

Wrestling With Moses How Jane Jacobs Took On New Yorks Master Builder And Transformed The American City Anthony Flint

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Naked City Kids Can Press Ltd

Two political titans forge a modern city and a vibrant public sector in this history of strong leadership at a time of national crisis. City of Ambition is a brilliant history of the New Deal and its role in the making of modern New York City. The story of a remarkable collaboration between Franklin Roosevelt and Fiorello La Guardia, this is a case study in creative political leadership in the midst of a devastating depression. Roosevelt and La Guardia were an odd couple: patrician president and immigrant mayor, fireside chat and tabloid cartoon, pragmatic Democrat and reform Republican. But together, as leaders of America's two largest governments in the depths of the Great Depression, they fashioned a route to recovery for the nation and the master plan for a great city. Roosevelt and his "Brain Trust"—shrewd, energetic advisors such as Harold Ickes and Harry Hopkins—sought to fight the Depression by channeling federal resources through America's cities and counties. La Guardia had replaced Tammany Hall cronies with policy experts, such as the imperious Robert Moses, who were committed to a strong public sector. The two leaders worked closely together. La Guardia had a direct line of communication with FDR and his staff, often visiting Washington carrying piles of blueprints. Roosevelt relied on the mayor as his link to the nation's cities and their needs. The combination was potent. La Guardia's Gotham became a laboratory for New Deal reform. Roosevelt's New Deal

transformed city initiatives into major programs such as the Works Progress Administration, which changed the physical face of the United States. Together they built parks, bridges, and schools; put the unemployed to work; and strengthened the Progressive vision of government as serving the public purpose. Today everyone knows the FDR Drive as a main route to La Guardia Airport. The intersection of steel and concrete speaks to a pair of dynamic leaders whose collaboration lifted a city and a nation. Here is their story.

A True Story of Defiance and Courage Fortress Press

This up-to-date, intimate portrait of the 99 neighborhoods of Queens is a wonderful tribute to the borough's past history and present diversity. Detailing the history, people, and cultural activities of each neighborhood, the book is generously illustrated with more than 200 photographs, both contemporary and historical, and over 50 new maps that chart the precise neighborhood boundaries. With two airports (La Guardia and JFK), Shea Stadium, and Aqueduct Racetrack, Queens is a destination for millions of travelers and visitors each year. But those who live in the borough's neighborhoods know that it offers much more: parks, bridges, colleges and universities, museums, shops, restaurants, and other institutions and sites that testify to its more than 350-year history. From Astoria to Woodside, with points in between, Queens, the most diverse county in the country, offers a cornucopia of cultures, sights, tastes, and sounds. With input from residents, historians, demographers, politicians, borough officials, shopkeepers, and many others, *The Neighborhoods of Queens* captures the unique character of each neighborhood. The book features practical tips (subway and bus

routes, libraries, fire departments, hospitals), quirky and unusual neighborhood facts, and information on famous residents. For anyone who lives in Queens, visits its neighborhoods, or remembers it from earlier times, this book is an unsurpassed treasure.

The Hub's Metropolis Random House
Leading thinkers offer fresh insight into the workings of vibrant, ecological, equitable communities and their economies.

Robert Moses W. W. Norton

Grossly ambitious and rooted in scientific scholarship, *The Other Dark Matter* shows how human excrement can be a life-saving, money-making resource—if we make better use of it. The average person produces about four hundred pounds of excrement a year. More than seven billion people live on this planet. Holy crap! Because of the diseases it spreads, we have learned to distance ourselves from our waste, but the long line of engineering marvels we've created to do so—from Roman sewage systems and medieval latrines to the immense, computerized treatment plants we use today—has also done considerable damage to the earth's ecology. Now scientists tell us: we've been wasting our waste. When recycled correctly, this resource, cheap and widely available, can be converted into a sustainable energy source, act as an organic fertilizer, provide effective medicinal therapy for antibiotic-resistant bacterial infection, and much more. In clear and engaging prose that draws on her extensive research and interviews, Lina Zeldovich documents the massive redistribution of nutrients and sanitation inequities across the globe. She profiles the pioneers of poop upcycling, from startups in African villages to innovators in

American cities that convert sewage into fertilizer, biogas, crude oil, and even life-saving medicine. She breaks taboos surrounding sewage disposal and shows how hygienic waste repurposing can help battle climate change, reduce acid rain, and eliminate toxic algal blooms. Ultimately, she implores us to use our innate organic power for the greater good. Don't just sit there and let it go to waste.

