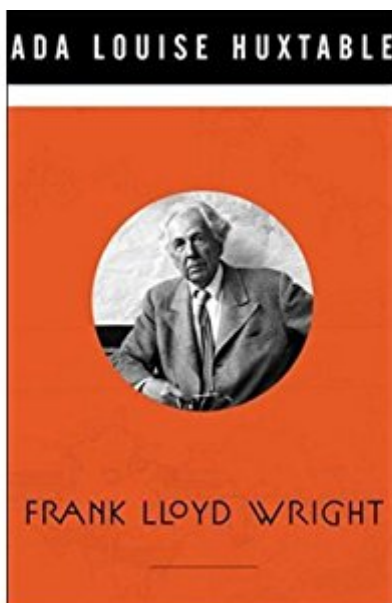


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# Frank Lloyd Wright



## Synopsis

From the way we build to the way we live, Frank Lloyd Wright's influence on American architecture is visible all around us. Now, Ada Louise Huxtable, the Pulitzer Prize-winning architecture writer for *The Wall Street Journal* and chief architecture critic for *The New York Times* for nearly twenty years, offers an outstanding look at the architect and the man. She explores the sources of his tumultuous and troubled life and his long career as master builder as well as his search for lasting, true love. Along the way, Huxtable introduces readers to Wright's masterpieces: Taliesin, rebuilt after tragedy and murder; the Imperial Hotel, one of the few structures left standing after Japan's catastrophic 1923 earthquake; and tranquil Fallingwater, to which millions have traveled to experience its quiet grace. Through the journey, Huxtable takes us not only into the mind of the man who drew the blueprints, but also into the very heart of the medium, which he changed forever. A story of great triumph and heartbreak, Frank Lloyd Wright is, like Wright's own creations, an expertly wrought tribute to a man whose genius lives on in the very landscape of American architecture. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Volumes have been written about Frank Lloyd Wright. His design still stands as a testament to his creative genius. A trip to Falling Water reveals a home built in 1935 that still radiates a transcendent and timeless modernity. The guides are breathless devotees of a spectral master. Wright inspired

feelings that crossed over a wide spectrum. Genius, charlatan, irascible eccentric, and more. Through his brilliance came many schemes with which to enrich himself. Often finding himself over budget on his projects, he could be obsequious to his clients in getting more money. He raised money later in life by taking the apprenticeship model to a new level, and charging young people to live communally with him as devotees, carrying out a wide array of projects. Yet, his fusion of design utilizing nature and geometry brought him widespread fame, respect and awe. From his first projects in the early 1900's to gain nationwide attention, he became a lightning rod for his behavior, for the tragedies that befell him, and for his work. Today, his name inspires reverence and awe. This brief bio attempts to dispel many of the misperceptions of this complicated and brilliant man. It may partially succeed in this endeavor, but it does shed light on some of his work, though not in excessive detail. For a reader that does not want to wade through a 500 page intensive manuscript of this historic figure, it is a good primer.

I bought these books for my grandson who was doing a school report on Wright. I haven't seen the book but Max and his family thought it was good.

The author of this book, Ada Louise Huxtable, is a well known architectural historian, critic, and journalist. This book is a compact review of modern architecture that features a superficial portrait of FLW - his life, philosophy, theories and personality - and his influence on architecture, internationally. There are about ten poorly reproduced black and white photographs that provide inadequate illustration of the FLW style and work. This short treatment is not intended to be a serious or technical study of the great architect's work. There are other biographies and volumes for that. Huxtable handles skillfully the balance between an almost prurient coverage of the details of FLW's always erratic and sometimes tragic life with the history and analysis of the man and his work. This book is definitely a popularization of a big subject and as such appears to be intended for the neophyte or casual reader.

Architecture is a visual medium, and more pictures and plans would have been greatly appreciated. I read the book on a Kindle, and maybe the Kindle version doesn't include as many illustrations as the printed book, so my comments only apply to the Kindle version. Otherwise, it revealed Frank Lloyd Wright as a man who apparently drank his own cool-aid, and seemed to believe even his own rewriting of history. A brilliant designer who probably didn't need to make himself larger than life in order to be considered an icon in architecture.

FLW was a true original, and unique architect and person. This book outlines that, but doesn't delve much into FLW's architectural thinking. That was presumably never the intention, so perhaps criticizing it on those grounds is unfair; but overall, the book felt a little light-weight, considering the stature of the author. A worthwhile read, nonetheless.

How can I review it when I have yet to receive it. Shipping ?????????? Not Good.

A bit too technical with too many names garnered from the profession of architecture. Enjoyed it more when I decided to skip over the industry insider information and stick with the gossip.

I haven't finished this book yet, but, from what I've read till now, I'm fascinated. Frank Lloyd Wright was a real American original: a genius for sure, but an enormously controversial personality whom not everybody loved. Huxtable (who, regrettably, just died at the age of 92), was a wonderful architecture critic and she tells the story well. I'm fascinated by it because I want to understand, as best I can, what this brilliant but truly strange and often not very pleasant man was all about.

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