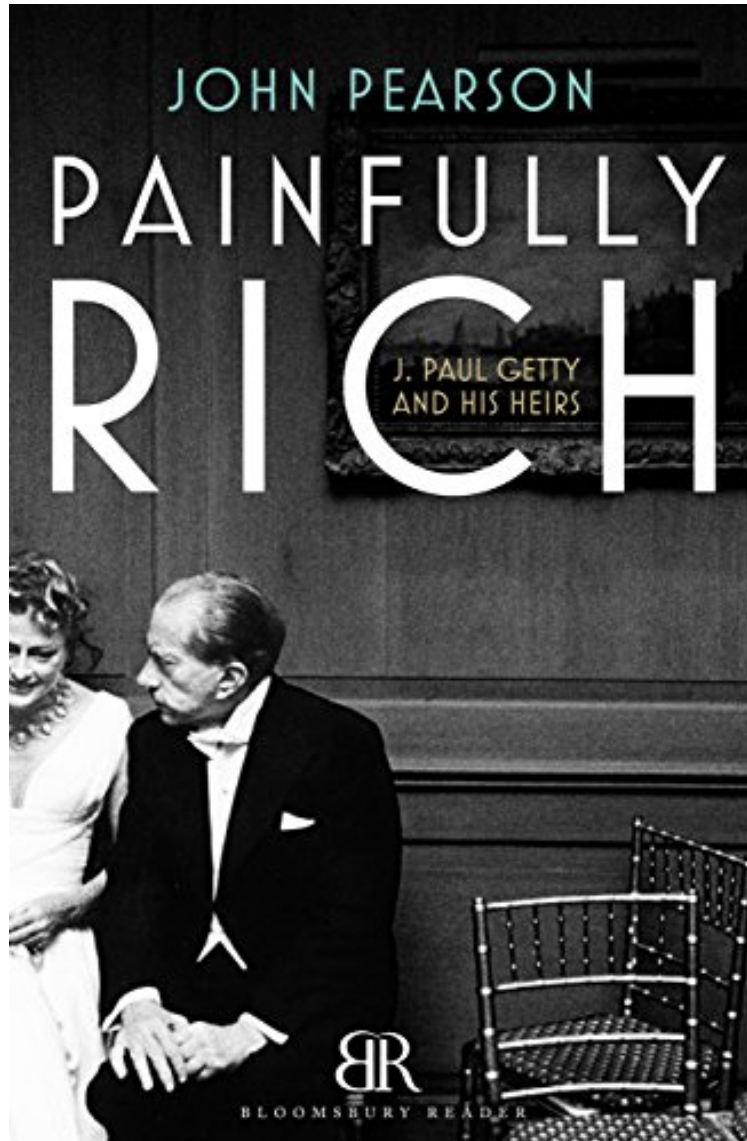


(Download) Painfully Rich: J. Paul Getty and His Heirs

## Painfully Rich: J. Paul Getty and His Heirs

*John Pearson*

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**John Pearson : Painfully Rich: J. Paul Getty and His Heirs** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Painfully Rich: J. Paul Getty and His Heirs:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Money Cannot Buy Happiness By james j alexis This book goes to show that having untold millions cannot buy happiness. It can absolutely buy any material things one can dream of. It is a very in depth look at how one individuals drive to become perhaps the richest person in America cost him any emotional connection with his immediate family. It was amazing how brilliant Jean Paul Getty had to be to amass billions of dollars in the cut throat world of high finance. He thrived on wheeling and dealing. It is also very sad to see

the effect of his non stop crusade to become a billionaire. Although his family had access to untold millions their fathers absence of personally caring and nurturing resulted in many sad situations. A very good read.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. An interesting glimpse into the unglamorous world of the wealthy.By JTWWellerA very interesting glimpse into the world of wealth one can only imagine. The saying "money can't buy happiness" must have been derived for the Getty's. Although Jean Paul Getty's father started their success in the oil industry, Jean Paul built upon it, making him the richest man in America. His empire replaced any need for him to have emotional connections to anyone and despite having several marriages, had little to nothing to do with his children until they were of age when he wanted them involved in the family business. Favouritism led to dysfunctional relationships and ripple effects throughout the family and generations. Very interesting read.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Financially Rich Emotionally PoorBy DeeDetailed account of J. Paul Getty and his offspring. He was a financial genius and emotionally crippled. His multiple wives and children were victims of his indifference. He analyzed. his business ventures but not the damage he was doing to his family. Author's research and writing style keeps the reader engaged. I recommend this book.

Oil tycoon J. Paul Getty created the greatest fortune in America - and came close to destroying his own family in the process. Of his four sons who reached manhood, only one survived relatively unscathed. One killed himself, one became a drug-addicted recluse and the third had to bear the stigma all his life of being disinherited in childhood.The unhappiness continued into the next generation, with the name Getty, as one journalist put it, 'becoming synonymous for family dysfunction'. Getty's once favourite grandson John Paul Getty III was kidnapped by the Italian mafia who cut off his ear to raise a ransom and, after a lifetime of drink and drugs, became a paraplegic. His granddaughter Aileen has AIDS. And the Getty family itself has been torn apart by litigation over their poisoned inheritance.But did the disaster have to happen? John Pearson, who has specialized in biographies of families as varied as the Churchills, the British Royal Family, the Devonshires and the Krays, sets out to find the answer. The result, first published in 1995, is a fascinating saga of an extraordinary dynasty.He traces much of the trouble to the bizarre character of the avaricious, sex-obsessed billionaire, J. Paul Getty himself - and demonstrates how much of his behaviour has been repeated in succeeding generations. He describes the famous kidnapping of his grandson in graphic detail, revealing how the old man's attitude added considerably to the boy's sufferings. And he shows how the family has coped with the latest modern scourges: drugs and AIDS.For Painfully Rich is not a hopeless story. While some of the family have been damaged by the Getty legacy, others have saved themselves from disaster, most notably the cricket-loving philanthropist, J. Paul Getty Jr. Pearson's moving story of his recovery from drugs and deep personal tragedy shows that there is hope for future generations of this stricken family - and demonstrates that money can be used to buy survival and even happiness.

About the AuthorJohn Pearson was born in 1930, and educated at King's College School, Wimbledon and Peterhouse, Cambridge, where he read history. He has worked on various newspapers, including the Economist, The Times, and the Sunday Times where for a time he wrote the Atticus column. After the success of his Life of Ian Fleming, he decamped with wife and family to Rome, where he lived for some years. Mr Pearson returned to England to research and write the life and times of the Kray brothers, and is now at work on a full-scale biography of the Sitwells.