

Mrs Astor Regrets

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a biography that looks behind the headlines and the gates of the house of astor as the famous family falls apart in public the fate of brooke astor the endearing philanthropist with the storied name has generated worldwide headlines since her grandson philip sued his father in 2006 alleging mistreatment of brooke and shortly after her death in 2007 anthony marshall mrs astor s only child was indicted on charges of looting her estate rarely has there been a story with such an appealing heroine conjuring up a world so nearly forgotten a realm of lavish wealth and secrets of the sort that have engaged americans from the era of edith wharton to the more recent days of truman capote new york journalist meryl gordon has interviewed not only the elite of brooke astor s social circle but also the large staff who cosseted and cared for mrs astor during her declining years the result is the behind the headlines story of the astor empire s unraveling filled with never before reported scenes this powerful poignant saga takes the reader inside the gilded gates of an american dynasty to tell of three generations worth of longing and missed opportunities even in this territory of privilege no riches can put things right once they ve been torn asunder here is an american epic of the bonds of money morality and social position updated with new material from inside the brooke astor trial usa today an even handed and fascinating portrait of a wealthy family torn apart by money jealousy and emotional distance if the tabloids are your morning cup of tea this is your book new york times book review

please note this is a companion version not the original book sample book insights 1 after a lifetime of being an accessory to men brooke astor hungered for meaningful work and the chance to be valued on her own merits she became a philanthropist and a social arbiter her ability to dispense millions made her popular and powerful 2 mrs astor was very loyal to her inner circle but she did have a habit of moving on replacing dour faces with young and frisky newcomers she was determined to have younger friends because she thought it was life giving 3 the relationship between the women had changed over the past decade as the preternaturally energetic brooke began showing her age annette had become brooke s defender and protector attentive and thoughtful ever eager to please 4 the new york times treated brooke astor s birthdays with the civic reverence granted to holidays on which alternate side of the street parking is suspended every year the event was commemorated with a story or a photograph

aarp digital editions offer you practical tips proven solutions and expert guidance surrogate court dockets are filled with cases involving family members fighting over the assets and intentions of a deceased parent or spouse probate wars of the rich famous an insider s guide to estate planning and probate litigation tracks the estate litigation cases of anna nicole smith brooke astor michael jackson nina wang jerry garcia and leona helmsley and identifies the five universal factors that caused such disputes each chapter provides estate planning insights designed to help individuals plan their estates without causing litigation if however probate litigation cannot be avoided the book also provides invaluable lessons about undue influence claims how to remove a fiduciary demanding an estate accounting and claims seeking to set aside lifetime transfers that undermined the decedents intentions few if any estate planning

books utilize colorful celebrity accounts to provide meaningful insights and actionable advice

approached from a historical lens learn about the great and influential families their rise and sometimes their fall no one likes to believe that america has its own aristocracy but the families described in this narrative share how these american families climbed the social ladder and their resulting legacies approached from a historical lens learn about the great and influential families their rise and sometimes their fall including the following families vanderbilt rockefeller ford getty hearst morgan astor coors adams kennedy nampeyo wyeth carter and barrymore

abé is an exquisite storyteller rich in detail and deeply moving fiona davis new york times bestselling author of the magnolia palace one of the most beautifully written books i ve ever had the pleasure to read a gorgeous phenomenal novel i won t soon forget ellen marie wiseman new york times bestselling author of the orphan collector perfect for fans of jennifer chiaverini and marie benedict this riveting novel takes you inside the scandalous courtship and catastrophic honeymoon aboard the titanic of the most famous couple of their time john jacob astor and madeleine force told in rich detail this novel of sweeping historical fiction will stay with readers long after turning the last page madeleine talmage force is just seventeen when she attracts the attention of john jacob jack astor madeleine is beautiful intelligent and solidly upper class but the astors are in a league apart jack s mother was the mrs astor american royalty and new york s most formidable socialite jack is dashing and industrious a hero of the spanish american war an inventor and a canny businessman despite their twenty nine year age difference and the scandal of jack s recent divorce madeleine falls headlong into love and becomes the press s favorite target on their extended honeymoon in egypt the newlyweds finally find a measure of peace from photographers and journalists madeleine feels truly alive for the first time and is happily pregnant the couple plans to return home in the spring of 1912 aboard an opulent new ocean liner when the ship hits an iceberg close to midnight on april 14th there is no immediate panic the swift state of the art rms titanic seems unsinkable as jack helps madeleine into a lifeboat he assures her that he ll see her soon in new york four months later at the astors fifth avenue mansion a widowed madeleine gives birth to their son in the wake of the disaster the press has elevated her to the status of virtuous tragic heroine but madeleine s most important decision still lies ahead whether to accept the role assigned to her or carve out her own remarkable path a touching compelling and haunting love story that will delight fans of historical fiction and enthrall those of us for whom the titanic will always fascinate hazel gaynor new york times bestselling author of when we were young and brave an engaging novel told with both heartbreaking care and vivid detail the second mrs astor is historical fiction at its gripping and irresistible best patti callahan new york times bestselling author of surviving savannah and becoming mrs lewis

