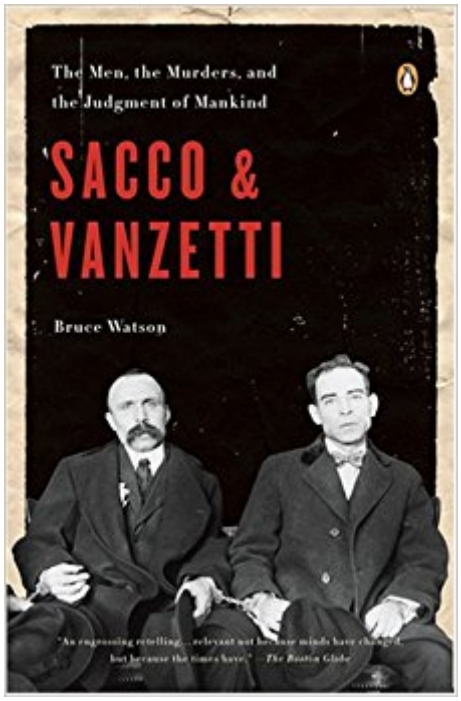
Ebook Directory
the best source of ebook

The book was found

Sacco And Vanzetti: The Men, The Murders, And The Judgment Of Mankind



PDF
Adobe
DOWNLOAD EBOOK

Synopsis

In this groundbreaking narrative of one of America?s most divisive trials and executions, award-winning journalist Bruce Watson mines deep archives and newly available sources to paint the most complete portrait available of the ?good shoemaker? and the ?poor fish peddler.? Opening with an explosion that rocks a quiet Washington, D.C., neighborhood and concluding with worldwide outrage as two men are executed despite widespread doubts about their guilt, Sacco & Vanzetti is the definitive history of an infamous case that still haunts the American imagination.

Book Information

Paperback: 448 pages

Publisher: Penguin Books; Reprint edition (November 25, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 014311428X

ISBN-13: 978-0143114284

Product Dimensions: 5.6 x 1 x 8.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 32 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #125,086 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #80 inÃ Â Books > Biographies & Memoirs > True Crime > Hoaxes & Deceptions #122 inÃ Â Books > Law > Legal History #383 inÃ Â Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Specific Groups > Crime & Criminals

Customer Reviews

Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti are among the most famous political martyrs of 20th-century America, convicted of murder by a Massachusetts jury and executed in 1929. Watson (Bread and Roses) expertly runs through the facts of the case and the basic legal injustices perpetrated against the two men, beginning with their arrest on suspicion of a payroll robbery up to their electrocution, without agitating for either end of the political spectrum. He carefully establishes the context of anarchist terrorism that stirred public sentiment against the two admittedly radical defendantsÃ¢â ¬â •including the judge at their trial, who made numerous prejudicial remarks outside the courtroom. Fellow radicals (and many moderate liberals) were outraged by the proceedings, but Watson observes that most Americans were too caught up in the amusement park mentality of the 1920s to care about themÃ¢â ¬â •a conclusion slightly at odds with the passionate debate to this day over their guilt. Watson quotes extensively from Sacco and Vanzetti’s letters, with their imperfect English, to flesh out their personalities (he has also written an introduction to a new

Penguin Classics edition of the correspondence). 16 pages of b&w photos. (Aug. 20) Copyright Ã Â© Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Even after 80 years, claims Bruce Watson, the prejudice and injustice that sentenced Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti to death "haunt American history." Though he presents no new evidence, Watson uses extensive research to offer a judicious and compelling description of the trial and its far-reaching aftermath. Only the Wall Street Journal, which nevertheless described Watson’s narrative as "vivid" and "smoothly written," complained that he distorted or ignored facts to suit his "liberal conscience

