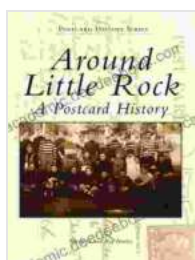


Postcard History: A Nostalgic Journey Through Time

In an era dominated by digital communication and instant messaging, the humble postcard evokes a sense of nostalgia and bygone charm. These small, rectangular pieces of cardboard have witnessed and conveyed countless stories, preserving glimpses of the past and connecting people across vast distances.



Around Little Rock: A Postcard History (Postcard History Series) by Steven G. Hanley

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 47660 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 128 pages
Screen Reader	: Supported
Paperback	: 70 pages
Item Weight	: 3.84 ounces
Dimensions	: 6.14 x 0.15 x 9.21 inches



The Dawn of the Postcard Era

The origins of postcards can be traced back to the "correspondence card" introduced by the Austrian postal service in 1869. These early cards featured a pre-printed postage stamp on one side, leaving the other for a brief message. The concept quickly spread to other European countries

and the United States, where the first American postcard was issued in 1873.

The Golden Age of Postcards

The late 19th and early 20th centuries marked the golden age of postcards. Mass production techniques made postcards affordable and accessible to the general public, leading to a surge in their popularity. In the United States, the first postcard boom occurred around the turn of the 20th century, fueled by the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893. Postcards became a ubiquitous form of communication, used for everything from sending greetings to sharing travel experiences.

Iconic Postcard Designs

Postcards of this era showcased a wide array of designs, from scenic landscapes to historical events. Some of the most iconic postcard images included:

- **Colored lithographs:** These vibrant, full-color prints captured the beauty of natural wonders, cityscapes, and tourist attractions.
- **Photographic postcards:** The advent of photography allowed for the production of realistic and detailed postcard images. These cards often featured candid scenes of everyday life.
- **Art Nouveau postcards:** Influenced by the Art Nouveau style, these postcards featured flowing, organic lines and stylized imagery.

The Postcard as a Historical Artifact

Beyond their aesthetic appeal, postcards serve as valuable historical artifacts. They document architectural landmarks, social customs, fashion

trends, and cultural events of the past. By studying postcards, researchers can gain insights into the lives and perspectives of people from different eras.

The Enduring Legacy of Postcards

Despite the advent of modern communication technologies, postcards have remained a beloved form of expression. They continue to be used for sending personalized messages, as souvenirs of travel, and as collectible items. In the 21st century, digital postcards have emerged as a convenient alternative to traditional postcards, but they lack the tangible charm of their physical predecessors.

Postcard Collecting as a Hobby

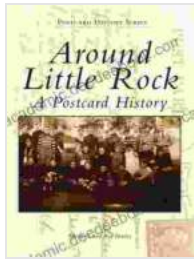
Postcard collecting, also known as deltiology, has become a popular hobby around the world. Collectors specialize in various themes, such as geographic regions, historical events, or specific artists. Postcard collecting offers a unique opportunity to connect with the past and appreciate the creativity and artistry of these small but captivating pieces of history.

Postcards have played an integral role in human communication and self-expression for over a century. They have witnessed and documented the passage of time, capturing the essence of different eras and cultures. From their humble beginnings as correspondence cards to their iconic designs and enduring legacy, postcards continue to enchant and inspire generations of people.

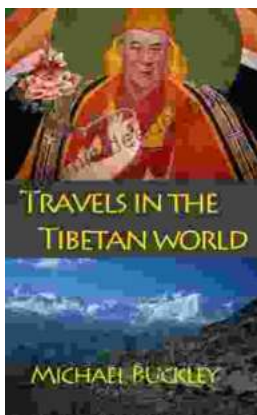
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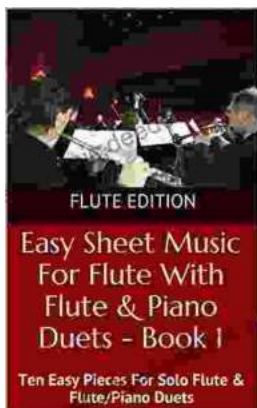


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