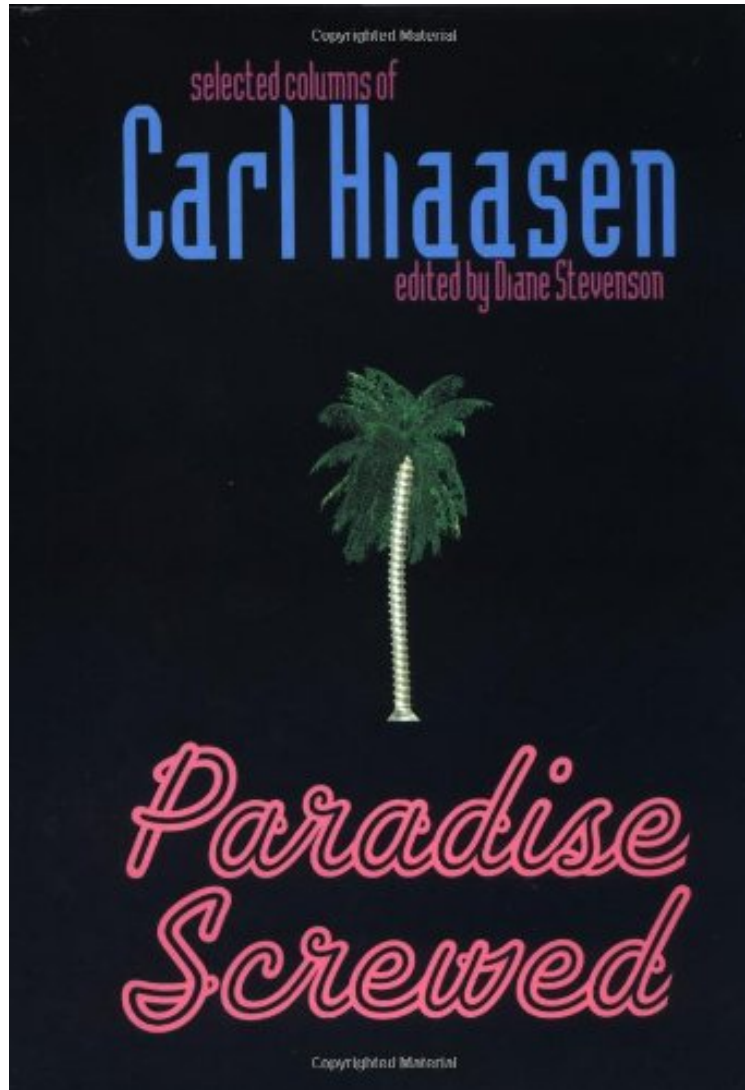


(Library ebook) Paradise Screwed

Paradise Screwed

Carl Hiaasen

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Carl Hiaasen : Paradise Screwed before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Paradise Screwed:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. South Florida Politics RoastedBy Stephen L. TatumParadise Screwed is a collection of newspaper editorials written by Carl Hiaasen, who happens to be one of my favorite authors. I was first introduced to his writing years ago through one of his novels, Sick Puppy, that I picked up in the Miami Airport on my way to a vacation in the Keys and my wife was seriously concerned that I had lost my mind because of the constant laughter his prose caused. I have read every book he published and they are all notable for

their consistently funny prose and very fluently created characters. Paradise Screwed exhibits that terrific style and humor applied to social and political commentary through a collection of Op/Ed columns Hiassen has written for the Miami Herald over the years. He has commented on everything from political incompetence to public corruption and everything in between and never fails to skewer the public target he is aiming at while adding a bit of humor or sarcasm to the mix. I hope Hiassen continues to write so that I can continue to be entertained and educated at the same time. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. No longer relevant

By Max This book is a series of reprinted Miami Herald columns by the author. It would have been trenchant 25 or so years ago, just after the essays were published and the events were fresh in mind, but lacked relevance today. I enjoy Carl Hiaasen's novels, which I find clever and entertaining, and I enjoyed his columns when they were timely and relevant, but I feel I was conned into buying this book, having been led to understand that it was current. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

Another Hiaasen hit! By Alice Faye Sproull I love Hiaasen's writing. I've enjoyed most everything he's written and am always on the look-out for things I've not yet read. Paradise Screwed is no exception. As someone who's lived in Florida almost all her life, I can say Hiaasen is spot on. What the developers and politicians have done to our State is deplorable. Of course, they've been ably aided and abetted by all the folks who want to move here (and then complain about the climate, the bugs, and the critters). I'm just so sorry that so many of the old timers are giving up, selling up, and moving away. I can't really blame them. Money talks. We've a lot of room for improvement in many areas! Unfortunately, it all depends on our voting public and our ability to ensure our legislators actually DO the will of the people. Oh, well ... at least Mr. Hiaasen can sock it to us with humor!

