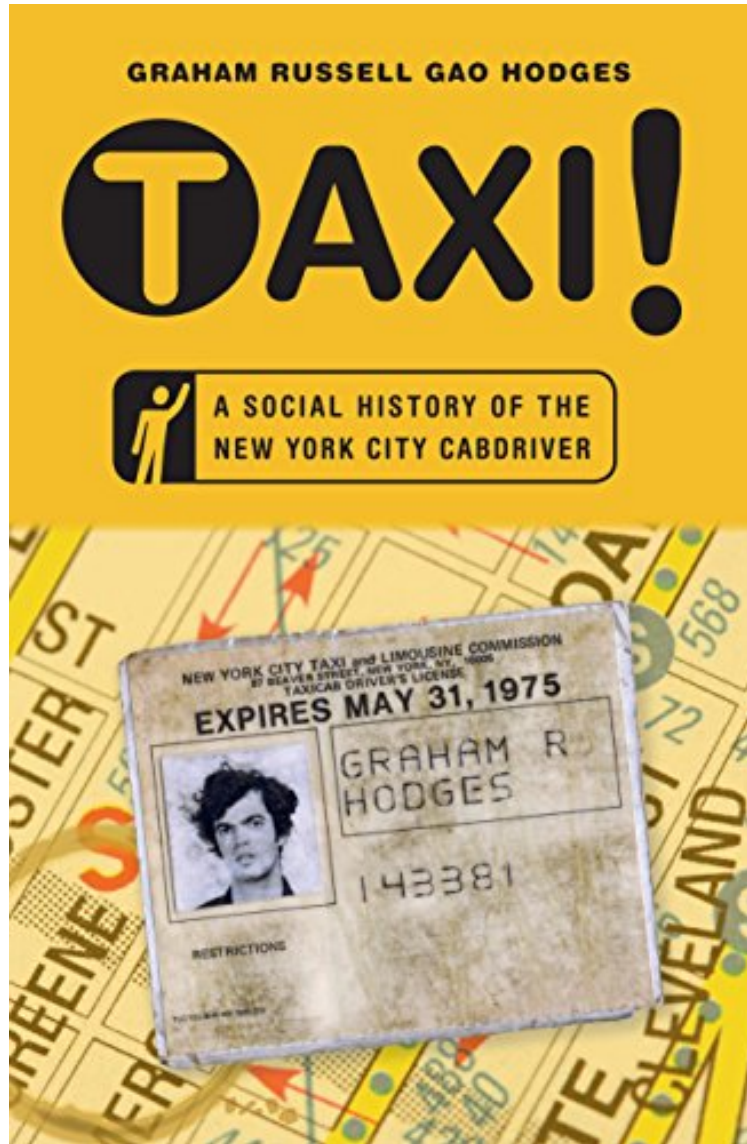


[Download] Taxi!: A Social History of the New York City Cabdriver

Taxi!: A Social History of the New York City Cabdriver

Graham Russell Gao Hodges

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Graham Russell Gao Hodges : Taxi!: A Social History of the New York City Cabdriver before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Taxi!: A Social History of the New York City Cabdriver:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Intriguing Read ABout TaxIsBy Sam SneadAs a transportation professional it is interesting to peer into the history of the taxi. This book not only provides historical information but also a vivid account of the hardships and stories of the taxi driver.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. not

cluttered with talkBy arzewskiMaybe because I am a slow reader, but i dislike books that are made fatter and fluidier with made-up conversations and dialogue. I appreciate a succinct book like this one. This is well researched. The sources at the back of the book is impressive. The author chose a chronological order, and maybe for me it would have been more fun if the book was ordered into themes, but then you would have a different book. I found interesting the beginning of the book, about bridging the class divide, of how uptown people can approach and communicate with the working class people (the driver). In the chapter of the sixties and seventies, I didn't see any mention of how the 1973 recession affected cab drivers, or the near-meltdown of the city in its bankrupcy verge.4 of 5 people found the following review helpful. A Great Way to Learn About CabbiesBy Taxicab MavenGraham Hodges cares about cabbies and drivers past. It's easy to see -- while many writers only rely on economic studies or interviews with current cab drivers, Hodges plows through history and gives us the viewpoint of taxi drivers through the ages. He's able to paint a picture for readers of a New York hack's life.One of the most enjoyable parts of this book is a photographed collection of taxi memorabilia published with the book, including taxi-themed post cards full of sexual innuendo and a picture of female cabbies filling in for their men during the war. He has a unique way of showing the place of the yellow cab in U.S. pop culture, making the book much more interesting than a "just the facts" history lesson.

New York City cabdrivers hold a unique place in American culture writ large. Cabbies proverbially counsel, console, and confound. Sometimes perceived as the key to street-level opinion or mysterious savants who dont speak much English, the hackers who move New Yorkers have been integral to the citys growth and culture since the mid-nineteenth century when they first began shuttling residents, workers, and visitors in horse-drawn carriages. Their importance grew with the introduction of gasoline-powered cars early last century and continues to the present day, when more than 12,000 licensed yellow cabs operate in Manhattan alone.

"You have to live in New York to know how critical taxis are to circulation in the great metropolis. But you do not have to live in New York to be fascinated by this unusual book, which gives a powerful human dimension to one of Gotham's most important subcultures."-Kenneth T. Jackson, editor of The Encyclopedia of New York City"In this informative, solid history, Graham Russell Gao Hodges traces the story of the cab drivers from 1907, when the first metered taxis appeared on New York streets, to the present."-Pete Hamill, New York Times Book About the AuthorGraham Russell Gao Hodges, a former New York City cabdriver, is the George Dorland Langdon, Jr., Professor of History and Africana and Latin American Studies at Colgate University. He is the author of many books, including David Ruggles: A Radical Black Abolitionist and the Underground Railroad in New York City.