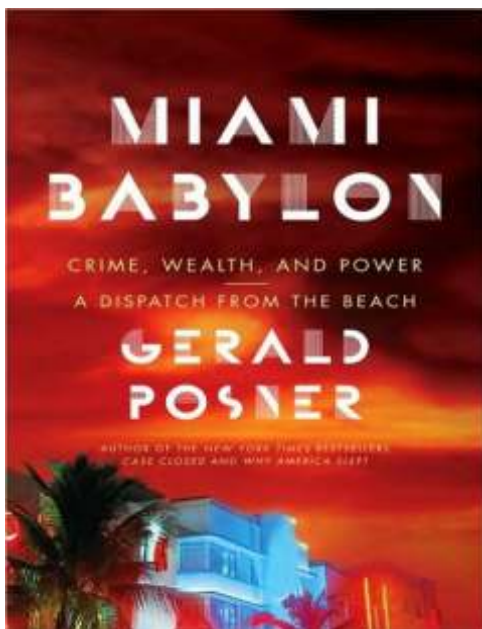


NEW YORK TIMES bestselling author of *CASE CLOSED* and *WHY AMERICA SLEPT*



Read by Alan Sklar

Category: True Crime

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Gerald Posner is the chief investigative reporter for the *Daily Beast* and the author of ten bestselling books, including the Pulitzer Prize finalist *Case Closed*; *Motown: Music, Money, Sex, and Power*; and *Mengle: The Complete Story*. His investigative

articles have appeared in the *New York Times*, the *New Yorker*, *Newsweek*, and *Time*, and have included such scoops as Pete Rose's gambling addiction, Argentina's hidden Nazi files, secrets about the Oklahoma City bombing, and questions over the death of Princess Diana.

Alan Sklar has been nominated multiple times as a finalist for the APA's prestigious Audie Awards. He has narrated over 100 audiobooks, including the Pulitzer Prize-winning *The Looming Tower* by Lawrence Wright.



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GERALD POSNER

MIAMI BABYLON

Crime, Wealth, and Power—A Dispatch from the Beach

Here, in all its neon-colored, cocaine-fueled glory, is the never-before-told story of the making of Miami Beach. Gerald Posner has uncovered the hair-raising political-financial-criminal history of the Beach and reveals a tale that, in the words of one character, "makes *Scarface* look like a documentary."

From its beginnings in the 1890s, Miami Beach has been a place made by visionaries and hustlers. During Prohibition, Al Capone had to muscle into its bootlegging and gambling businesses. After December 1941, when the Beach was the training ground for half a million army recruits, even the war couldn't stop the party. After a short postwar boom, the city's luck gave out. The big hotels went bankrupt, the crime rate rose, and the tourists moved on to Disney World and the Caribbean. Even after the Beach hosted both national political conventions in 1972, nobody would have imagined that this sandy backwater of run-down hotels and high crime would soon become one of the country's most important cultural centers.

But in 1981, 125,000 Cubans arrived by the boatload. The empty streets of South Beach, lined with dilapidated hotels, were about to be changed irrevocably by the culture of money that moved in behind cocaine and crime. Gerald Posner takes us inside the intertwined lives of the politicians, financiers, nightclub owners, and real estate developers who have fed the Beach's unquenchable desire for wealth, flash, and hype: the German playboy who bought the entire tip of South Beach with \$100 million of questionable money; the mayoral candidate who said, "If you can't take their money, drink their liquor, mess with their women, and then vote against them, you aren't cut out for politics"; and the former Washington, D.C., developer who played hardball with city hall and became the Beach's first black hotel owner.

From the mid-level coke dealers and their suitcases of cash to the questionable billions that financed the ocean-view condo towers, the Beach has seen it all. Posner's singular report tells the real story of how this small urban beach community was transformed into a world-class headquarters for American culture within a generation. It is a story built by dreamers and schemers—and a steroid-injected cautionary tale.

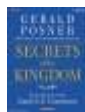
KEY POINTS/MARKETING

- National author publicity
- National television, radio, and print publicity

PRAISE FOR MIAMI BABYLON

"The book comes alive from the start." —*Publishers Weekly*

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