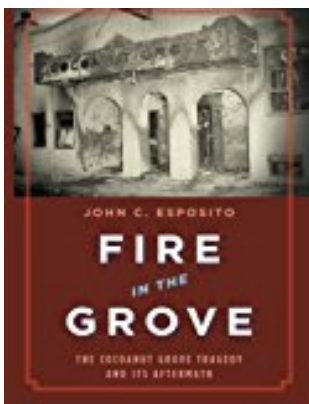


[PDF] Fire In The Grove: The Cocoanut Grove Tragedy And Its Aftermath

John C. Esposito - pdf download free book



Books Details:

Title: Fire in the Grove: The Cocoan
Author: John C. Esposito
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Description:

From **School Library Journal** Adult/High School-In Boston, 1942, the Cocoanut Grove was an elite nightclub decorated in a fantasy of tropical glamour. It was also a firetrap, a block-long labyrinth of bars and entertainment areas cobbled together with substandard materials in disregard of building codes or common sense. On the night of the fire, it was, as always, dimly lighted and overcrowded. The management had blocked all exits except the revolving front door to squeeze more people in and

to prevent anyone from leaving without paying a bill. The small fire that broke out in the basement exploded throughout the building within minutes, killing nearly 500 revelers. In a narrative reminiscent of the finest *Titanic* accounts, the author leads readers through the horrific events as they were experienced by individuals and, using court transcripts and recent scientific research, explains how the disaster developed. He portrays the culture of political corruption and gangland economy that allowed such a public gathering place to exist and provides a riveting chronicle of the attempts to prosecute those responsible. Esposito also reveals how doctors learned from the disaster to improve procedures for burn treatment. Finally, he reminds readers (through brief discussion of more recent club fires) that it can happen again and offers advice. Black-and-white photos augment the narrative. Few who read this book will enter a public arena in the future without looking for the exits.—*Christine C. Menefee, formerly at Fairfax County Public Library, VA*

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Review "Esposito doesn't shy away from the gruesome details, nor should he...[He] narrates this story with drive." -- *Palm Beach Post*, 8/20/06

"Should be mandatory reading for every fire inspector and public official charged with keeping the public safe." -- *Roanoke Times*, 2/19/06

"Well-researched and well-written...A quick-reading tale...A sobering read." -- *Curled Up with a Good Book*, 3/1/06

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