make history come alive this book helps librarians and teachers as well as readers themselves find books they will enjoy titles that will animate and explain the past entertain and expand their minds this invaluable resource offers reading lists of contemporary and classic non fiction history books and historical fiction covering all time periods throughout the world and including practically all manner of human endeavors every book included is hand selected as an entertaining and enlightening read organized by appeal characteristics this book will help readers zero in on the history books they will like best for instance titles that emphasize character tell a specific type of historical story convey a mood or are presented in a particular setting every book listed has been recommended based on the author's research and has proved to be a satisfying and worthwhile read

this unique collection makes available for the first time translations of medieval italian jurisprudence including commentaries tracts and legal opinions by leading jurists

from new york times bestselling author meryl gordon the definitive biography of huguette clark who went from being one of the wealthiest and most famous jazz age socialites to spending the last twenty years of her life hiding out in hospitals born in 1906 huguette clark grew up in her family's 121 room beaux arts mansion in new york and was one of the leading celebrities of her day her father william andrews clark was a copper magnate the second richest man in america and not above bribing his way into the senate huguette attended the coronation of king george v and at twenty two with a personal fortune of 50 million to her name she married a princeton man and childhood friend william macdonald gower two years later the couple divorced after a series of failed romances huguette began to withdraw from society first living with her mother in a kind of grey gardens isolation then as a modern day miss havisham spending her days in a vast apartment overlooking central park eating crackers and watching the flintstones with only servants for company all her money and all her real estate could not protect her in her later life from being manipulated by shady hangers on and hospitals that were only too happy to admit and bill a healthy woman but what happened to huguette that turned a vivacious young socialite into a recluse and what was her life like inside that gilded copper cage

a biography of bunny mellon the style icon and american aristocrat who designed the white house rose garden for her friend jfk and served as a living witness to 20th century american history operating in the high level arenas of politics diplomacy art and fashion bunny mellon who died in 2014 at age 103 was press shy during her lifetime with the co operation of bunny mellon's family author meryl gordon received access to thousands of pages of her letters diaries and appointment calendars and has interviewed more than 175 people to capture the spirit of this talented american original

the essays collected in this volume reflect the profound impact of martha nussbaum s philosophical writings on law and legal scholarship the capabilities approach that she has largely authored has influenced the approach scholars take to the law of disabilities both in the united states and in canada as well as to international human rights and to domestic private law s protections of vulnerable populations her analyses of the relationship between our emotions and our thought and action has triggered a re assessment of the legal regulation and recognition of emotion in a range of fields most particularly in the field of criminal law and her writing on the nature of dignity has informed an understanding of the emerging civil rights of gay and lesbian citizens worldwide our appreciation of the role of narrative in legal thought and discourse and the contributions of literature to law and legal culture have also been broadened and deepened by her contributions taken together and including the introduction by the editor the essays collected in this volume demonstrate the far reaching impact of nussbaum s philosophical oeuvre

this book explores a crucial feature of u s foreign policy the extent to which many of america s greatest triumphs resulted from diplomats disobeying orders

the only child of brooke astor the queen of new york a powerful force who inherited the enormous astor fortune anthony marshall became a decorated marine a diplomat and us ambassador a codebreaker a covert spy with the newly formed cia a special assistant to the u2 program during the cold war and dedicated to the global conservation of animal and floral habitat always interested in the arts he and his third wife co produced two tony award broadway plays in the early 2000s marshall was the stepson of vincent astor one of the wealthiest men in america and witnessed the life of the ultra privileged in new york city firsthand in 2006 his carefully directed life was on the verge of being destroyed by a criminal accusation from his own son heartbroken marshall read the formal wording of the accusation elder abuse of his mother who was then one hundred four years old what followed were years of constant tabloid sensationalism and negative press that destroyed marshall s reputation and damaged his relationships with family and friends after a six months long trial he was sentenced to 1 3 years in a new york state prison when he was eighty nine years old together with his beloved wife charlene he faced what he called the greatest challenge of my life since landing his marine platoon onto blue beach at iwo jima on d 1 these two survived this brutal attack together with their souls intact and their love stronger than ever these are his stories

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