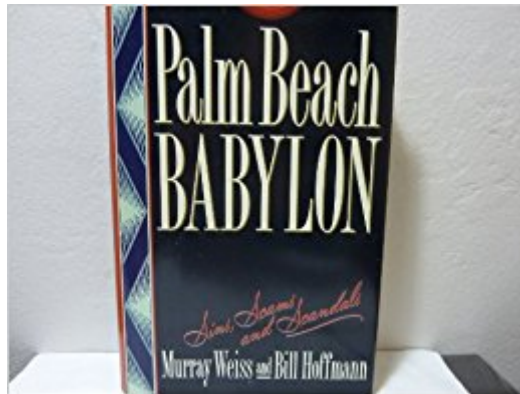




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Palm Beach Babylon: Sins, Scams, And Scandals



Synopsis

A look at Palm Beach's scandals discusses such things as the battle between Donald and Ivana, the insatiable sexual appetites of the Kennedy brothers, the bizarre death of a suspect in the JFK assassination, and others.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

If there are any God-fearing, monogamous millionaires in Palm Beach, they are not the subjects of this regurgitation of seemingly every sex scandal to hit that paradise in the past 100 years. The authors, New York Post reporters, begin with the hijinks of the resort town's founding father, Harry Flagler, and its prime architects and developers, Addison and Wilson Mizner, and move to the escapades of the Kennedys, Pulitzers and Binghams, as well as those of John Lennon and Donald Trump (whose Palm Beach manse the authors call "Mar-La-Lago"). Here are the details of these socialites' exploits, marriages, divorces and dalliances, as well as those of such occasional visitors as Isadora Duncan and Douglas MacArthur. Digging into a heap of tired gossip and tawdry scandal, Weiss and Hoffman do uncover some new items, and they touch on Florida's peculiar history and offer vivid peeks into Palm Beach's great estates and anti-Semitic clubs. Photos not seen by PW.
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In what adds a new dimension to the term revisionist history, Weiss and Hoffmann painstakingly detail the scandals that have rocked this subtropical playground of the wealthy. What emerges is the realization that the likes of William Kennedy Smith and Roxanne Pulitzer have nothing on Henry

Flagler, Addison Mizner, and Joseph Kennedy, who frolicked there generations before them. Scandals, whether involving sex, scams, or even murder, seem to be an old island tradition that envelop all who venture near. The authors, award-winning New York Post reporters, might lead one to believe that even those who visit Palm Beach but remain unscathed had better take care and not look back when leaving, lest they find themselves turning into pillars of salt. Expect regional interest and demand from inquiring minds that need to know.- Jim Burns, Ottumwa, Ia. Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Yes, Palm Beach is fabulous. Yes, Palm Beach is the playground of the rich. Yes, Palm Beach isn't perfect. This book, beautifully written, gives the reader a historical and rather personal view of the life and times of a special group of American's, a group who created, 'Resort Culture,' taking Florida from uninhabited to inhabited one richly embroidered table cloth at a time. Undeterred by mosquitoes, alligators and the lack of a local high end jewelry store, the rich plodded forward building one fabulous home after another, then set back, stirred a generous highball and let the **** hit the fan. Add in a murder here, a suicide there, and an occasional knife in the back, and you have a great read. A must for anyone seeking to relocate and share in the fun!

Even if there is some stretching of the truth it is a great read. The history of how Palm Beach was made is good. Everyone who lives in or near should have this book. And even if you don't live there it is an interesting and juicy read.

While I've read about some of these stories before, this book put a new slant on most of them, in addition to being very well written. The map of Palm Beach in the front helped get a better perspective on the stories. I did catch a few minor typos, but all in all, the book was very enjoyable reading.

Very Juicy! Well informed writers....everything you wanted to know about some of the old shenanigans of the rich and famous, like the Dodge, that ran on alcohol...LOL

Very interesting. Tells how Florida became developed and how the rich came to reside on Palm Beach Island. It's a somewhat of a history lesson, I thought.

I loved this book because it had all the allure of great fiction, yet it was about real people who,

although they live in a real place (Palm Beach, FL), seem more like Great Gatsby characters than anything else! It also provides a fascinating historical perspective of the glamorous Palm Beach, how it was built, the man who built it, and the wealthy who flocked to it.

Loved the book--received in great condition

Fun to read of the rich and their trials and bad times. Very interesting and informative book. Would recommend to anyone.

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