

City Room



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著者:Gelb, Arthur

出版者:Marian Wood Book

出版时间:

装帧:Hardcover

isbn:9780399150753

Arthur Gelb knows the newspaper business. He began working at The New York Times in 1944 as a night copyboy; he retired 45 years later as the managing editor. In this absorbing memoir, he writes lovingly of the days when the sound of manual typewriters filled the air, spittoons were standard furniture, and two bookies worked the city room. Though much has changed, core elements of the paper's culture remain, particularly the intense competition which initially fueled his own curiosity and ambition. For instance, after being on the job for just a month, Gelb and two other copyboys started an in-house newsmagazine that allowed them to learn about the business and to interview everyone at the paper, from the publisher on down. He even used it to publicly request a promotion for himself. (It worked.) Gelb obviously loved working at the paper and his enthusiasm is apparent throughout, whether recalling the thrill of his first byline, describing how significant stories were covered, or discussing how they dealt with mistakes and errors in judgement. Loaded with anecdotes and fascinating gossip, his book is as much a history of second half of the twentieth century as it is a history of the Times. He writes about the colorful characters on the staff, of the many editorial battles, and of the significant cultural changes that took place at the paper as well as the in the country. "Can you imagine what it was like for an editor to arrive at work each morning, to look up from his desk at a sea of the most talented

reporters in the newspaper world?" he writes. After reading this book, you can. --Shawn Carkonen

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评论

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Room》是《纽约时报》前总编辑Arthur

Gelb的回忆录，讲述了他从二战后期（1944）进入时报到1990年代退休，40多年间报社的发展、社会的变迁以及自己从时报送稿员（copyboy，勤杂工，主要工作是把人肉传送稿件）到总编辑（managing editor）的成长历程。

阅读这本回忆录就像坐着时光机一样，回到过去时报紧张、吵杂的新闻工作间，沉浸在纽约战后欢庆、重建、种族冲突、民权斗争、文化演出各个场景……

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