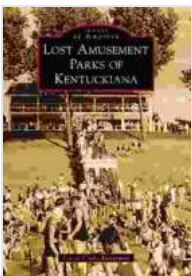


Lost Amusement Parks of Kentuckiana: A Nostalgic Journey Through Abandoned Attractions

Nestled amidst the rolling hills and bustling cities of Kentucky and Indiana lies a forgotten chapter of entertainment history. Once, these two states were home to a vibrant array of amusement parks that provided countless thrills and memories for generations of families.

But time has taken its toll, and many of these beloved destinations have faded into obscurity, leaving behind only scattered remnants and faded photographs. In "Lost Amusement Parks of Kentuckiana," local historian and preservationist David W. Barnhart delves into the fascinating stories behind these abandoned attractions, uncovering their rise, fall, and the enduring legacy they left on the region.



Lost Amusement Parks of Kentuckiana (Images of America) by Alison Palmer

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 96125 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting: Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 131 pages



A Trip Down Memory Lane

Through a captivating collection of historical photographs, Barnhart transports readers back to the golden age of amusement parks. Here, they can relive the excitement of riding rickety roller coasters, exploring eerie funhouses, and indulging in sugary treats at bustling concessions stands.



Kentucky Kingdom roller coaster, circa 1980s

From the iconic Kentucky Kingdom, once the largest amusement park in the state, to the sprawling Lincoln Park, which hosted legendary performers like Frank Sinatra and Elvis Presley, each park featured its own unique charm and attractions.

Tales of Triumph and Tragedy

Beyond the nostalgic imagery, Barnhart also delves into the fascinating history behind these amusement parks. He reveals the entrepreneurial spirit of their founders, the challenges they faced, and the bittersweet stories of their eventual demise.

Some parks, like Riverview Park in Louisville, Kentucky, fell victim to economic downturns and changing tastes. Others, like Coney Island in Covington, Kentucky, were ravaged by fires and floods, leaving behind only haunting ruins.



Coney Island ruins, present day

A Legacy of Entertainment

While many of these amusement parks have vanished, their legacy continues to live on in the hearts of those who experienced their magic. Through Barnhart's meticulous research and engaging storytelling, "Lost Amusement Parks of Kentuckiana" preserves these precious memories and ensures that they will not be forgotten.

For those interested in exploring the remnants of these abandoned attractions, the book provides detailed descriptions and directions to each site. With a mixture of nostalgia and curiosity, readers can embark on a

pilgrimage to these forgotten landmarks and witness the fading grandeur that once brought joy to countless visitors.

Sidebar: A Guide to Lost Amusement Parks of Kentuckiana

- **Kentucky**
 - Kentucky Kingdom (Louisville)
 - Six Flags Kentucky Kingdom (Louisville)
 - Libertyland (Louisville)
 - Riverview Park (Louisville)
 - Compton Heights (Louisville)
 - Harrodsburg Park (Harrodsburg)
 - Lake Cumberland Resort (Albany)

- **Indiana**
 - Coney Island (Covington)
 - Lincoln Park (New Albany)
 - Westview Park (Anderson)
 - Idaville Park (Idaville)
 - Michigan City Park (Michigan City)
 - Busse Gardens (Hammond)

In "Lost Amusement Parks of Kentuckiana," David W. Barnhart has crafted a poignant tribute to a bygone era of entertainment. Through his vivid

storytelling and evocative photographs, he transports readers to a world of forgotten thrills and bittersweet memories.

Whether you're a lifelong resident of Kentuckiana or simply have a fascination with abandoned places, this captivating book is a must-read. It's a nostalgic journey that celebrates the enduring power of entertainment and the fragile nature of time.



Lost Amusement Parks of Kentuckiana (Images of America)

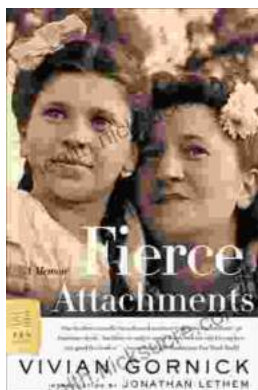
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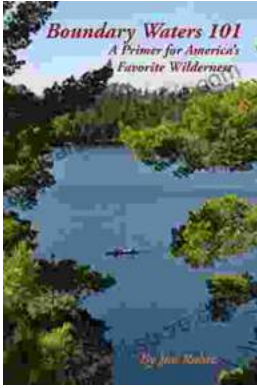
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