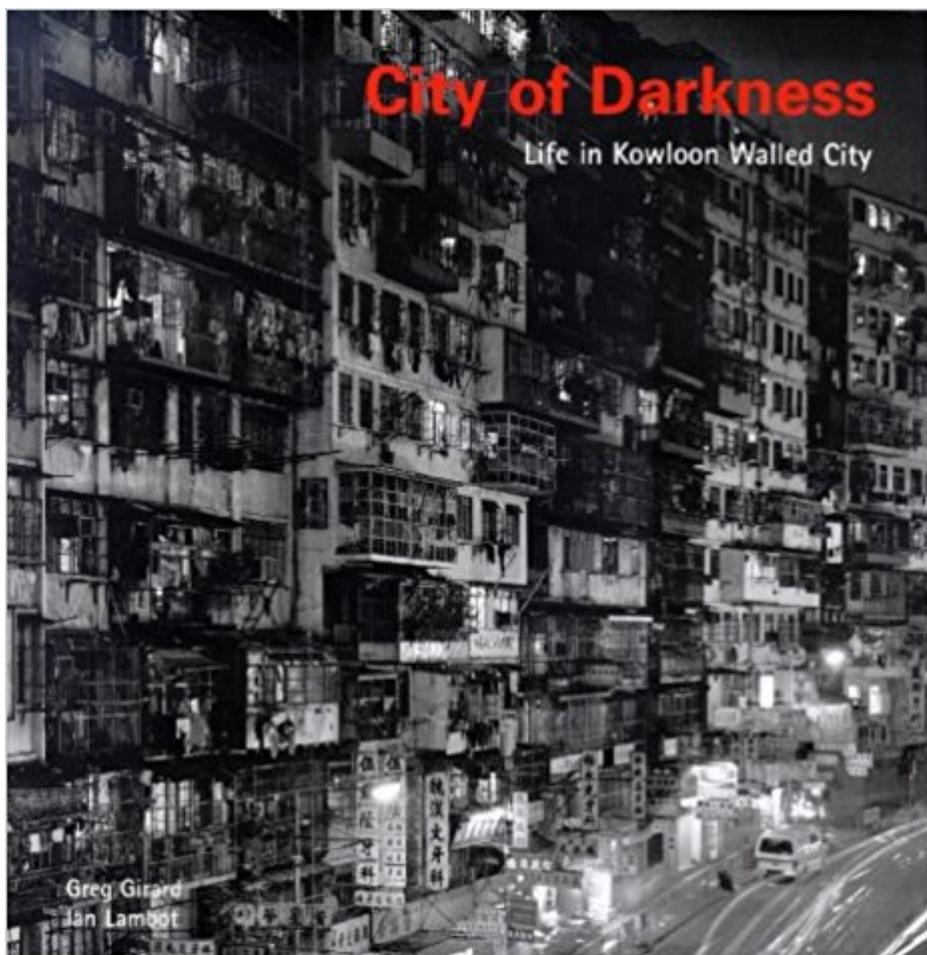


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City Of Darkness: Life In Kowloon Walled City



Synopsis

Girard and Lambot spent four years exploring the notorious Walled City of Kowloon (Hong Kong), before its final clearance in 1992. With over 320 photographs, 32 extended interviews, and essays on the City's history and character, this reprint is not only an informative glimpse of a now vanished landmark but a sensitive and penetrating portrait of a unique community.

Book Information

Paperback: 216 pages

Publisher: Watermark (June 6, 1999)

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 19 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,404,923 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #46 in Books > History > Asia > Hong Kong #2686 in Books > Travel > Pictorial #2904 in Books > History > Asia > China

Customer Reviews

Everyone who I have ever shown this book to has had a deep reaction to it. I wouldn't handicap this book by calling it a photography book alone, although the photos are very powerful and prominent, but the text deserves recognition as well. Plenty of personal stories of how people made this decaying city their home. Both epic and intimate. A testament of the human animal's ability to adapt and thrive. Thank god the authors got in to Kowloon before its destruction to create this book. Also, as a side note: Any artist wanting reference material for decaying urban sprawl, look no further. This book makes for great city or science fiction reference, with unbelievable details (electrical boxes, pipes, hallways, stairwells, etc...)

Fascinating journey into another world. A must read to understand modern Hong Kong.

really some of the best photos, stories and insight on kowloon walled city demolished almost 20 years ago. worth the price if you're genuinely interested in this city and its history.

It truly is sad this city no longer exists. It served an important purpose and may well have had a more important community feel than NYC or other cities that are just as "dark". The photographic essay Greg Girard did seems to capture all aspects of this super-condensed city.

Great gift and coffee table conversation piece. my guests are intrigued. once you pick it up you just want to know more!

Beautiful book about life in an island of buildings in Kowloon City. Perfect condition (difficult for a softbacked book), and delivered quickly. And the book itself is fascinating, just as described.

Thanks!

Having lost the small pamphlet on the Kowloon Walled City that I had bought at the Hong Kong art museum many years ago, I did a web search to see if there was anything available to replace it. City of Darkness seemed to be the best choice, although expensive, so I bought it and hoped. What a wonderful surprise when it arrived; the quality of the photographs, copy, and paper are superb. It is a comprehensive, detailed, and personalized history of the walled city; more than I could have imagined, and worth every penny.

Update - 5 stars: I wrote a review before and gave a 2-star rating because I had a quality issue with this book - the binding on my copy came unglued after looking through it once or twice. Well, the author, Greg Girard, actually tracked me down on facebook and kindly offered to send a replacement free of charge. This replacement copy has held up beautifully for the past year or so as it has been looked through numerous times by houseguests. The first copy I had must have just been flawed. I tried to change my rating to a 5-star but it doesn't seem to want to let me. As I said in my original review, the photos are stunning, the text and interviews fascinating, and the quality of the paper excellent.

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