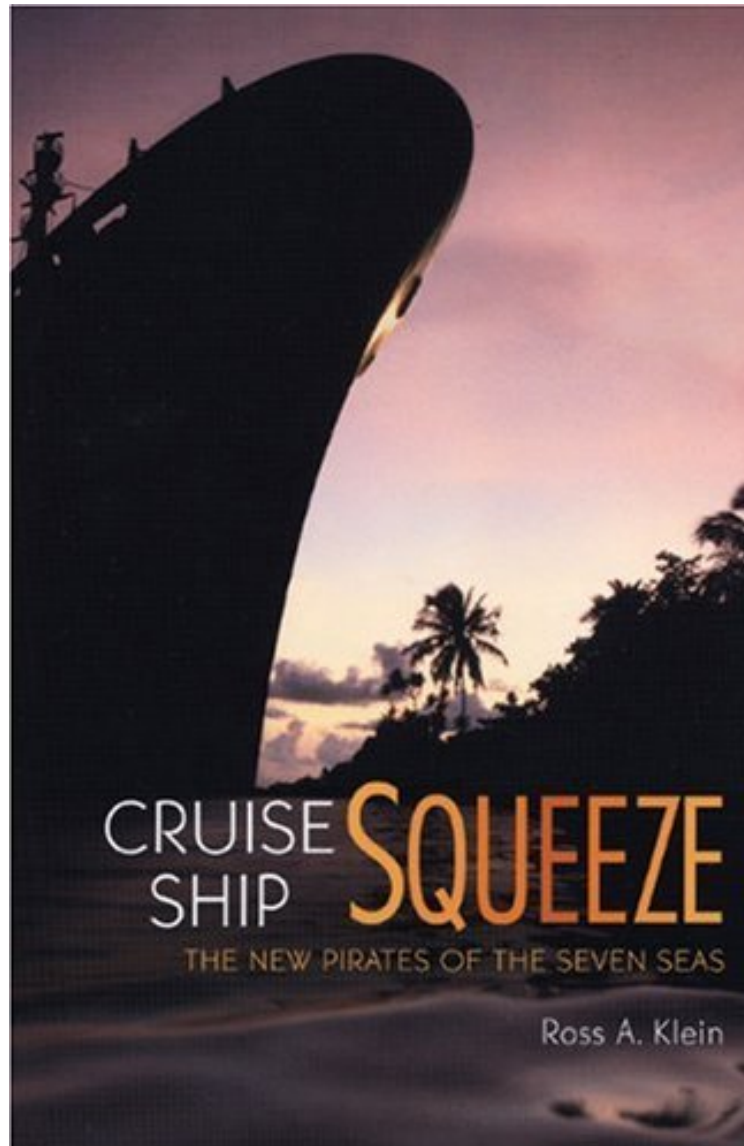


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## Cruise Ship Squeeze: The New Pirates of the Seven Seas

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**Ross A. Klein : Cruise Ship Squeeze: The New Pirates of the Seven Seas** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Cruise Ship Squeeze: The New Pirates of the Seven Seas:

10 of 14 people found the following review helpful. the world's longest complaint letterBy Paul G. MotterI have read both of these books and met the author. He is a "self-described" cruise expert whose only true expertise is that he has taken some 30 cruises. He has now become a noted industry basher who has even testified before congress about the cruise industry solely because there are no other "experts" who make the same allegations. He is the best experts the

bashers of the cruise industry have, sadly for them. As a cruise journalist myself who has worked on cruise ships for nearly two years and been covering them journalistically for almost 10 years now, I found this book to be a rehash of the same old cruise stories that have been going around for years, retold with everything in a negative slant. In other words, there is nothing new or revealing in this book, and most of it is sensationalistic allegations of wrongdoing based on second-hand and unconfirmed information from wherever he could find it. Footnotes are to press stories that talk of allegations but subsequent follow-up articles about findings that may exculpate the cruise lines are typically excluded from the text. I say world's longest complaint letter because it is well-known he has a beef with a certain cruise line which they never satisfactorily addressed, and that led to this book. Suffice it to say, he comes across as an effete liberal with a sense of entitlement due to his degree (a PhD) and the fact that he is married to an MD who when she revealed her profession she was (shockingly) asked medical advice by fellow passengers. His various magazine articles include advice to MDs never to reveal their occupation while on a cruise ship - or they may be asked to help someone. Yet he moans about mistreatment of workers on cruise ships as if they are indentured servants (far from true) who I can tell you from experience, if asked, would never give up their jobs. 2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Cruise Ship Squeeze - a biased book! By Spice Girl Very biased and exaggerated opinion by the author. Those of us who have worked on ships (including the bowels of the vessel) know that it is hard work as with most jobs in life, but certainly not the horrible scenarios referred to in the book. Cruise lines are no different to multinational land based companies operating in developing countries. 1 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Excellent By B. A. Porfirio Excellent book for who wants to know how the cruise industry is. Learned a lot. However, from Chapter 6 and on, if I am not mistaken, the writer expose him self to much on his opinion on how much he dislikes the cruise industry. I mean, there are environmental concerns in every industry and the cruise ships have improved a lot. Now, to spend time reading emergencies situation on board and how the big cruise lines plans everything to take advantage over passengers and ports, just in order to make the cruise industry to look bad!? No reason for that at all. For improvements, we need to say the actual facts and not judge it before, and put it in to words to fit it in to the picture us one would like it to be. I do recommend to anyone to buy this book, you wont regret. Lot's of detailed information there that no one would find in any other book. And I've read over 6 books about cruising.

This book is about modern pirates: those who sail huge cruise ships from one port to another, offloading thousands of visitors a day. While the industry rakes in billions of dollars a year, paying virtually no income tax, the ports that ships visit are left with relatively few crumbs. It exploits workers onboard ships, uses graft from its deep war chests to shape political decisions and influence media, and bullies administrations into accepting, for example, that Carnivals 50 percent-plus market dominance is not anti-competitive, or that its abysmal environmental and health practices are responsible. It represents capitalism at its worst. Cruise Ship Squeeze focuses on the politics and economics of an industry that is continually subsidized by ports and by local, regional, and national governments and which runs roughshod over environmental and other laws and regulations. Through confidential documents and meetings with port officials, corporate executives, politicians, and industry insiders, cruise specialist Klein includes information never previously reported on: Campaign contributions (1997-2004) Health outbreaks (2002-2004) Money spent on lobbyists (1997-2004) Donations from industry-sponsored and -funded foundations (1996-2004) A detailed and alarming exposé of the injustices of cruise tourism, the book's concluding chapter examines social and political action that has been directed toward the cruise industry, identifies key organizations and groups that have been effective and that have maintained their integrity, and calls on readers to help contain the industry through grassroots activism so that it becomes environmentally, socially, economically, and politically viable. Ross Klein has taken more than 30 cruises in all parts of the world, comprising over 300 days. An associate professor of social work at Memorial University in St. John's, Newfoundland, he has written widely on the cruise business, and his previous book, Cruise Ship Blues, caused waves in the industry.

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