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The Disneyland Story: The Unofficial Guide to the Evolution of Walt Disney's Dream

Sam Gennawey
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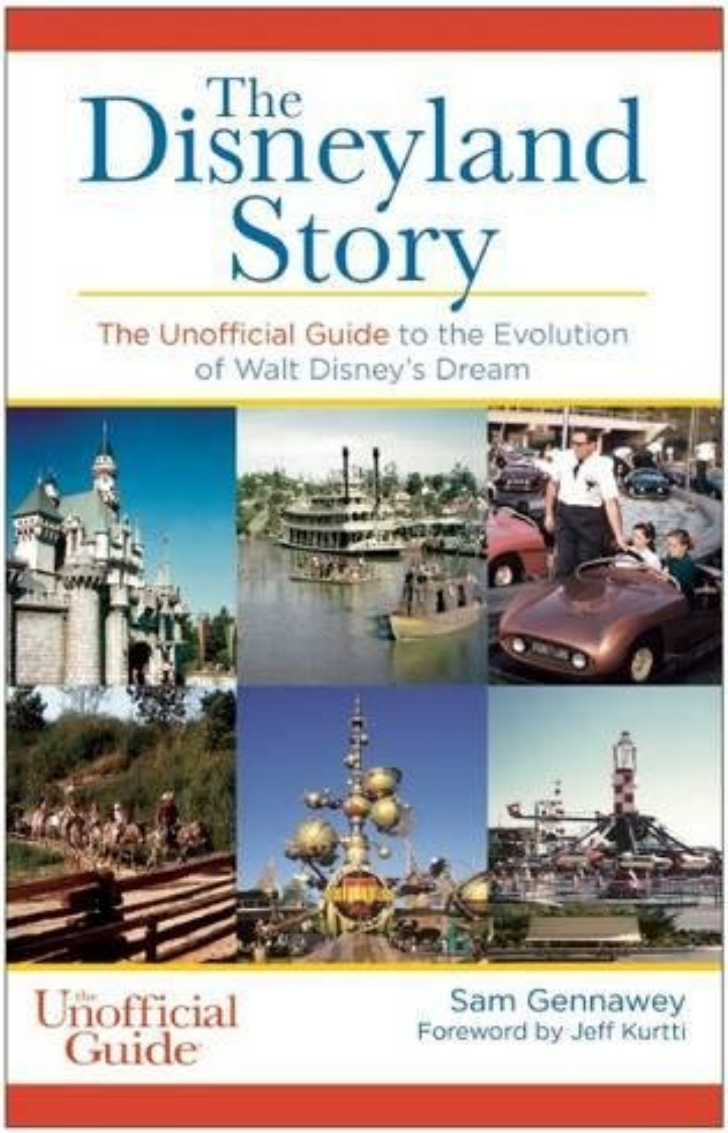

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Sam Gennawey : The Disneyland Story: The Unofficial Guide to the Evolution of Walt Disney's Dream before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Disneyland Story: The Unofficial Guide to the Evolution of Walt Disney's Dream:

15 of 16 people found the following review helpful. Excellent comprehensive Disneyland historyBy WulfstanThis

book, by part of The Un-official Guide to Disneyland team(and it's in the same format) is a solid and readable history of Disneyland. Not a hagiography, nor a tell-all, it's a simple and honest tale of the Happiest Place on Earth by a person who clearly loves the parks and knows the subject.It's marred only by it's format- due to the book size, it can't have all the wonderful color pictures you would like to see. So, if you can find a copy, get "Disneyland, the Nickel Tour" (which has not much text, but great pictures) and read The Disneyland Story: The Unofficial Guide to the Evolution of Walt Disney's Dream" while paging thru The Nickel Tour to see what Sam Gennaway is talking about.This book even had stuff I didn't know! Very readable, and a MUST for any Disney history buff or fan of the park.11 of 12 people found the following review helpful. Maps would have been greatBy oz readerThis is a very interesting and informative history of Disneyland but I don't understand how he could have thought it was complete without maps showing the various stages of the park. This is a very detailed, step-by-step inventory of what went up and what came down and where but without maps or a photographic memory you get lost in where he's talking about. The photos of the early years of the park bunched together in the beginning were good but he should have gone much further. Lost opportunities and disservice to the reader.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A True Biography of Disneyland. Entertaining and InformativeBy Lance FalkThis book REMARKABLY has never been written before. A true event-by-event 'Biography' of The Happiest Place on Earth. How was this missed before now?Author Gennawey tells the story of Disneyland from the very beginning in interesting detail. Many facts have not been volunteered by official sources, so, even the jaded Disneyland expert will learn all kinds of things. It's nice to have a more objective view instead of the usual Company Line. Sam's love of the park is sincere and not part of a corporate agenda.The chapters are bite-size allowing the book to be read in bits or devoured in a single sitting. Gennawey's knowledge on the subject is impressive and his background as a professional city planner enables him to give real world context that helps the reader to understand all the complex logistical decisions that go into a project of this scale and scope. Yet, he manages to keep a compelling, fascinating narrative throughout. It truly is a STORY and far from a dry, technical tome.If you are into Disneyland, this is a must-read. I have gifted this book about a dozen times as the perfect thing for the Park-Lovers in my life....and they have all enjoyed it.Lastly, the enjoyment of this book led me to read Sam Gennawey's other two Disney books, which were also excellent. One on Walt's original plan for EPCOT (MUCH different than the Theme Park resort they have now) and another about the intense Disney / Universal Studios rivalry. If either of those subjects interest you, you would do yourself a favor by picking up those as well. I'll be following this author in any future endeavors.

From the publisher of The Unofficial Guide to Disneyland comes The Disneyland Story: The Unofficial Guide to the Evolution of Walt Disney's Dream, the story of how Walt Disney's greatest creation was conceived, nurtured, and how it grew into a source of joy and inspiration for generations of visitors. Despite his successors' battles with the whims of history and their own doubts and egos, Walt's vision maintained momentum, thrived, and taught future generations how to do it Walt Disney's way.