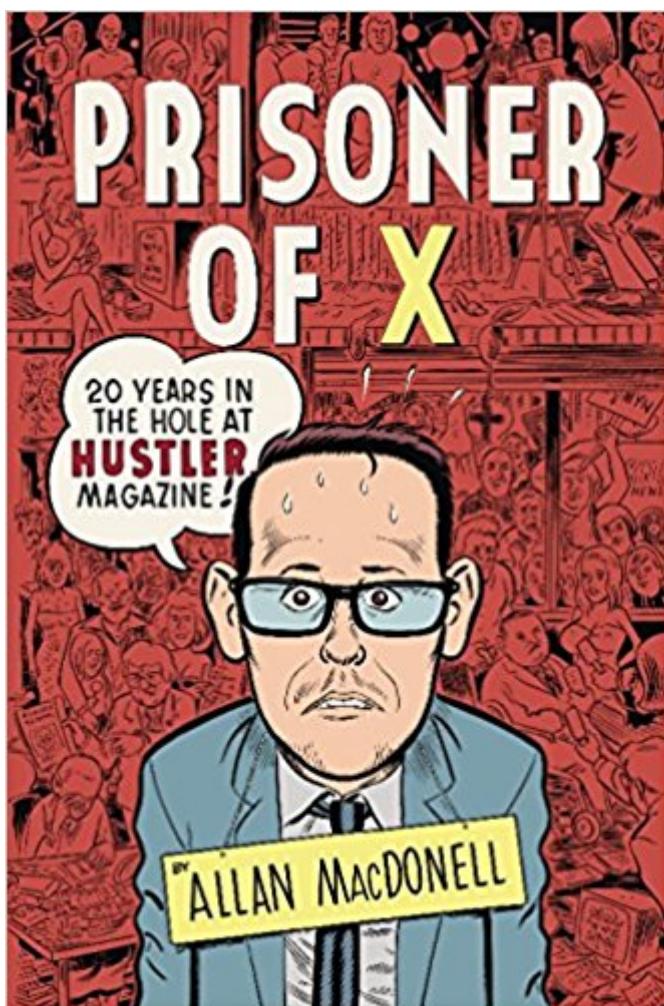


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# Prisoner Of X: 20 Years In The Hole At Hustler Magazine



## Synopsis

Prisoner of X: 20 Years in the Hole at Hustler Magazine is a savagely funny odyssey through the bizarro world of Larry Flynt's cracker-rich X-rated empire. During his tenure in the Hustler trenches, punk-rock dropout Allan MacDonell ascends from entry-level comma-catcher to editorial overlord of the unseemly offerings at Larry Flynt Publications. Here's the inside story of running America's most influential porn domain. A professional career of evaluating countless skin photos, taking XXX field trips, mastering "fully erect" film criticism and enduring creepy interoffice schemers suddenly launches MacDonell into national politics when Larry Flynt opens his wallet to impact the impeachment proceedings against President William Jefferson Clinton. MacDonell reveals the backside of his prominent role in tricking right-wing Speaker-elect Bob Livingston into resigning from Congress. Prisoner of X is a wildly entertaining memoir about life climbing the bent and fearsome masthead of an infamous magazine, and the bittersweet reward of publicly crossing its hillbilly Caesar. Aside from being the most prolific writer in the history of Larry Flynt Publications, Allan MacDonell contributed to the archetypal punk magazine *Slash* and the underground anthology *Apocalypse Culture*. Freelance pieces have appeared in venues as diverse as *Gambling Times* magazine, *MrSkin.com* and the *L.A. Weekly*. Mr. MacDonell lives in California's Hollywood Hills with two dogs, his wife Theresa, and a clear conscience.

## Book Information

Paperback: 312 pages

Publisher: Feral House; 1st edition (May 1, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1932595139

ISBN-13: 978-1932595130

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.6 x 8.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 32 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #650,901 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #124 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Pornography #1060 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Professionals & Academics > Journalists #3565 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Pop Culture > General

## Customer Reviews

Allan MacDonell's account of his twenty years spent working for Larry Flynt is prime Feral House

material: blunt, salacious and to-the-point. Opening with MacDonell's curtain call, the nervous and barbed attack he delivered at Flynt's roast, MacDonell recounts his tenure working for one of America's most notorious citizens with candor and a biting wit. As a young punk rocker with a knack for writing but without a high school diploma, MacDonell managed to land an entry-level job in the editorial department of Hustler. Working in an environment that embodied the hedonism of the 1980s, MacDonell managed to excel in an office staffed by nepotistic hires, degenerates and the occasional competent worker, all nervously toiling under the moody shadow of Flynt. From bit parts in pornos to soliciting evidence of politicians' improprieties, MacDonell tells his story without flinching. Much like Hustler itself, this is a vulgar, sometimes shocking read, but it provides an excellent foil for Flynt's self-penned memoirs. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

