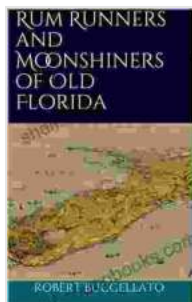


Rum Runners and Moonshiners: The Prohibition Era in Florida



Rum Runners and Moonshiners of Old Florida

by Robert Buccellato

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 14988 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
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Paperback	: 62 pages
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Step back in time to the Roaring Twenties, an era marked by both glamour and lawlessness. Prohibition, a nationwide ban on alcohol, ignited a thriving underground industry of rum runners and moonshiners. Florida, with its extensive coastline and porous borders, became a hotbed for these illicit activities.

In 'Rum Runners and Moonshiners of Old Florida,' historian and author James A. Hansen takes readers on an exhilarating journey through this captivating chapter in the state's history. Drawing from extensive research and firsthand accounts, Hansen paints a vivid picture of the daring exploits, secret stills, and larger-than-life characters that defined the era.

Rum Runners: Defying the Law on the High Seas

Rum runners, often portrayed as swashbuckling pirates, played a crucial role in supplying alcohol to thirsty Americans during Prohibition. They operated sleek boats that transported immense quantities of liquor from the Bahamas, Cuba, and other Caribbean destinations to Florida's shores.



These daring seafarers navigated treacherous waters, evaded Coast Guard patrols, and outwitted law enforcement to deliver their illegal cargo. Their exploits, marked by high-speed chases and nighttime landings, became legendary tales of adventure and defiance.

Moonshiners: The Hidden Art of Illicit Distillation

While rum runners brought alcohol into Florida from outside sources, moonshiners produced their own illicit spirits within the state's borders. They operated secret stills in remote areas, hidden deep in the woods or swamps, and relied on local networks to distribute their product.



Moonshiners, often depicted as rugged and resourceful individuals, possessed a deep understanding of fermentation and distillation. They crafted their spirits using local ingredients, such as corn, sugar, and fruits, creating potent and flavorful beverages.

