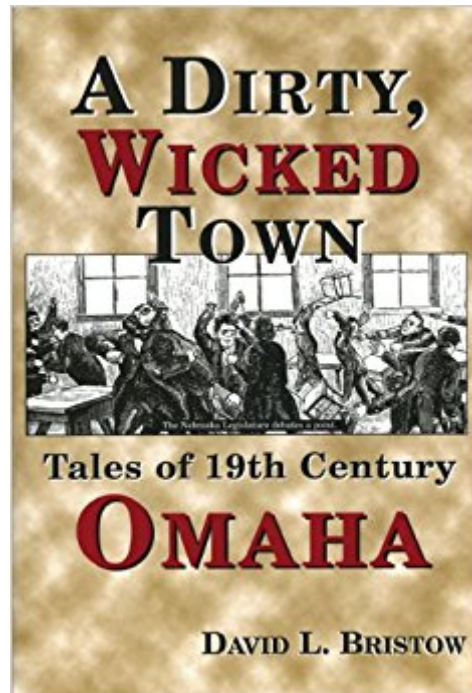




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Dirty, Wicked Town (Omaha)



Synopsis

Omaha, Nebraska, is a laid-back city in America's heartland. In the nineteenth century, however, it had a very different reputation. Omaha grew from a speculative scheme in 1854 to a booming city. Along the way there were scores of great stories.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"It requires but little, if any, stretch of the imagination to regard Omaha as a cesspool of iniquity, for it is given up to lawlessness and is overrun with a horde of fugitives from justice and dangerous men of all kinds who carry things with a high hand and a loose rein...If you want to find a rogue's rookery, go to Omaha." A Kansas City newspaper
Has ever been in Omaha, Where rolls the dark Missouri down,
And four strong horses scarce can draw An empty wagon through town?
Where sand is blown from ever mound To fill the eyes and ears and throat--
Where all the steamers are aground And all the shanties are afloat?
Where whisky shops the livelong night Are vending out their poison juice;
Where men are often very tight, And women deemed a trifle loose?
Where taverns have an anxious guest For every corner, shelf and crack;
With half the people going west, And all the others going back?
Where theaters are all the run, And bloody scalpers come to trade;
Where everything is overdone And everybody underpaid?
If not, take heed to what I say: You'll find it just as I have found it;
And if it lies upon your way, For God's sake, reader, go around it!
Poem from 1869
Harper's Magazine

David L. Bristow has lived in Omaha since 1992. He writes for various magazines and is currently

working on a novel.Â A Dirty, Wicked Town is his first book.

I enjoyed reading this book mainly because I lived in Omaha from my birth to age 28. It was interesting to know where some of the street names came from and also to know the background of the names of some buildings and museums and bridges. I had no idea that Omaha had such a storied history and I thoroughly enjoyed it. It has been shared among many of my family members. I ordered this book from because after receiving mine as a loaner I wanted to be able to send it on to others.

Just moved to Omaha. This fun but factual read helped me feel connected to the place. History written in the way Mr. Bristow writes it makes it so much more fun and way more memorable. Every town has their own sorted "wicked" history why shouldn't Omaha! It sure is a great town now!

What a wonderful walk thru the early history of Omaha...the good, the bad and the ugly. A must for history readers who are interested in the taming of the west'

well written and interesting, but I expected a pure historical treatment as opposed to the "novel" feel of the text... tom

this is a fantastic book about a begone era of the western groth of our nation. it is extreme well documentedand should be read by scholars of this time period.

I am now reading this book and enjoying it a lot. Learning lots about Omaha area. Till recently I lived in Bellevue mentioned in the book. Now living across Missouri river in Iowa and go to Council Bluffs frequently. It is in the book also

This is great reading....I am from Omaha and love the history...fun fun reading

good telling of Omaha's place ... sammy

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