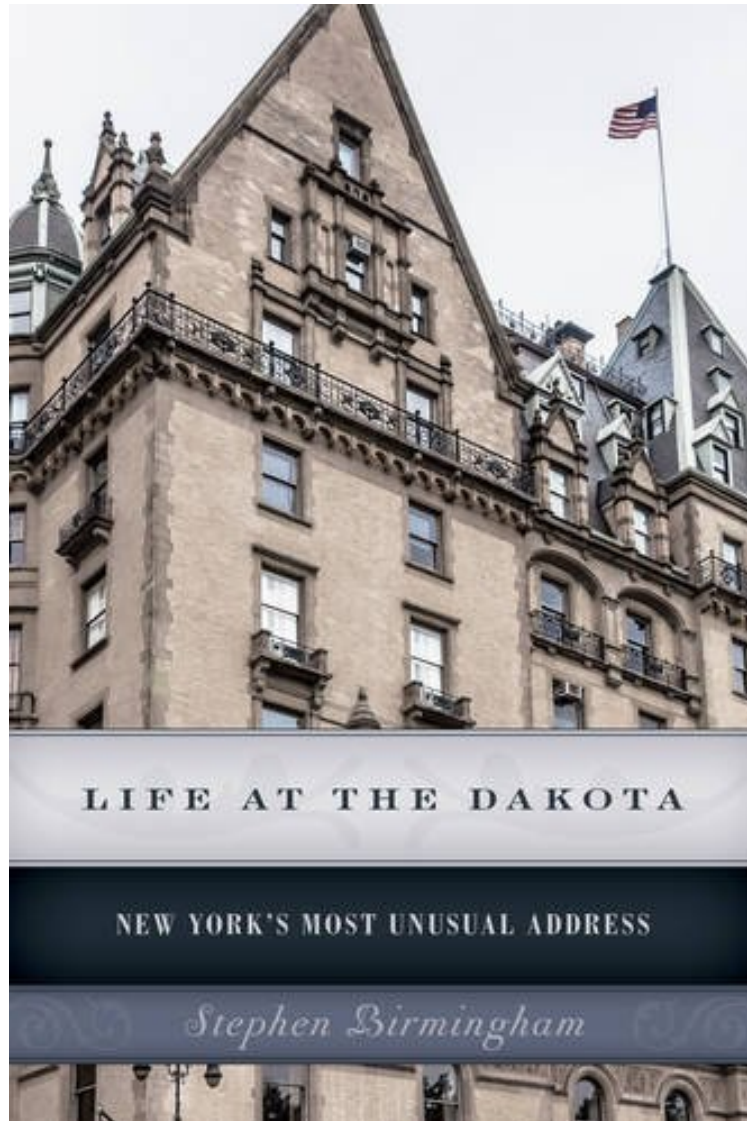


(Free download) Life at the Dakota: New York's Most Unusual Address

Life at the Dakota: New York's Most Unusual Address

Stephen Birmingham

*ePub | *DOC | audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF*



 Download

 Read Online

#117722 in Books 2016-08-16Original language:English 8.99 x .61 x 5.92l, .0 #File Name: 1493024736270 pages | File size: 53.Mb

Stephen Birmingham : Life at the Dakota: New York's Most Unusual Address before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Life at the Dakota: New York's Most Unusual Address:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Reads like a entrancing novel.By T. ColeyThis book reads like a novel, although it is nonfiction. The Dakota was built in 1884 and has been the home to Lauren Bacall, Rex Reed, Connie Chung, Rosemary Clooney, Leonard Bernstein, and John and Yoko Lennon, among others.The entire story from the laying of the first stones, to the luxurious services offered when it opened, to the renovation of apartment spaces to suit each owner, to its Co-op in 1961, to the murder of John Lennon at the entrance is all riveting.I HIGHLY

recommend this book (and I am a certified bibliophile). Even if you usually don't like nonfiction or just don't usually read nonfiction, you will be captivated by this one. I promise. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great History and Well Done !By Brad CoathVery Interesting, but hard to pin the date. If you are familiar at all with NYC and Manhattan and the upper west side in particular, this is a real interesting history book. I loved it. The only thing I had a problem with was that it seemed very dated, especially when referencing LGBT folks and, I don't know, constantly seemed to be referencing the late 70s early 80s. BUT...fascinating history and extremely detailed. Unusual topic, WELL DONE !0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. While it's a very interesting book about the Dakota, ...By Richard ClarkWhile it's a very interesting book about the Dakota, its history, occupants, etc. it wasn't until after I purchased it that I realized it was a reprint from the late 1970's. I really had hoped it would have gotten into John Lennon being shot but it was published before that happened. It was a bit surreal reading about the author writing about the Lennon's living in the building. I wish there would be an update to present day.

Life at the Dakota is a deliciously entertaining social history which describes the lives of the rich and trendy who have lived at the Dakota, a New York apartment house daringly erected in 1884, too far up and on the wrong side of town. In Stephen Birmingham's witty chronicle, the atmosphere of this elegant edifice is so powerful that the building itself becomes an unforgettable major character. From its start the Dakota has attracted a lively mix of people, from celebrities Leonard Bernstein, Roberta Flack, and John Lennon, to a ground-floor tenant who kept a stuffed horse in full armor in the living room, and yet another older tenant who was spotted wandering naked through the cellar by some workmen, mistaken for a ghost of the building. While detailing the active and often contentious life within the building from the nineteenth century to the present, Mr. Birmingham also brings to life the New York social scene and that of other fashionable American cities. Just as the sixty-foot rooms, the elaborate moldings and rococo ceilings are lushly described, so is the changing atmosphere in Central Park, the smell and sound of the street below, the judgments about what was fashionable and what was not throughout the years. Here is a window into the marvelous world of The Dakota and through it, the changing view of New York.

A wonderful history of New York manners and newsmakers as seen from the ornate battlements of [the Dakota]. (The New York Times) Readers can revel in vivid description and the satisfying characters that fill these pages. (Publishers Weekly) Entertaining and well-written. . . . Recommended. (Library Journal) From the Back Cover Life at the Dakota is a deliciously entertaining social history that describes the lives of the rich and trendy who have lived at the Dakota - a New York apartment house daringly erected in 1884, "too far up" and on the wrong side of town. This story has the fabulous characters, sharp insights, and captivating anecdotes of Stephen Birmingham's earlier works, and the atmosphere of the elegant Dakota is so powerful that the building itself becomes an unforgettable major character. The Gustav Schirmers were among the early tenants. Others such as Boris Karloff, Judy Holliday, Leonard Bernstein, and Lauren Bacall would follow. In this edition the author has included an afterword on John Lennon's murder at the Dakota. About the Author Stephen Birmingham is a preeminent social historian, known for his books The Right People, Real Lace, and The Grandees. He allows his reader unparalleled access to the most exclusive society sets, and tells their stories with great warmth and wit.