A luridly entertaining memoir... MacDonell strives to balance the sleaze with dry wit and genteel wordplay; and often strikes gold. -- Rolling Stone, May 4, 2006 Entertaining... As former Hustler editor MacDonell's memoir makes clear, the porn mag exists in its own alternate universe. -- Spin, May 2006 Hours of guilty pleasure that pass like seconds... Indulge before the restraining orders pull this great book off store shelves. -- Chuck Palahniuk, author of Fight Club, Choke, and Haunted R. Crumb crossed with William S. Burroughs and the satiric outrage of Hunter S. Thompson. -- Evan Wright, author of Generation Kill Scabrous, cleverly funny new memoir... MacDonell lays the whack-off industry bare... All that's missing is a scratch-and-sniff centerfold. -- BlackBook, May 2006 The first must-read book on porn. -- Luke Ford, author of A History of X: 100 Years of Sex in Film and XXX-Communicated

this book illuminates what it's like to be working a job that you both love and hate at the same time. Over and over again McDonnell finds himself in delicate situations dealing with marginal characters that make him question his own sanity. I worked a few years in this business myself and this book is not only an accurate description of the day to day of the porn business, it's an accurate description of the conflicted but aware mindset that goes along with working in any questionable business.

You'll laugh, you'll cry, you'll wish that once in a while you had actually read some of the articles. This book is as hilarious as Hustler often was during Allan's tenure. A common misconception about this book is that it is about Larry Flynt. This book is not about Larry Flynt--it is about Allan

MacDonell. If you want to learn more about Larry Flynt, you should probably visit his website. If you want to learn more about what it is REALLY like to oversee the day-to-day operations of America's most notorious stroke rag--penile scabs and all--then this is the book for you! My only complaint about Prisoner of X is that Allan has not yet recorded an audio-book version, but that's coming up next, right Mr. MacDonell?

I found the book hilarious, entertaining, educational, and a real gas to read. Hustler magazine apparently didn't feel the same because they have labelled McDonnell the "A\*\*hole of the Month" in their current issue (pretty ironic considering that McDonnell wrote that column for over a decade!). They accuse him of being a drug addict who drove the magazine into the ground (even though he explicitly explains in the book that he stopped all drug and alcohol abuse following a near-fatal DUI incident). If you've read even one issue of Hustler, you'll enjoy the heck out of this book. The stories of grotesque celebrity videos, Larry Flint's shockingly explicit activities and racist sense of humor, and having to put up with arrogant sleazeball child rapist Dwaine Tinsley (of "Chester the Molester" fame) will keep your eyes glued to the page. In short, another winner for Feral House.

Although the prose is a little self consciously rich at times, this is the most laugh out loud funny book I have read since Howard Stern's Private Parts memoir. The most inside look at not only Flynt and Hustler but the entire porn scene from the 80's and 90's. His description of porn legend Tori Welles on page 118 is uncanny--"Complexion the color of cinnamon or bourbon, brunette mane of body and bounce, flaunting the defiant cheekbones and chin of an urchin empress, the sublime Ms. Welles stepped with the self-assurance of the lifelong stone fox." (See what I mean about the prose?) When he's done describing her, you will know exactly what she looked like and what her sexual magnetism was all about even if you have never seen her. Hilarious, insightful, sarcastic. Would make a great movie.

This is an interesting book by a writer who worked his way up the ranks at Hustler magazine for twenty years. He's brutally honest about the inner workings of the magazine including his descriptions of the pedophile Dwaine Tinsley and the sociopathic Larry Flynt, as well as about his own moral and social failings. This is good reading for anyone interested in the history of the magazine or in learning about what it was like working inside the porn magazine industry during the latter part of the Twentieth Century. As to be expected it's sexually explicit so if that bothers you, you might want to skip this one. The sexual descriptions were not gratuitous and I felt they were

necessary for the honest story-telling this book provides.

Fantastic. Thanks!

A well written and witty rehashing of time spent in the LFP trenches from larrys main main for almost two decades.

Great book, very eye opening. At times you will literally laugh out loud and others you will sweat as the writer probably did when he experienced that situation for real. I can't say I would read it twice but I enjoyed the first go round.

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