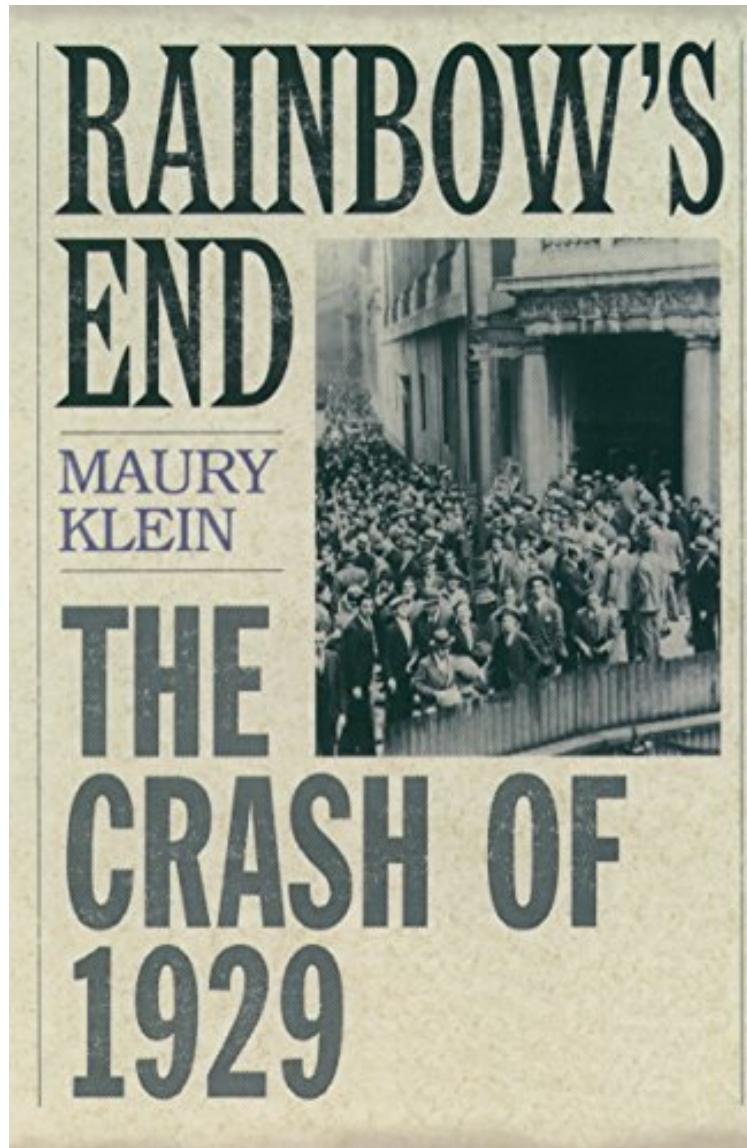


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Rainbow's End: The Crash of 1929 (Pivotal Moments in American History)

Maury Klein

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Maury Klein : Rainbow's End: The Crash of 1929 (Pivotal Moments in American History) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Rainbow's End: The Crash of 1929 (Pivotal Moments in American History):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A time of irrational exuberanceBy AletheuOI liked this book in spite of its dry writing style. It covers an important event in U.S. history, namely the great crash of the stock market in

1929. Most of the book is about the events leading up to the crash. Some of the tidbits that the author brings to light are very interesting and others are more ordinary. My feeling is that this book is an excellent starting place for understanding the 1920s and the crash. However, other reading will be necessary to get a broader overview of the times. This story is mostly from the viewpoint of persons in Washington D.C. and New York. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A solid story from the people's point of view. By Customer I really enjoyed this book both because of the writing style and content. The writing style is a strong narrative with various good characters and events, and is written to show the points of views of many people (from various walks of life) who participated in, and were affected by, the big crash. To me, it was a fun and engaging read, not at all tedious like so many financial and/or history books. The content of the book was 3/4 on the main story, and about 1/4 on the reference list, so the book content is definitely rooted in the reality and newspapers and sources of the time. I liked how the author did such a good job of weaving quotes from the historical record into the narrative -- it usually felt that I was right there, listening to a reporter or someone who was relating yesterday's news (hot off the press) and providing insightful analysis. I see that other reviewers do not favour this book as much as Galbraith's book (or others), mostly it seems because this book does not contain the super-detail or academic analysis that the other books do. From my point of view, the "lack" of endless analytical detail is a good thing, not a bad thing. This book was intended to be a story from the people's point of view, with many quotes from the newspapers and people of the time, very readable and accessible to anyone who wanted a story about the 1920s, the moods and trends of the time, and about the crash event itself. And I think the book does an excellent job of achieving its goal. I would definitely recommend this book to my friends, or anyone who is interested in the people and moods of the 1920s and the crash. I really enjoyed it. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Fiscal Cliff, Version 1! By Kyle F. McGrogan Many of us forget, that there have been plutocrats and oligarchs since sea shells were trading mediums, and much like today, there were always those who were looking to "Get Rich Quick", or to not pay their fair share in taxes. The result was that many common everyday people, paid for their lack of understanding and attention, with the loss of their futures, their houses, their jobs and sometimes their lives. When you read this little book, and a good one it is, you will realize that when you fail to regulate wisely and consistently, when you allow people to make money without the sweat of their own browns, in sums that exceed comprehension, you realize why Great Depressions, Real Estate Bubbles, and Fiscal Cliffs spring up to realign our priorities. Back in 1929 there was no Securities and Exchange Commission, no Federal watchdogs, and the various states were unable to do anything to restrain the interstate (now multinational) corporations, and the result was pretty much 12 years of chaos and desperation.... With this book under your belt, or at least on your bookshelf, you may well be wiser and hopefully better prepared to read the signs of the times....

Rainbow's End tells the story of the stock market collapse in a colorful, swift-moving narrative that blends a vivid portrait of the 1920s with an intensely gripping account of Wall Street's greatest catastrophe. The book offers a vibrant picture of a world full of plungers, powerful bankers, corporate titans, millionaire brokers, and buoyantly optimistic stock market bulls. We meet Sunshine Charley Mitchell, head of the National City Bank, powerful financiers Jack Morgan and Jacob Schiff, Wall Street manipulators such as the legendary Jesse Livermore, and the lavish-living Billy Durant, founder of General Motors. As Klein follows the careers of these men, he shows us how the financial house of cards gradually grew taller, as the irrational exuberance of an earlier age gripped America and convinced us that the market would continue to rise forever. Then, in October 1929, came a "perfect storm"-like convergence of factors that shook Wall Street to its foundations. We relive Black Thursday, when police lined Wall Street, brokers grew hysterical, customers "bellowed like lunatics," and the ticker tape fell hours behind. This compelling history of the Crash--the first to follow the market closely for the two years leading up to the disaster--illuminates a major turning point in our history.