The trial of Sacco and Vanzetti was a case that divided America, defined politics, and sent shockwaves around the world in the early 1920s.I knew nothing about it. I remember some faint mention of it in history class, but...holy crap.Watson paints an adept picture of a fearful and uncertain America after the ravages of WWI and the flu epidemic that sets the stage for the trial. After introducing us to the world, the country, and the men themselves, Watson launches into a detailed and entertaining description of the events--the payroll murders, the investigation, the trial, the appeals, and finally, the executions. The detail he uses speaks to the excellent research, and the writing, though at times a bit liberal with hyperbolic flourishes, draws the reader in. He entertains, informs, and awakens a great sense of shame and injustice in the reader, as well he should.Watson shows the men for what, as far as anyone can tell, they were: militant anarchists and hardworking men, one a bookish intellectual and the other a devoted family man. Very likely innocent in the crimes they were executed for, but undeniably involved in a terrorist organization, they were neither angels or demons--just men who believed in something. He shows that no one can really know what the two were involved in, but that, without a doubt, justice failed. The trials were riddled with prejudices, the law bent towards a verdict that was determined without influence of the evidence.In short, the book is well-written, engaging, and for the non-scholars and somewhat ignorant (me), quite enlightening.

Well researched, well written, and frightening. One wonders how such a miscarriage of justice could take place. Two Italian immigrants - anarchists - executed for crimes they never did. I had heard much about this trial before reading this book and knew that this was a case of justice gone wrong but I had no idea of just how badly it had gone. This book will make you bitter over the depth of

prejudice and hate that existed then and - if you look around at today's headlines - remains as deep.

None.

Honor the Memory of Sacco and Vanzetti on this the 81st Anniversary of their execution by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (August 23, 1927).I like to put each item about the Sacco and Vanzetti case that I review in historical context with this well-worn standard first paragraph of mine. It, I believe, holds up today as in the past- Those familiar with the radical movement know that at least once in every generation a political criminal case comes up that defines that era. One thinks of the Haymarket Martyrs in the 19th century, the Scottsboro Boys in the 1930's, the Rosenbergs in the post-World War II Cold War period and today Mumia Abu-Jamal. In America after World War I when the Attorney General Palmer-driven `red scare' brought the federal government's vendetta against foreigners, immigrants and militant labor fighters to a white heat that generation's case was probably the most famous of them all, Sacco and Vanzetti. The exposure of the tensions within American society that came to the surface as a result of that case is the subject of the book by Professor Bruce Watson under review here.In the year 2008 one, like myself, who openly proclaims partisanship for the heroic memory of Sacco and Vanzetti when looking for a book to help instruct a new generation about the case is not after all this time afraid of a little partisanship by its author. One is also looking to see if, given advances in modern criminology and technology, those sources have presented any new information that would change the judgments of history. That is apparently not the case with Professor Watson's book. It is rather another garden variety narrative of the events that have been covered elsewhere by partisans on either side of the divide on the question of the guilt or innocence of the pair. Nevertheless it is good to have an updated narrative so that the youth will know that the pressing issues around the case have not gone away.Professor Watson has presented a good description of the events that led up to the Sacco and Vanzetti trial in a Dedham, Massachusetts court presided over by an old WASP figure, Judge Webster Thayer. He details the hard work lives of the two Italian immigrants, the problems with foreigners especially South Europeans like them trying to gain a toehold in America, the future troubles to be brought on by their anarchist beliefs and more damagingly their departure for Mexico in 1917 to avoid being drafted into the American army after its entry into World War I.Professor Watson further links the personal trials and tribulation of Sacco and Vanzetti with the general political atmosphere after World War I with its wave of anarchist bombings, the victory of the Russian Revolution and the response of capitalist America with the Attorney-General Palmer-led " Red Scare, Part I". He further