The Death of an American Jewish Community: A Tragedy of Good Intentions Plunkett Lake Press

Three books, all written by women in the early 1960s, changed the way we looked at the world and ourselves: Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring*, Betty Friedan's *The Feminine Mystique*, and Jane Jacobs's *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*. All three books created revolutions in their respective spheres of influence, and nothing affected city planning and architecture -- or the way we think about how life is lived in densely packed urban centers -- more than Jane Jacobs's far-sighted polemic. Here is the first book for young people about this heroine of common sense, a woman who never attended college but whose observations, determination, and independent spirit led her to far different conclusions than those of the academics who surrounded her. Illustrated with almost a hundred images, including a great number of photos never before published, this story of a remarkable woman will introduce her ideas and her life to young readers, many of whom have grown up in neighborhoods that were saved by her insights. It will inspire young people -- and readers of all ages -- and demonstrate that we learn vital life lessons from observing and thinking, and not just accepting what passes as "conventional wisdom."

CRC Press

Despite having no formal training in urban planning, Jane Jacobs deftly explores the strengths and weaknesses of policy arguments put forward by American urban planners in the era after World War II. They believed that the efficient movement of cars was of more value in the development of US cities than the everyday lives of the people living there. By carefully examining their relevance in her 1961 book, *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*, Jacobs dismantles these arguments by highlighting their shortsightedness. She evaluates the information to hand and comes to a very different conclusion, that urban planners ruin great cities, because they don't understand that it is a city's social interaction that makes it great. Proposals and policies that are drawn from planning theory do not consider the social dynamics of city life. They are in thrall to futuristic fantasies of a modern way of living that bears no relation to reality, or to the desires of real people living in real spaces. Professionals lobby for separation and standardization, splitting commercial, residential, industrial, and cultural spaces. But a truly visionary approach to urban planning

should incorporate spaces with mixed uses, together with short, walkable blocks, large concentrations of people, and a mix of new and old buildings. This creates true urban vitality.

The Death and Life of Great American Cities Oxford University Press

The evolution of the Boston metropolitan area, from country villages and streetcar suburbs to exurban sprawl and "smart growth." Boston's metropolitan landscape has been two hundred years in the making. From its proto-suburban village centers of 1800 to its far-flung, automobile-centric exurbs of today, Boston has been a national pacesetter for suburbanization. In *The Hub's Metropolis*, James O'Connell charts the evolution of Boston's suburban development. The city of Boston is compact and consolidated—famously, "the Hub." Greater Boston, however, stretches over 1,736 square miles and ranks as the world's sixth largest metropolitan area. Boston suburbs began to develop after 1820, when wealthy city dwellers built country estates that were just a short carriage ride away from their homes in the city. Then, as transportation became more efficient and affordable, the map of the suburbs expanded. The Metropolitan Park Commission's park-and-parkway system, developed in the 1890s, created a template for suburbanization that represents the country's first example of regional planning. O'Connell identifies nine layers of Boston's suburban development, each of which has left its imprint on the landscape: traditional villages; country retreats; railroad suburbs; streetcar suburbs (the first electric streetcar boulevard, Beacon Street in Brookline, was designed by Frederic Law Olmsted); parkway suburbs, which emphasized public greenspace but also encouraged commuting by automobile; mill towns, with housing for workers; upscale and middle-class suburbs accessible by outer-belt highways like Route 128; exurban, McMansion-dotted sprawl; and smart growth. Still a pacesetter, Greater Boston has pioneered antisprawl initiatives that encourage compact, mixed-use development in existing neighborhoods near railroad and transit stations. O'Connell reminds us that these nine layers of suburban infrastructure are still woven into the fabric of the metropolis. Each chapter suggests sites to visit, from Waltham country estates to Cambridge triple-deckers.

