & Co.</i>	479
Geistfeld, The Doctrinal Unity of Alternative Liability and Market-Share Liability	483
VI. The Problem of Scientific Uncertainty	493
<i>Rider v. Sandoz Pharmaceuticals Corp.</i>	494
<i>Stevens v. Secretary of Dept. of Health and Human Services</i>	505
<i>In re: Roundup Products Liability Litigation</i>	510
<i>In re: Roundup Products Liability Litigation</i>	514
VII. Autonomous Vehicles and Products Liability: Problem Set 8	521
Chapter 12. Scope of Liability: Proximate Cause	525
I. The Foreseeability Test	526
<i>Stazenski v. Tennant Co.</i>	526
<i>In re September 11 Litigation</i>	531
II. Backward-Looking Tests	538
<i>Union Pump v. Albritton</i>	538
III. A Reprise of Duty	547
<i>Jeld-Wen, Inc. v. Gamble by Gamble</i>	547
IV. Autonomous Vehicles and Products Liability: Problem Set 9	553
Chapter 13. Damages and the Scope of Liability as Defined by the Type of Injury	557
I. Physical Harm and the Measure of Compensation	558

II.	Pure Economic Loss	561
	<i>East River Steamship v. Transamerica Delavel</i>	561
	<i>Pfizer, Inc. v. Farsian</i>	570
	<i>80 South Eighth Street Limited Partnership v. Carey-Canada, Inc.</i>	574
III.	The Cost of Medical Monitoring	581
	<i>Donovan v. Philip Morris USA, Inc.</i>	581
IV.	Stand-Alone Emotional Harms	586
	In re Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether (“MTBE”) Products Liability Litigation	587
V.	Punitive Damages	595
	<i>Owens-Illinois, Inc. v. Zenobia</i>	595
	<i>Philip Morris USA v. Williams</i>	603
VI.	Autonomous Vehicles and Products Liability: Problem Set 10	612
Chapter 14. Defenses Based on Consumer Conduct		617
I.	Contractual Limitations of Liability	617
II.	Assumption of Risk	618
	A. Voluntary Choice	619
	<i>Cremeans v. Willmar Henderson Mfg. Co.</i>	619
	<i>Wangness v. Builders Cashway, Inc.</i>	625
	B. Knowledge of Risk	630
	<i>Traylor v. Husqvarna Motor</i>	630
	C. Primary Assumption of Risk	633
	<i>Ford v. Polaris Indus., Inc.</i>	633
III.	Contributory Negligence and Comparative Responsibility	640
	A. Product Misuse Without Comparative Responsibility	641
	<i>Bexiga v. Havir Mfg. Corp.</i>	641
	B. Product Misuse in a System of Comparative Responsibility	643
	<i>Daly v. General Motors Corp.</i>	644
	<i>Donze v. General Motors, LLC</i>	650
	C. Forms of Product Misuse	653
	<i>States v. R.D. Werner Co.</i>	653
	<i>Exxon Company, U.S.A. v. Sofec, Inc.</i>	656
	D. Assumption of Risk and Comparative Responsibility	659
	<i>Andren v. White-Rodgers Co.</i>	659
IV.	Autonomous Vehicles and Products Liability: Problem Set 11	664
Chapter 15. The Scope of Strict Products Liability as Defined by the Nature of the Transaction		667
I.	Distributor and Retailer Liability	667
	<i>Godoy v. Abamaster of Miami, Inc.</i>	668
II.	The “Sale” of a Product	672
	<i>Delaney v. Towmotor Corp.</i>	672
	<i>New Texas Auto Auction Services, L.P. v. Gomez de Hernandez</i>	675
	<i>Bolger v. Amazon.com, LLC</i>	679

Contents	xvii
III. The Sale of a “Product”	683
<i>Gorran v. Atkins Nutritionals, Inc.</i>	683
<i>Cafazzo v. Central Medical Health Services, Inc.</i>	686
IV. Autonomous Vehicles and Products Liability: Problem Set 12	695
Chapter 16. Bystander Liability	699
I. The Extension of Strict Products Liability to Encompass Bystanders	699
<i>Gibberson v. Ford Motor Co.</i>	699
<i>Horst v. Deere & Co.</i>	701
II. Conflicts Between Consumers and Bystanders	706
<i>Gaines-Tabb v. ICI Explosives, USA, Inc.</i>	706
<i>McCarthy v. Olin Corp.</i>	709
III. Negligence Liability and the Protection of Bystanders	716
<i>Passwaters v. General Motors Corp.</i>	716
IV. Autonomous Vehicles and Products Liability: Problem Set 13	721
Chapter 17. Comparative Products Liability	725
<i>A v. National Blood Authority</i>	728
Second Commission Report of 31 January 2001 on the Application of Directive 85/374 on Liability for Defective Products (COM (2000) 893 Final)	741
Third Report on the Application of Council Directive on the Approximation of Laws, Regulations and Administrative Provisions of the Member States Concerning Liability for Defective Products (COM (2006) 496 Final), September 2006	745
Fourth Report on the Application of Council Directive 85/374/EEC (COM (2011) 547), 8 Sept. 2011	746
European Commission, Fifth Report on the Application of Council Directive on the Approximation of Laws, Regulations and Administrative Provisions of the Member States Concerning Liability for Defective Products (85/374/EEC) (COM/2018/246 Final), 7 May 2018	748
<i>Table of Cases</i>	755
<i>Index</i>	761