The Impact on Florida: Culture, Society, and Economy

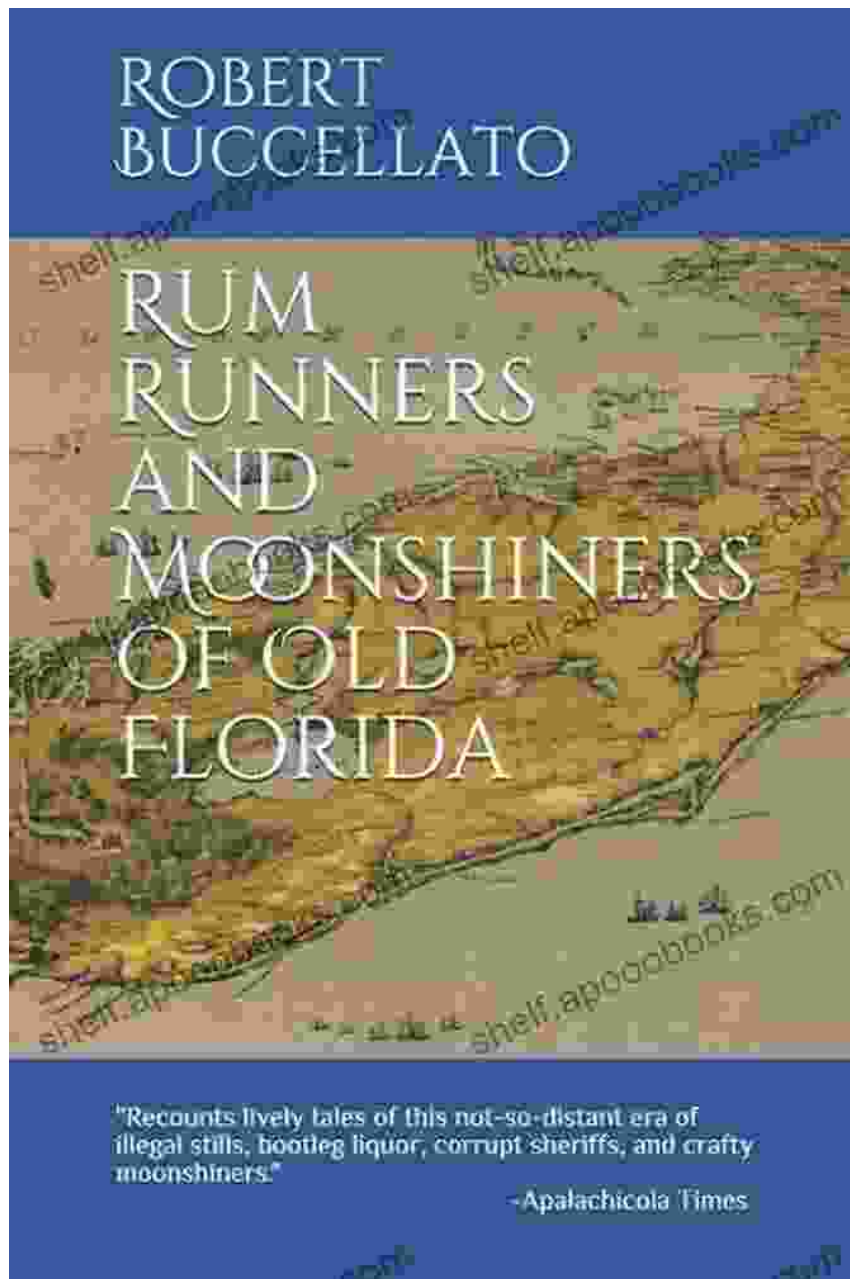
The Prohibition era had a profound impact on Florida's culture, society, and economy. Rum runners and moonshiners became integral figures in local communities, providing an alternative source of income and entertainment. Their activities fueled the growth of speakeasies and nightclubs, transforming cities like Miami and Tampa into vibrant centers of nightlife.



Prohibition also triggered a rise in crime and corruption. Law enforcement officials, lured by the potential for hefty bribes, often turned a blind eye to illicit activities. Organized crime syndicates seized the opportunity to profit from the illegal alcohol trade, leading to increased violence and power struggles.

The Legacy of Rum Runners and Moonshiners

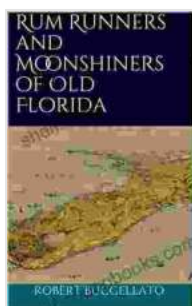
The Prohibition era ended in 1933, but the legacy of rum runners and moonshiners continues to resonate in Florida. Their daring exploits, innovative methods, and impact on the state's history and culture have become a source of fascination and inspiration.



'Rum Runners and Moonshiners of Old Florida' is an essential read for anyone interested in this captivating chapter in American history. Through

its engaging narrative, vivid descriptions, and extensive research, the book offers a comprehensive account of the rum runners, moonshiners, and law enforcement officers who shaped the era.

Delve into the pages of 'Rum Runners and Moonshiners of Old Florida' and be transported back in time to an era of daring adventures, secret operations, and profound social and economic impacts. Discover the fascinating world of these illicit operators who left an enduring mark on the Sunshine State.



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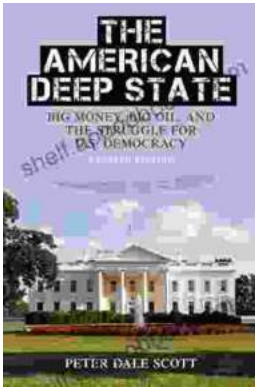
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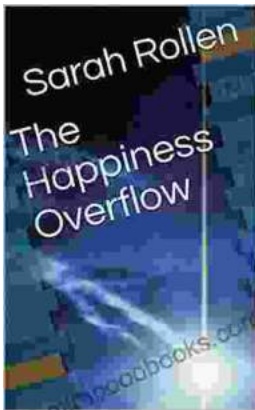
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