"Reminiscent of the snarky, opinionated newspaper articles of the great Mark Twain, Hiaasen's columns are finely crafted little gems." (Booklist) Carl Hiaasen takes you on a wide-ranging safari, observing south Florida's wildlife in its natural habitat—from fat-cat politicians to migrating mobsters, drowning dolphins to stray chads. This collection of Miami Herald columns—written with a satiric wit and biting humor—will give Hiaasen fans a glimpse of the facts that inspire his frenetic fiction. Harking back to the muckraking journalists of old, Hiaasen lets readers in on the comings and goings of corrupt local politicians, misguided tourist bureaus, and flailing sports franchises. He tackles such current events as the Elian Gonzalez imbroglio and the 2000 presidential election recount. All in all, more than two hundred columns chronicle the everyday circus that gives south Florida a flavor and a flair all its own. Since 1985, Hiaasen's twice-weekly, "baseball-bat-to-the-forehead" column has given the average citizen a voice. A staunch defender of his native state, Hiaasen isn't afraid to take anyone on, including environmental despoilers, Big Tobacco, and the NRA. But as proven in his first collection of columns, Kick Ass, his righteous rage and spirited wit resonate far beyond the Sunshine State—and show readers a world-class journalist in his element. Edited by Diane Stevenson.

From Publishers Weekly The Florida Chamber of Commerce undoubtedly has a dart-pocked photograph of syndicated Miami Herald columnist Hiaasen tacked to the wall. For his second anthology of 200 columns, spanning 15 years, he takes readers on a head-shaking romp through a south Florida that they won't find in any tourist brochure. A true Florida patriot, Hiaasen exposes corruption, money-grubbing and rampant development. The volume picks up where its predecessor Kick Ass: Selected Columns of Carl Hiaasen left off. Stevenson, associate director of writing programs at the University of Florida, again edits. Hiaasen's writing is fearless and the targets endless: politicians, municipal employees, judges, lobbyists, zoning boards, evangelists, athletic franchises, environmental scofflaws, Disney, the NRA, Big Tobacco. In many cases, Hiaasen took these entities to task before it became fashionable. A bestselling novelist to boot, Hiaasen is cut from that same bolt of cloth as Jimmy Breslin and Pete Hamill—he's an acerbic, old-school columnist who can't stomach greed or hypocrisy, pulls no punches and keeps his sense of humor and outrage firmly intact. He tackles with unbridled vigor the Elian Gonzalez affair and voting irregularities in the recent presidential election. While many columns resonate beyond south Florida state vs. local control, urban sprawl, the commerce of politics some feel too localized to sink in. But if you're crooked or play loose with the public trust, watch out. Not even alligator skin is thick enough to deflect the sting of this writer's pen. Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc.

From Booklist *Starred* For fans of Hiaasen's wonderful Kick Ass (1999), here is another collection of essays from the Florida writer's twice-weekly Miami Herald column. There are more than 200 essays in this volume, and every single one of them is a gem. It makes no difference if the people, places, and events being discussed are unfamiliar to most non-Floridians. Hiaasen gives them universality with his style and point of view. As readers of his many best-selling novels will tell you, Hiaasen is a playful writer, always looking for the fresh phrase, the eye-catching image. He is also—and this is essential for a writer of an opinion column—outspoken and (apparently) entirely unafraid of offending the people about whom he writes. Here, as in Kick Ass, he writes about politics and politicians, crime and criminals, ordinary people and extraordinary people, and a lot of just plain south Florida weirdness (such as a museum commemorating the deadly Hurricane Andrew). Many of the essays are tantalizing, offering up glimpses of a bigger story (like "Zucchini Could Lose Supermarket Citizenship," which hints at a bizarre language war being waged in Florida grocery stores). Others tell the whole story in a nutshell. Along with Kick Ass, this is one of the best collections of occasional journalism published in recent years. David Pitt Copyright American Library Association. All

rights reserved About the Author Carl Hiaasen is a syndicated columnist for The Miami Herald and the author of many bestselling novels, including *Sick Puppy*, *Lucky You*, *Strip Tease*, and *Tourist Season*. He is also the author of a previous collection of columns, *Kick Ass*.