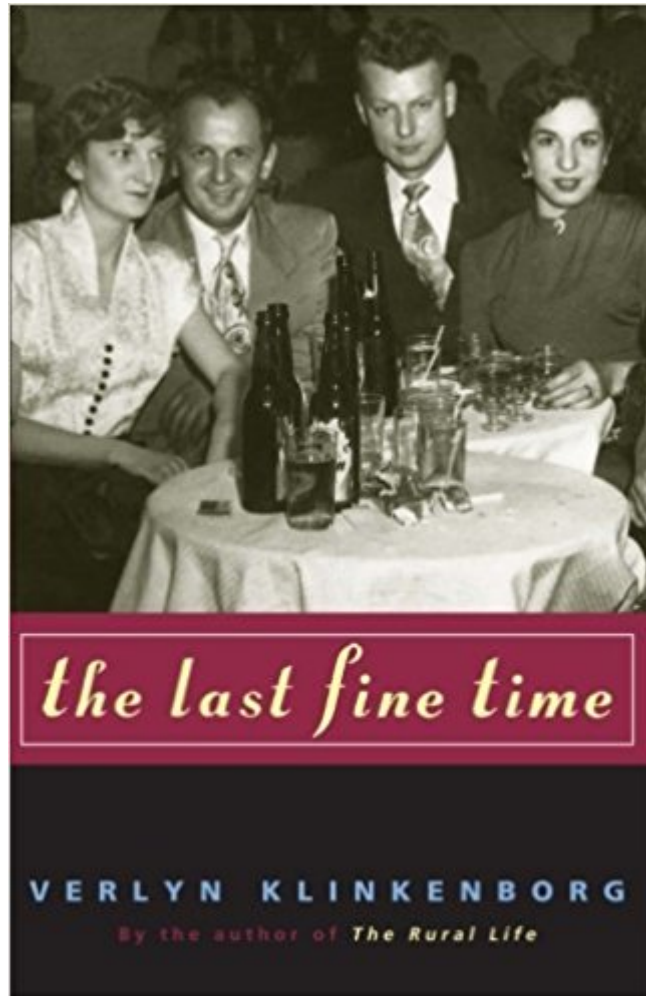




The book was found

The Last Fine Time



Synopsis

By turns, an elegy, a celebration, and a social history, *The Last Fine Time* is a tour de force of lyrical style. Verlyn Klinkenborg chronicles the life of a family-owned restaurant in Buffalo, New York, from its days as a prewar Polish tavern to its reincarnation as George & Eddie's, a swank nightspot serving highballs and French-fried shrimp to a generation of optimistic and prosperous Americans. In the inevitable dimming of the neon sign outside the restaurant, we see both the passing of an old world way of life and the end to the postwar exuberance that was Eddie Wenzek's "last fine time."

Book Information

Paperback: 224 pages

Publisher: University Of Chicago Press; 1 edition (April 1, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0226443353

ISBN-13: 978-0226443355

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.7 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 23 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #229,370 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #112 in [Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Regional U.S. > Mid Atlantic](#) #736 in [Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Professionals & Academics > Business](#) #1820 in [Books > Business & Money > Biography & History](#)

Customer Reviews

From its deft first sentence ("Snow begins as a rumor in Buffalo, New York"), this detailed, wistfully affectionate re-creation of the immigrant experience clarifies the human cost of the disappearance of once-distinctive ethnic neighborhoods. Klinkenborg (*Making Hay*) tells the story of a tavern in Polish-American East Buffalo that his father-in-law, Eddie Wenzek, inherited in 1947 at age 27. Originally purchased by his father in 1922 during Prohibition, the workingman's bar was transformed by Eddie into a fashionable late-night spot. The flowing narrative evokes a time and place where streetcars clattered, where advertising had not yet molded a consumerist culture in a postwar America "beating its swords into appliances." The Wenzels sold the tavern in 1970 and moved to the suburbs. Klinkenborg links the bar's fortunes to the gradual erosion of Buffalo's sense of destiny, "a sad tale of unknotting." Copyright 1990 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Klinkenborg (Making Hay, Lyons & Burford, 1986) has written the history of a bar that flourished on the East Side of Buffalo from the 1920s to 1970. He also portrays two generations of the Wenzek family, the Polish Americans who ran and lived above "George and Eddie's" until the bar closed down. Yet, his incredibly moving book is much more than the history of a declining neighborhood bar and a city in transition. Klinkenborg's writing is superb; his sensitivity to the story is extraordinary; and his ability to capture a watershed period in the transition of American cities in one tiny institution like "George and Eddie's" is unique. Recommended for most public and academic libraries for its historical and sociological insights. This book deserves a wide readership.- Anne H. Sullivan, Tompkins Cortland Community Coll. Lib., Dryden, N.Y. Copyright 1990 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Written about a family-owned bar in Buffalo, I especially wanted to read this book as I loved THE RURAL LIFE by Verlyn Klinkenborg and wanted to see another example of his writing. Also, I am fascinated by close families and interaction of the various generations as to how they influenced each other and did not. The other aspect that I valued about this book was that the business the family ran was really a community gathering place much like an English pub once was (and no doubt, still is in some parts of the UK). Few of these types of places still exist where people can drop in and see the same faces, having been replaced by more commercial ventures where to sit there you constantly have to be laying out money. I appreciated the discussion of how the owner of the bar was such a "catch" as a young man as he was involved with the family business and the portrayal of an innocent form of courtship before The Pill changed everything in the early 60's. As a look back on small town America, I really enjoyed this book as well as Mr Klinkenborg's writing style.