details the South Braintree payroll robbery that set in motion the events of the next seven years that would bring world-wide attention to the cause of the two beleaguered anarchists. He gives the factual events of the day of the robbery and double murders, the subsequent search for the robbers, the narrowing of the chase to these two who were found to be armed at a later date in a very different context and their arrest and indictments for murder.Needless to say any narrative of the Sacco and Vanzetti case needs to pay close attention to the trial itself, the personalities of the players and the evidence. In the background one has to look at the state of the law, especially its procedural aspects, at that time concerning capital punishment and further the social climate against foreigners, specifically Italians here. Watson, more than most accounts, gives special emphasis to chief trial defense lawyer Fred Moore and his various maneuvers, intrigues and, frankly, mistakes.Of course, the heart of the book is an account of the appeals both legal and political throughout the seven year period. That included various strategies from calls for gubernatorial clemency to mass strikes by labor so the whole litany of class struggle defense policies gets a workout in the case. Although Professor Watson does a creditable job of describing these efforts as far as he goes I object, on political grounds, to his short shrift of the work of the Communist International and its class defense organization the International Labor Defense in publicizing the case. Who do you think brought the masses of workers out world-wide? It was not those Brahmin ladies on Beacon Hill, well-intentioned or not. This is certainly a subject for further comment by any reader of these lines.The other point that I object to is Watson’s agnostic approach to the question of the guilt or innocence of Sacco and Vanzetti. At this far remove it is not necessary to be skittish about the question of their guilt or innocence in a legal sense. There is, obviously, not quite the sense of urgency of the call today for Mumia Abu Jamal’s freedom rather than retrial. However, although 80 years separate the two cases there is a steady tendency to limit justice in these cases to calls for retrial. However, in both cases the parties were innocent so the appropriate call would have been and is for freedom. This political ostrich act by Professor Watson, allegedly in the interest of being `objective’ and ’letting the new generation decide for itself’, does a tremendous disservice to the memories of these class war fighters.Nevertheless, this is a worthy book to use as a primer toward understanding the background to that long ago case. The end notes are helpful as is the bibliography for further research. Additionally, unlike Professor Watson’s excellent book Bread and Roses that I have previously reviewed in this space here he stays more closely with the subject and avoids bringing in every possible historical fact that might tangentially relate to the case. As always, until ultimate justice in done in the Sacco and Vanzetti case honor their memories today.Added: August 17, 2008. Please read Mr. Watson’s comment below. I, incorrectly, assumed that he was a

professor. That he is not nevertheless turns out to be a compliment to him here as he has done a well-researched job here. The real question turns on our very different political perspectives on the case. And, apparently, from the last sentence of his comment the legal concept of what is guilt beyond a reasonable doubt, and its consequences then and now, in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

very readable account of a high profile trial and execution in New England. Watson had me in the midst of it.

If you are interested in law and history, like I am, this book will have you interested from start to finish. It is well written and a great account of American history. I highly recommend this book.

History buff or if you wanted know what it was like to live in the early 20th century. Book is verygood in giving a look at the most famous trial how it came about

Very Satisfied. Will do business again in the future. Highly recommend them.

Download to continue reading...

Sacco and Vanzetti: The Men, the Murders, and the Judgment of Mankind Sacco and Vanzetti: The Anarchist Background The Sacco-Vanzetti Affair: America on Trial What Men WonÃ¢â ¬â„¢t Tell You: WomenÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Guide to Understanding Men (How to read their minds, what men want, why men cheat, why men wonÃ¢â ¬â„¢t commit, why men lose interest, how to avoid rejection from men) Judgment Ridge: The True Story Behind the Dartmouth Murders Once Upon a Time in Compton: From gangsta rap to gang wars...The murders of Tupac & Biggie....This is the story of two men at the center of it all Enuma Elish (2 Volumes in One): The Seven Tablets of Creation; The Babylonian and Assyrian Legends Concerning the Creation of the World and of Mankind Gods of Sun and Sacrifice: Aztec & Maya Myth (Myth and Mankind) Libya Tour and Guide: Creations and Nature tell more about mankind - Libyan Arab Jamahiriya Violins of Hope: Violins of the Holocaust--Instruments of Hope and Liberation in Mankind's Darkest Hour A History of Central Banking and the Enslavement of Mankind For the Good of Mankind: A History of the People of Bikini and their Islands (Second Edition) For the Good of Mankind : A History of the People of Bikini and their Islands Origins: Cosmos, Earth, and Mankind The Anunnaki of Nibiru: Mankind's Forgotten Creators, Enslavers, Saviors, and Hidden Architects of the New World Order The Outline of History: Being a Plain History of Life and Mankind Mankind Beyond Earth: The History, Science, and Future

of Human Space Exploration Rattlesnakes: Their Habits, Life Histories, and Influence on Mankind, Abridged edition Legends of Chivalry: Medieval Myth (Myth and Mankind) Hair!: Mankind’s Historic Quest to End Baldness

Contact Us

DMCA

Privacy

FAQ & Help