Latino Suburbanization in Postwar Los Angeles World Book

Draws on archival research and new interviews to present a biography of the renowned architect, shedding light on the details of his most important projects, his artistic process, and his complicated legacy.

Robert Moses and the Modern City Crown

Written by a sociologist and a journalist, *The Death of an American Jewish Community: A Tragedy of Good Intentions* recounts the death of a Boston community once home to 90,000 Jews residing among African-Americans and white ethnics. The frightening personal testimonies and blatant evidence of manipulated housing prices illustrate how inadequate government regulation of banks can contribute to ethnic conflict and lives destroyed. "There were no winners," the authors warn. Hillel Levine and Lawrence Harmon believe that their findings may be true for American cities in general. Had we learned from what went wrong in Boston — blockbusting by a

group of banks, federal programs promoting mortgages to people unable to afford them, real estate brokers seeking quick profits —, perhaps the 2008 nationwide real estate meltdown could have been anticipated. The lessons from this book are essential for students of ethnic relations and urban affairs. "This candid, disturbing, and highly readable book recounts how Boston's working-class Jewish neighborhoods were transformed into economically devastated black ghettos." — *The New Yorker* "Bankers and real-estate brokers still shape the dynamics of daily life in our fragile urban neighborhoods. Levine and Harmon movingly capture the human side of this often destructive process in their story of redlining and blockbusting in Boston during the 1960s. But their book is more than history. It is a lesson about how to understand and improve our cities and neighborhoods, today and in the future." — Raymond L. Flynn, Mayor of Boston, President, U.S. Conference of Mayors "Levine and Harmon are sympathetic to the goals of racial integration but are indignant over the brutality and unfairness that accompanied these orchestrations. Bankers and politicians are indicted here by elaborate court evidence and by supplementary research cited by the authors, who use their insiders' passion (Harmon was born and raised in Dorchester) and professional expertise to forever preserve the corned-beef flavor of old Blue Hill Avenue. As much an elegiac memory book of old Jewish Boston as a searing indictment against her killers." — *Kirkus Reviews* "Combines the rigor of good scholarship with the obsessive curiosity of good journalism" — J. Anthony Lukas, Author of *Common Ground* "What keeps a community alive? What are the social and historical forces that shape or stifle its aspirations? When does a community soar and when does it yield to resignation? These and other questions take on an urgency of their own in Hillel Levine and Lawrence Harmon's perceptive, brilliant, and disturbing inquiry." — Elie Wiesel, University Professor and Andrew W. Mellon Professor in the Humanities, Boston University "Levine and Harmon have written a prophetic indictment of the real estate speculation and elite indifference that, along with black crimes, destroyed Boston's most vibrant Jewish neighborhoods. Have the courage to take their terrible journey; you will not return unchanged!" — Jim Sleeper, Author of *The Closest of Strangers: Liberalism and the Politics of Race in New York* "This engagingly written and brilliantly illuminating portrait of the destruction of a vibrant Jewish community radically revises our understanding of the process of neighborhood change. The authors also break new ground in portraying the critical role of social class in American life and the powerful, if unconscious, class bias of Jewish communal leaders." — Charles E. Silberman, Author of *A Certain People: American Jews and Their Lives Today* *Eyes on the Street* Johns Hopkins University Press+ORM Explores unforgettable mysteries and the nature of obsession, from

the Aryan Brotherhood's infiltration of the U.S. prison system to a chameleon con artist in Europe to the author's experience with a cyclone while searching for the elusive giant squid.

