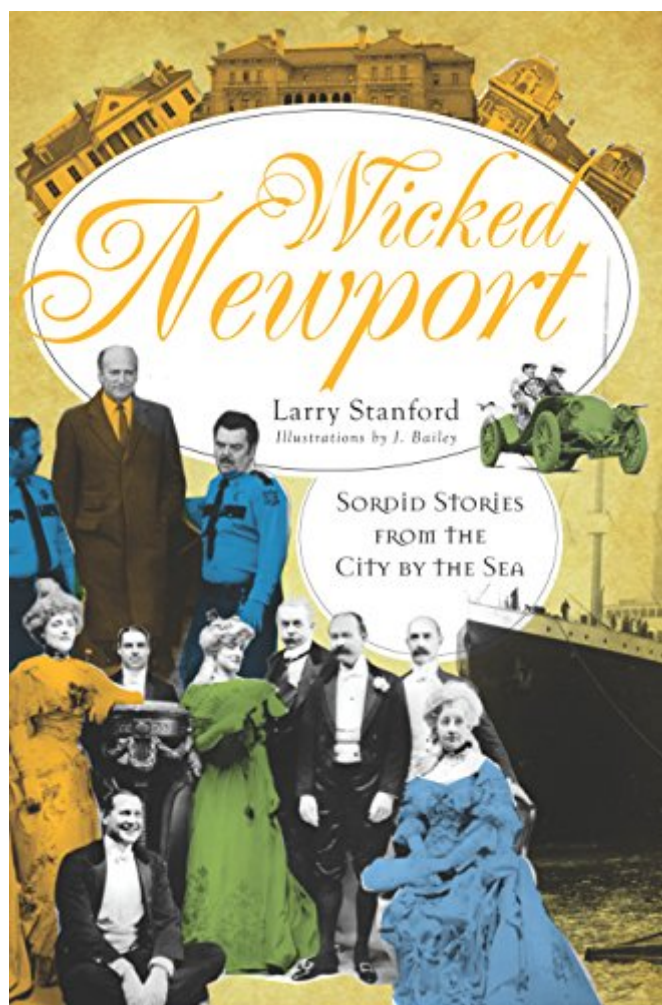


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Wicked Newport: Sordid Stories From The City By The Sea



Synopsis

Founded by a small band of religious freedom seekers in 1639, Newport, Rhode Island, subsequently became a bustling colonial seaport teeming with artists, sailors, prosperous merchants and, perhaps most distinctively, the ultra-rich families of the Gilded Age. Clinging to the lavish coattails of these newly minted millionaires and robber barons was a stream of con artists and hangers-on who attempted to leech off their well-to-do neighbors. From the Vanderbilts to the Dukes, the Astors to the Kennedys, the City by the Sea has served as a sanctuary for the elite, and a hotbed of corruption. Local historian Larry Stanford pulls back the curtain on over 350 years of history, uncovering the real stories behind many of Newport's most enduring mysteries, controversial characters and scintillating scandals.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Wicked Newport is a pleasant rehash of the well-known society hijinks of turn-of-the-20th century Newport. For 300 years, however, the juxtaposition of great wealth and privilege with common humanity has produced a very rich and sordid history that is essentially ignored here. Newport has

always had a motley collection of; rich yachtsmen, Naval men, U.S. Presidents, courtesans, ladies of the night, thieves, bootleggers, visiting dignitaries, servants, entertainers, con-men, politicians, celebrities and tourists. I'm a native Newporter, and I grew up hearing bits and pieces of juicy stories about such folks. Not having been recorded, though, these tales will be lost to the ages. It's too bad that yet one more book has been devoted to the Astors and Vanderbuilts. A lot more went on in Prohibition-era parties and the Newport Casino than was reported here! This book could have been researched solely on Wikipedia, whereas the older, lower-middle-class Newporters (including musicians like myself) have the real compelling information.

This book was surprisingly full of juicy stories about the gilded age and recent times of Newport, Rhode Island. Everything from the Astors at the turn of the last century through Sunny and Claus Von Bulow. I would recommend it to anyone interested in the history and scandals.

Horrible. Sordid? A pity this book was published....regurgitated pablum from real books. Wish I didn't have to give it a star, period. What a waste. Nothing sordid. When did a tower with no real defined builders become sordid?

Everything I wanted to know about Newport in its gilded age!

A very quick... a lot of repeat material... but this was well written and had some very interesting sections. Great book for a shut in weekend! Would recommend! James

Book has interesting stories but is a little dry. Shipping from seller was very quick and exactly as described.

Short chapter's made a fast read. That is about the best thing about this book. Did not explore anything we did not already know.

Reads more like a brochure than an actually book, very light reading and oddly laid out. Had a bit of difficulty following.

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