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Skipper Stories: True Tales From Disneyland's Jungle Cruise



Synopsis

Real Skippers of Disneyland In this unique oral history of Disneyland's iconic attraction, the World Famous Jungle Cruise, dozens of skippers, from the 1950s to the present, share harrowing, humorous, sometimes even horrific tales of their pun-fraught voyages and their behind-the-scenes hellraising. The Jungle Cruise is that most unusual of Disney attractions where the ride itself is secondary to the cast member. Once the boat leaves the dock, Disney no longer controls the experience; your skipper does. Former skipper and now history professor David John Marley presents the uncensored stories of six decades of Jungle Cruise skippers. Their never-before-told tales include: Skipper selection, skipper training, how the ride works, and no-holds-barred confessions of what life is like in the jungle. Celebrity guests: the good, the bad, and the entitled, and one very public embarrassment, skipper style. The rite of passage for new Jungle Cruise skippers: peeing in the river. Drunken orgies, stand-up comedy, and a heist that led to one skipper's permanent expulsion from Disneyland. Pranks and more pranks, from the comic to the cruel, with dickish skippers and unruly guests learning the law of the jungle. Welcome to the Jungle...

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Customer Reviews

David John Marley, a former Disneyland Jungle Cruise Skipper, has a Ph.D. in History from George Washington University, and currently teaches in the History and Honors departments at California State University Fullerton. Marley is the creator of the first ever class specifically on the History of Disneyland. He is a member of the Hyperion Historical Alliance, a group of scholars who work with the Walt Disney Company. Marley has appeared on the History Channel, published articles in

scholarly journals, over a dozen book reviews, and editorials for the History News Network. He has also worked as a performer and comedy writer for Disneyland and is the producer of the popular Jungle Cruise based comedy show The Skipper Show([facebook.com/skippershow](https://www.facebook.com/skippershow)).

I was a Tour Guide/VIP Hostess at Disneyland from 1969-72. Take it from me, the Skippers were invariably the funniest guys in the park by miles. This book was a trip through the decades contributed by a wide array of these wacky, lovable, adventurous crew members--a crew which now (since 1995) includes women. Not all the stories are equally interesting or amusing, but each one provides another perspective on what it was really like to pilot those boats through the jungle rivers of the world. If you love this attraction, and remember that it was always Walt's favorite, you're sure to have a great time reading this delightful book! I certainly did!

I thought this was a really fun book and I enjoyed reading it. As a long time Disney fan, I know the reputation of the Jungle Cruise and the skippers, but it was great to go behind the scenes and read about the fun things they do that may or may not be within the Disney rules. It makes me wish I'd have looked into the College Program when I had the opportunity! I could read stories like this all day long and I found myself laughing out loud at a few of them. This book doesn't make you think a whole lot, but it is a fun read!

This stuff actually happened... The stories definitely convey what it was like to be there. From the ups of working with amazing entertainers and fun people and the bonding relationships to making particular guests happy to the downs of Constant Management tinkering and interference that has ruined a classic attraction. You can relive the stories from the hey-day to the transition period of the dawn of the Mouse Empire that has clamped down on the greatness that was an amazing attraction. This is Disneyland's Jungle Cruise one of the original 55 (Meaning its been there since the park opened-a rarity) not the watered down versions and carbon copy blank personality copies of Disney World and the other parks that followed. Its a shame to know that stories like this wont continue to happen, but you can relive a first person experience of people who actually lived it every day. If you have ever wondered what it was like working for the Mouse on one of the premier attractions-this accurately describes it in full detail.

I LOVED this book! There are so many fantastic stories about what goes on behind the scenes at the Jungle Cruise ride at Disneyland. I can't wait until our next trip to Disney, this ride will be at the

top of my list. I hope there is a second book about the ride at Disney World. I also want to check out the Skipper Show! If anyone is planning a trip to Disney, you need to read this book before you go. Lots of laughs!!!

Let me sum up this book, it's basically like reading post and internet along with intimate stories of how every single Skipper has peed in the river. Couldn't even finish it and rather pissed that I spent \$18 on this crap!

Fun Read :)The Jungle Cruise has always been one of my favorite attractions, Very interesting behind the scenes stories.

Hilarious stories!

Great accompanying gift for Disneyland lover

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