Wrestling with Moses University of Chicago Press

A career-spanning selection of previously uncollected writings and talks by the legendary author and activist No one did more to change how we look at cities than Jane Jacobs, the visionary urbanist and economic thinker whose 1961 book *The Death and Life of Great American Cities* started a global conversation that remains profoundly relevant more than half a century later. *Vital Little Plans* is an essential companion to *Death and Life* and Jacobs' other books on urbanism, economics, politics, and ethics. It offers readers a unique survey of her entire career in forty short pieces that have never been collected in a single volume, from charming and incisive urban vignettes from the 1930s to the raw materials of her two unfinished books of the 2000s, together with introductions and annotations by editors Samuel Zipp and Nathan Storrington. Readers will find classics here, including Jacobs' breakout article "Downtown Is for People," as well as lesser-known gems like her speech at the inaugural Earth Day and a host of other rare or previously unavailable essays, articles, speeches, interviews, and lectures. Some pieces shed light on the development of her most famous insights, while others explore topics rarely dissected in her major works, from globalization to feminism to universal health care. With this book, published in Jacobs' centenary year, contemporary readers—whether well versed in her ideas or new to her writing—are finally able to appreciate the full scope of her remarkable voice and vision. At a time when urban life is booming and people all over the world are moving to cities, the words of Jane Jacobs have never been more significant. *Vital Little Plans* weaves a lifetime of ideas from the most prominent urbanist of the twentieth century into a book that's indispensable to life in the twenty-first. Praise for *Vital Little Plans* "Jacobs' work . . . was a singularly accurate prediction of the future we live in." —*The New Republic* "In *Vital Little Plans*, a new collection of the short writings and speeches of Jane Jacobs, one of the most influential thinkers on the built environment, editors Samuel Zipp and Nathan Storrington have done readers a great service." —*The Huffington Post* "A wonderful new anthology that captures [Jacobs' s] confident prose and her empathetic, patient eye for the way humans live and work together." —*The Globe and Mail* "[A timely reminder] of the clarity and originality of [Jane Jacobs' s] thought." —*Toronto Star* "[*Vital Little Plans*] comes to the foreground for [Jane Jacobs' s] centennial, and in a time when more of Jacobs' s prescient wisdom is needed." —*Metropolis* "[Jacobs] changed the debate on urban planning. . . . As [*Vital Little Plans*] shows, she never stopped refining her observations about how cities thrived." —*Minneapolis Star*

Tribune "[Jane Jacobs] was one of three people I have met in a lifetime of meeting people who had an aura of sainthood about them. . . . The ability to radiate certainty without condescension, to be both very sure and very simple, is a potent one, and witnessing it in life explains a lot in history that might otherwise be inexplicable." —Adam Gopnik, *The New Yorker* "A rich, provocative, and insightful collection." —Reason

[The Life and Legacy of Frances Perkins, Social Security, Unemployment Insurance, and the Minimum Wage](#) Nobrow Press

Examines the rivalry of New York City's police commissioner and mayor for control over and credit for the city's police force, identifying disturbing cover-ups and corrupt practices that are undermining the NYPD's effectiveness and honor.

[Advancing the Observations of Jane Jacobs](#) W. W. Norton & Company Best known in the United States for her path-breaking efforts in preserving the character of Greenwich Village, Jane Jacobs is the author of the classic 1961 book, "The Death and Life of Great American Cities". This book tells how without any formal training in planning, Jacobs became a prominent spokesperson for sensible urban change. This Land MIT Press

As cities have gentrified, educated urbanites have come to prize what they regard as "authentic" urban life: aging buildings, art galleries, small boutiques, upscale food markets, neighborhood old-timers, funky ethnic restaurants, and old, family-owned shops. These signify a place's authenticity, in contrast to the bland standardization of the suburbs and exurbs. But as Sharon Zukin shows in *Naked City*, the rapid and pervasive demand for authenticity--evident in escalating real estate prices, expensive stores, and closely monitored urban streetscapes--has helped drive out the very people who first lent a neighborhood its authentic aura: immigrants, the working class, and artists. Zukin traces this economic and social evolution in six archetypal New York areas--Williamsburg, Harlem, the East Village, Union Square, Red Hook, and the city's community gardens--and travels to both the city's first IKEA store and the World Trade Center site. She shows that for followers of Jane Jacobs, this transformation is a perversion of what was supposed to happen. Indeed, *Naked City* is a sobering update of Jacobs' legendary 1961 book, *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*. Like Jacobs, Zukin looks at what gives neighborhoods a sense of place, but argues that over time, the emphasis on neighborhood distinctiveness has become a tool of economic elites to drive up real estate values and effectively force out the neighborhood "characters" that Jacobs so evocatively idealized.

