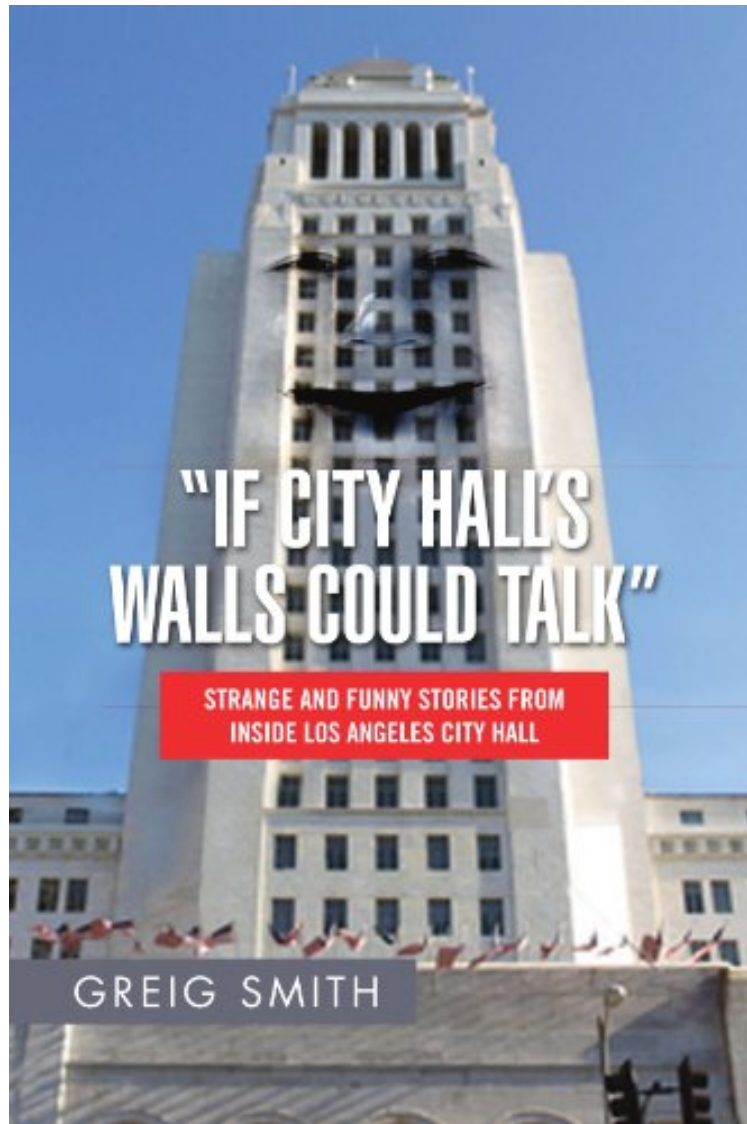


[Free pdf] "If City Hall's Walls Could Talk": Strange And Funny Stories From Inside Los Angeles City Hall

"If City Hall's Walls Could Talk": Strange And Funny Stories From Inside Los Angeles City Hall

Greig Smith

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Greig Smith : "If City Hall's Walls Could Talk": Strange And Funny Stories From Inside Los Angeles City Hall before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised "If City Hall's Walls Could Talk": Strange And Funny Stories From Inside Los Angeles City Hall:

2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. What a mess!!By Music fanHow do I begin to say how awful this "book" is? Maybe by starting with things like poorly written, full of bad grammar, sentences that aren't sentences,

words that are misspelled (is there anyone in LA City Hall who doesn't know that it's "Pro Tempore", not "Pro Tempre" and "indicted," not "indited"), poorly constructed, and generally not worthy of a passing grade in any high school freshman english class. The bibliography includes "The Los Angeles" (What !?) and the index has some entries with no page numbers listed!!!!And then there are the stories themselves.I spent 30 years working in LA city hall, leaving in 2000, and know a lot of the people named in this thing and witnessed some of the incidents described. Admittedly some are amusing and/or informative. However, I have heard most of them before and they were related in a much more interesting and entertaining fashion than contained here.And there are some legendary anecdotes that are conspicuous by their absence. For example: The day that Councilman Lindsay walked into the City Council chamber and asked an Alatorre aide what the balloon arch and all the piñatas were for. The aide told him it was for Cinco de Mayo. Lindsay's response: "I thought that was in September!" And then there's the day Marvin Braude was sitting in for Ferraro in the president's chair. When he leaned over the microphone to call the meeting to order and couldn't be heard over the PA system, he glared at the sound board technician. When he tried again and still couldn't be heard, his glare became even more intense. The meeting finally got started when Marvin realized he had been talking into the desk lamp. There are some things that seem a bit tacky to include. Perhaps the best example of this is about Marvin Braude's ongoing gastrointestinal problem, and "double dipping" his chip in the guacamole at a buffet lunch and picking his nose at the same event. In addition to it being tacky to ridicule his personal habits, the fact is that he wasn't picking his nose and the event was in the west San Fernando Valley and not the eastside where Smith placed. And the person he cites as commenting to people at the event about Marvin's alleged behavior wasn't even there. I know because I WAS. Some of the stories are not improved by naming the official involved and only serve to unnecessarily cause potential embarrassment and damage the person's image. This thing is billed as a collection of light hearted stories from the last few decades. The idea for such a book is a good one and has been kicked around by other current and former City staff over the years. But this thing is a total failure on every level and a monumental waste of paper and ink. 1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. What?????By vaveI have to agree with Councilman Greig Smith, my friend you have sour grapes. This book is hilarious :D I can tell all the research this must have taken to come up with all these stories. It is an insider's book. In order to really appreciate a book like this you have to know the workings of City Government, especially for Los Angeles in particular. When you know this then you understand the absurdity and humor that has taken place here in the City Hall of Los Angeles. Keep in mind, this is not a scholarly book and it is not meant to be. It is anecdotal, plain and simple. A book of this type is rare, and if the Councilman had more time and patience I'm sure he would have found a lot more instances of humorous situations. Thank you Councilman for having the courage to research and write a book like this. I was laughing at practically everything you wrote.

The author was a participant and elected official for over 32 years in the government of the City of Los Angeles This book is an effort to commemorate some of the truly intriguing funny and down right goofy stories that have helped the City of Angels gain its reputation as an eclectic city often called LA LA LAND Stories from recent years as well as some wild funny and fascinating stories from its history It was Smith s desire to document a collection of short stories that are not intended to be a literary giant but rather a very enjoyable read

About the Author Greig Smith is a graduate of USC with a Master's Degree in Public Administration. Greig served on the staff's of a US Senator and Vice President before getting married and entering the private sector where he was owner/operator of his own company for eight years. In 1979 he ran campaign operations for his friend Hal Bernson who was elected to the LA City Council. Greig sold his business and returned to government as Bernson's Chief of Staff where he served for 24 years. In April 2003 Greig was elected to the City Council where he served until retirement in 2011.