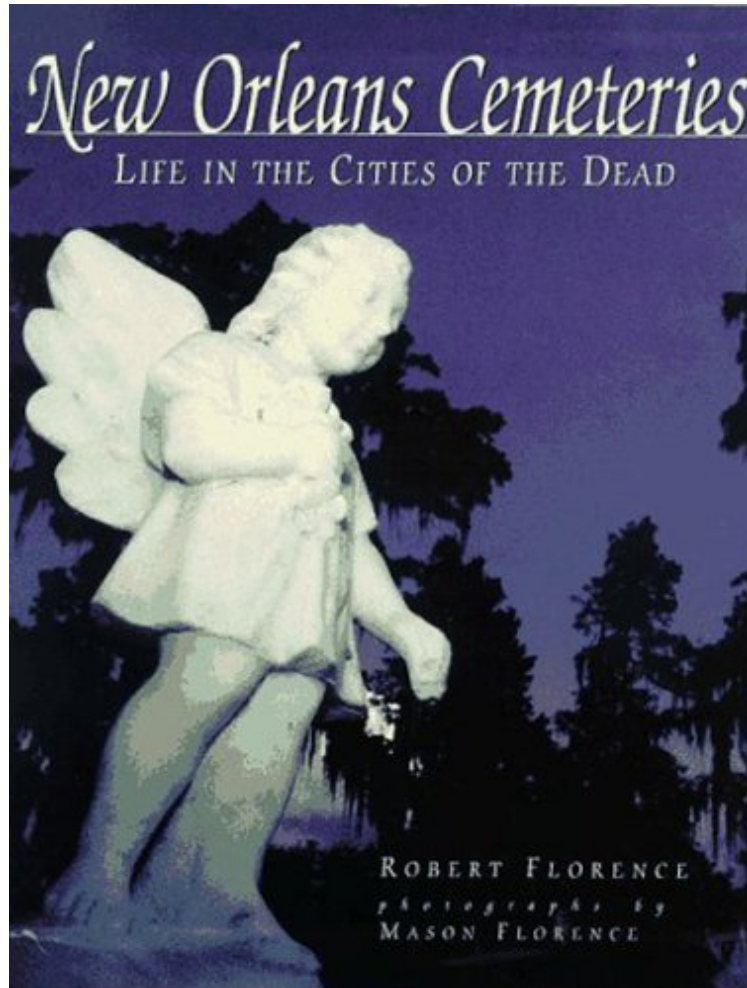


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## New Orleans Cemeteries: Life in the Cities of the Dead

Robert Florence, Robert P. Florence, J. Mason Florence

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**Robert Florence, Robert P. Florence, J. Mason Florence : New Orleans Cemeteries: Life in the Cities of the Dead** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised New Orleans Cemeteries: Life in the Cities of the Dead:

2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. for those with a taste for the dark side of history....By Colleen M. Schneider During our stay in New Orleans my husband I decided to take a cemetery tour (well, in actuality, we actually took two tours, one of the Garden District which included a cemetery and also one of the cemetery/voodoo tours). We find history fascinating and for some odd reason, cemeteries equally so. New Orleans takes much of its above ground cemetery stylings from both the Spanish French influences, where the cemeteries are more like cities of the dead than a well manicured park. There is a beauty in the history and the decay. One of the fascinating things about the cemeteries is that whole families and generations are kept in just a few vaults, using the year and a day standard where after a year

and a day the remains are moved to the back of the vault, to make room for the next occupant. Some of the crypts also are used like "rentals", until there is room in the family vault. Interesting, and quite different from the way we bury those in other areas of the country. The cemeteries and graves in this book are beautifully photographed and sections tell you about each cemetery with much detail and love of the history of New Orleans which is in and of itself a treasure in all its crazy uniqueness. I bought this book after our trip and though a strange souvenir, it was an interesting and informative part of our trip that I didn't want to forget. Don't miss taking one of the guided trips to one of the cemeteries in New Orleans, no trip would be complete without visiting at least one just for the history alone. We found the guides that do the tours to be very passionate about the history of New Orleans and were very interested in sharing the stories and answering your questions no matter how bizarre. My only suggestion, as previously noted is that Saint Louis #1 should be visited with a group tour. It is in a "dicier" neighborhood and also it is not recommended that you go out at night on your own. This may seem like common sense, but it bears repeating so that you make sure that you don't ruin a good trip with a bad decision. Overall, a great book for history and the art in the cities of the dead. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A great book By Bobbie Ulmer This is a very nice book. We always go to the cemeteries when we visit New Orleans. I take photographs of angels. This book has great pictures and so much information and interesting facts on all the cemeteries. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. overall - interesting By Customer The combination of stories and background do a good job of supporting the photos in this book. I was less than enthusiastic about the quality of the binding/paper - When I first opened the cover of the book, all along the binding the page/paper cracked as though extremely dry. Other than that, we're enjoying the book.

From the edge of the French Quarter to the heart of the bayou, *New Orleans Cemeteries: Life in the Cities of the Dead* is a journey through the Crescent City as seen through her phenomenal aboveground cemeteries. Through their artful and documentary-style color and black and white photographs, Robert and Mason Florence depict the "cities of the dead" in all their grandeur and decay, exquisite artisanship and humble memorials, their voluminous historical accounts of the city and undefinable spiritual qualities. *New Orleans Cemeteries* is an enchanting account of one of the world's true treasures, as enjoyable and entertaining as it is educational.

"Just as Tennessee Williams' legendary heroine Blanche duBois followed the advice of strangers who suggested she 'take a streetcar named Desire, and then transfer to one called Cemeteries,' those who read "New Orleans Cemeteries" will be taken on a fascinating ride through places where memories of loved ones are still very much alive." -- The Times Picayune, New Orleans, September 28, 1997 "New Orleans Cemeteries: Life in the Cities of the Dead by brothers Robert and Mason Florence is a lavish volume overflowing with wonderful photographs of thirteen of the city's wonderful graveyards, as well as historical accounts of each site. Painstakingly assembled, this book is a must for anyone fascinated with this city's aboveground tombs. Yes, Anne Rice does pop up in the chapter on Lafayette Cemetery #1." -- Anne Rice's Vampire Lestat Fan Club Newsletter, Fall, 1997 "One doesn't need a sense of the macabre to appreciate the beauty of the cemeteries that constitute one of the Big Easy's distinguishing features. Filled with color and black and white photographs by Mason Florence of the area's above-ground tombs, the book explores the history, art and architecture of 13 burial grounds, as well as the people and traditions that bring them to life." -- USA Today, Oct. 31, 1997 From the Author What struck me most as I researched and wrote this book was how "alive" these remarkable cemeteries really are. In the book, I profile five very unique people who have touching and amazing stories to tell about their experiences and relationships with cemeteries. I wanted this book to be about people, and life, rather than the macabre aspects of death. Although the cemeteries in New Orleans are one of the city's biggest tourist attractions, I have been thanked by locals for documenting monuments which are such an integral part of the life of the city. Fifty-eight photographs from *New Orleans Cemeteries: Life in the Cities of the Dead* will be on display at the Louisiana State Museum in New Orleans for one year so that visitors can see how extraordinary these burial grounds truly are. Excerpt. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved. "The lizards are simply ridiculous!" exclaims Arthur Raymond Smith, caretaker of one of New Orleans's most enigmatic gravesites, as he shoos away a chameleon from the crevices of his family tomb. While being photographed by a German tourist, Arthur straightens an enlarged multicolored photocopy depicting the image of a weirdly ethereal human face.