Wrestling with Moses Bloomsbury Publishing USA

Thirty years after its publication, *The Death and Life of Great American Cities* was described by *The New York Times* as "perhaps the most influential single work in the history of town planning....[It] can also be seen in a much larger

context. It is first of all a work of literature; the descriptions of street life as a kind of ballet and the biting satiric account of traditional planning theory can still be read for pleasure even by those who long ago absorbed and appropriated the book's arguments." Jane Jacobs, an editor and writer on architecture in New York City in the early sixties, argued that urban diversity and vitality were being destroyed by powerful architects and city planners. Rigorous, sane, and delightfully epigrammatic, Jacobs's small masterpiece is a blueprint for the humanistic management of cities. It is sensible, knowledgeable, readable, indispensable. The author has written a new foreword for this Modern Library edition.

[The Science and Business of Turning Waste into Wealth and Health Anchor](#)

Visionary thinker Jane Jacobs uses her authoritative work on urban life and economies to show us how we can protect and strengthen our culture and communities. In *Dark Age Ahead*, Jane Jacobs identifies five pillars of our culture that we depend on but which are in serious decline: community and family; higher education; the effective practice of science; taxation and government; and self-policing by learned professions. The decay of these pillars, Jacobs contends, is behind such ills as environmental crisis, racism and the growing gulf between rich and poor; their continued degradation could lead us into a new Dark Age, a period of cultural collapse in which all that keeps a society alive and vibrant is forgotten. But this is a hopeful book as well as a warning. Jacobs draws on her vast frame of reference -- from fifteenth-century Chinese shipbuilding to zoning regulations in Brampton, Ontario -- and in highly readable, invigorating prose offers proposals that could arrest the cycles of decay and turn them into beneficent ones. Wise, worldly, full of real-life examples and accessible concepts, this book is an essential read for perilous times.

[The Woman Behind the New Deal](#) Alfred a Knopf Incorporated "A fascinating account of an extraordinary moment in the life of the United States." --*The New York Times* With the world currently in the grips of a financial crisis unlike anything since the Great Depression, *Nothing to Fear* could not be timelier. This acclaimed work of history brings to life Franklin Roosevelt's first hundred days in office, when he and his inner circle launched the New Deal, forever reinventing the role of the federal government. As Cohen reveals, five fiercely intelligent, often clashing personalities presided over this transformation and pushed the president to embrace a bold solution. *Nothing to Fear* is the definitive portrait of the men and women who engineered the nation's recovery from the worst economic crisis in American

history.

The Battle over Sprawl and the Future of America Vintage Canada

"A 22-volume, highly illustrated, A-Z general encyclopedia for all ages, featuring sections on how to use World Book, other research aids, pronunciation key, a student guide to better writing, speaking, and research skills, and comprehensive index"--

The Master Builder of New York City Rutgers University Press

How one committed woman changed the way we think about cities.

Jane Jacobs was always a keen observer of her community. When she moved to New York City and began to explore it, she figured out that, just like in nature, the city was an ecosystem. And all its different parts — from sidewalks and parks, to stores and, of course, people — were necessary to keep the city healthy and thriving. So, when urban planner Robert Moses wanted to build highways that would destroy neighborhoods — the lifeblood of New York — Jane fought back. And won! Kids will be inspired to notice the “ sidewalk ballet ” around them and to protect what makes their communities — and their cities — great!

The Death of Sigmund Freud Grand Central Publishing

This book is about the thousands of people who live in the subway, railroad, and sewage tunnels of New York City.