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American Amusement Park



Synopsis

For more than a century, amusement parks from Brooklyn's Coney Island to Disneyland in Anaheim and today's "chain parks" like Six Flags have been among the most popular destinations for countless Americans in search of fun and thrills. This marvelous photographic retrospective distills more than 100 years of the sights, sounds, smells and vertigo-inducing thrills associated with the American amusement park. Nostalgic archival photography from private collections, period print advertisements and exclusive modern color photographs illustrate the stories behind thrill rides, arcades, architecture, park food, pavilion entertainment, fun houses, tunnels of love and much more. Special focus is given to the roller coaster, while sidebars highlight specific parks and rides whose influence on the development of amusement parks in general is undeniable.

Book Information

Hardcover: 156 pages

Publisher: MBI (October 26, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0760309817

ISBN-13: 978-0760309810

Product Dimensions: 10 x 0.6 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.4 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 5 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #742,261 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #161 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Antiques & Collectibles > Americana](#) #315 in [Books > Business & Money > Industries > Performing Arts](#) #343 in [Books > Travel > Specialty Travel > Theme Parks](#)

Customer Reviews

Well written history of amusement parks that kids and adults will like. We used it for my 3rd grader's learning fair and we got a lot of valuable information inside. We got the used one and it came in mint condition.

In the thrill seekers genre of books and videos, this fits right in. Although most of it is indeed a rehash, the layout is fabulous. No one can have enough photos of carousel horses or stories about old parks. The nostalgia factor in this book raises the bar. Unlike a few of the other books, this one is more rounded in that it covers the whole park instead of just the coasters. Be advised that these kinds of books are historical in nature and don't necessarily point to what's coming next at the

World's of thrills.

This book is packed full of beautiful photographs and nostalgic postcards. Various chapters showcase the origin of amusement parks, and the different styles and hybrids from the "traditional" and "theme" to the Storybook Lands and Santa Villages. There's even a chapter on flat rides. The graphics and layout are great. The author also knows his material. This is a great companion to that other great BMI book, "The American Roller Coaster".

This is a nostalgic trip for me and it even brought a few tears to my eyes because a lot of the places in the book are gone now. Why did all of these fun places have to go away? Could such simple, human pleasures be wrong?

Loved this book! Great info on amusement park history and behind the scenes secrets. I'm ready to go ride!

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