A uniquely described history of an era and the pride of those living within Buffalo.

A beautiful documentary of Buffalo past. His ability to bring back the past with names of streets businesses, products, locations awesome in scope. Warning... Keep a thesaurus next to you. His usage of the English language just amazing. John aurora Ohio

Nowhere have I read a better, more poetic, or more accurate description of a Western New York snowfall than in the opening pages of The Last Fine Time. Although the book gets somewhat bogged down in the generations, like a car gets bogged down slogging through a few feet of freshly

fallen snow, and the ending becomes a sad metaphor for the downfall of a city once called (before Paris) the City of Light, this opening is a brilliant handful of pages worth the price of the whole book.

Well-written history of the Buffalo's Polish East Side in the early to mid-20th century. Author's style makes one want to read and re-read. Many interesting factoids and realia.

Wow! This guy can write. It brought me back...To the youth of my father on the south side go Buffalo.

This book was out of print for awhile. I'm delighted to be able to buy the paperback editions to give to friends. The Last Fine Time is a beautifully written book. I've reread it several times enjoying it more each time.

Killickenborg is a great nature writer but this book about rust belt Buffalo has moments of greatness, but other chapters of tedium. His writing flourishes can be intimidating. Have your dictionary ready. If you grew up in the east side of (Polish) Buffalo you will love the hundreds and hundreds of place references throughout W NY That alone will endear you. The story of a tavern owner and his extended Polish family is typical. (I heard that its really his inlaws) Its uneven but probalby the best book ever written about Buffalo, NY

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Last Fine Time Selling Fine Art Photography: How To Market Your Fine Art Photography Online To Create A Consistent Flow Of Excited Art Buyers Who Love What You Do Fine Motor Fun: Hundreds of Developmentally Age-Appropriate Activities Designed to Improve Fine Motor Skills (Key Education) The "No Time" Boxed Set Featuring Michael Collins: No Time To Run; No Time To Die; No Time Hide (Legal Thriller Featuring Michael Collins) Hora de gimnasia!/ Gymnastics Time! (Bumba Books en EspaÃ±ol) Â¡hora De Deportes!/ Sports Time!) (Spanish Edition) (Bumba Books en Espanol Hora de Deportes! (Sports Time!)) The Briefest History of Time: The History of Histories of Time and the Misconstrued Association between Entropy and Time A Flight in Time: A Time Travel Novel (The Thief in Time Series Book 2) Time's Arrow, Time's Cycle: Myth and Metaphor in the Discovery of Geological Time (The Jerusalem-Harvard Lectures) The Wrinkle in Time Quintet Boxed Set (A Wrinkle in Time, A Wind in the Door, A Swiftly Tilting Planet, Many Waters, An Acceptable Time) Time Management: Guide to Time Management Skills, Productivity, Procrastination and Getting Things Done (time management, procrastination, productivity, ...

successful people, efficiency, schedule) Iditarod: The Last Great Race to Nome:Curriculum Guide (The Last Wilderness Adventure Series) 60 Minutes Ejaculation Control End Premature Ejaculation Learn How to Last Longer in Bed Cure PE: The Fastest Way to Stop Premature Ejaculation Guarantee! Immediately Last 30 - 60 Minutes in Bed! The Last Gunfighter 7 - Rescue (The Last Gunfighter - a Movie in Your Mind) Journey to Star Wars: The Last Jedi Leia, Princess of Alderaan (Star Wars: Journey to Star Wars: the Last Jedi) Love at Last: Last Frontier Lodge Novels, Book 2 His Last Hope: A Contemporary Christian Romance (His Last Hope Series Book 2) Just Play: Book 3 Last Play Romance Series (A Bachelor Billionaire Companion) (The Last Play Series) The History of Wales: Comprehending the Lives and Succession of the Princes of Wales, From Cadwalader the Last King, to Llewelyn the Last Prince, of ... Under the Kings of England (Classic Reprint) Last Flag Down: The Epic Journey of the Last Confederate Warship Ray Bradbury: The Last Interview: And other Conversations (The Last Interview Series)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)