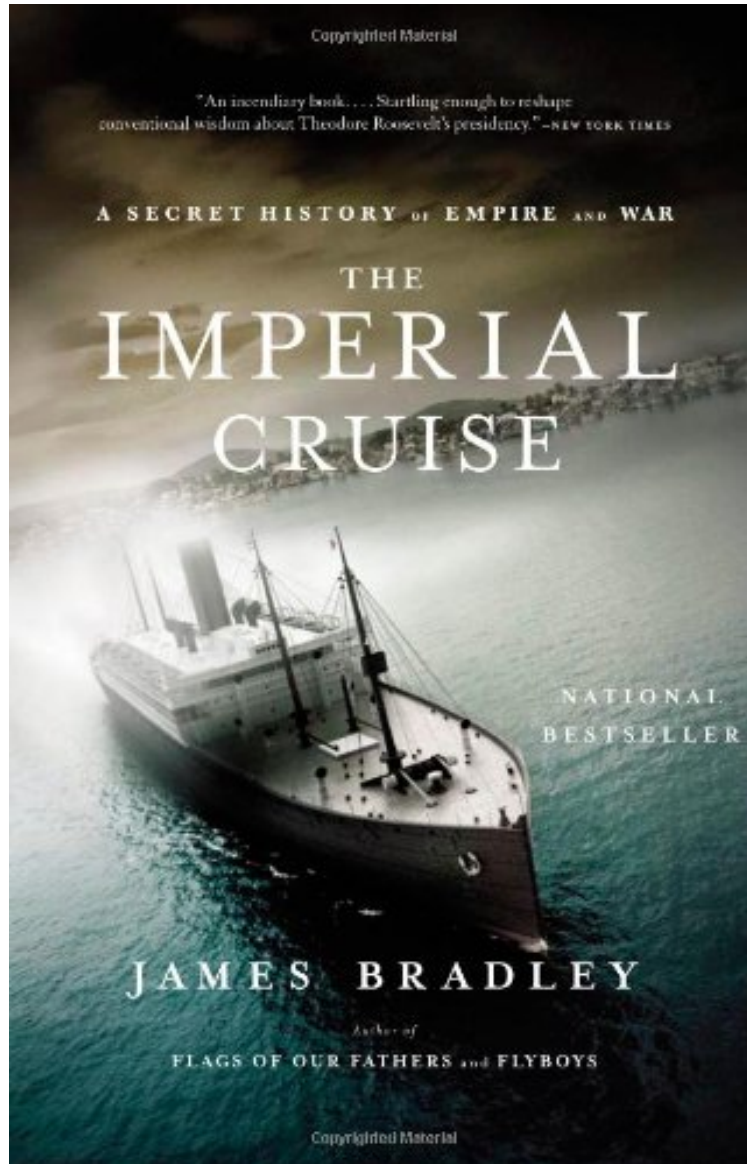


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The Imperial Cruise: A Secret History of Empire and War

James Bradley

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James Bradley : The Imperial Cruise: A Secret History of Empire and War before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Imperial Cruise: A Secret History of Empire and War:

3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Reflections on The Imperial Cruise, by James BradleyBy MMDC1The Imperial Cruise, by James Bradley, was very well-written and consistently interesting, but it conveys a very one-sided view of a very complex issue, that issue being American conduct with relation to the Philippines and Japan during the presidency of Theodore Roosevelt. It was interesting to read an alternative view after reading the

works of people like Edmund Morris who regard Roosevelt with something approaching reverence. I was not entirely convinced by Mr. Bradley, but I did not feel I had wasted my time either. 2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. The Imperial Cruise: By Lyn Immel This book covers Teddy Roosevelt and his daughter "Princess" Alice. The author took a totally different approach on the foreign affairs of USA than I expected. There were times I hated the book and wanted to throw it away..but I kept coming back to read more of it. It was upsetting to me to read how bigoted and prejudice white diplomats and politicians were. But I guess the truth is the truth...2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Excellent history as how the USA "CIVILIZED" the Phillipines By Kindle Customer Never knew the history of how the USA "acquired" the Phillipines-very thought provoking-It is hard to believe that we could inflict such pain when "CIVILIZING NON ARYANS"-General Smith's actions are in Wikipedia and in History books.-The book provides many foot notes enabling independent research. Mitchner's "HAWAII" and Bradley are on the same track. Bradley, by including Roosevelt's daughter, in his narrative prevented the book to be a very dull factual book. It was a very fascinating book. He (BRADLEY) provided insight of the political thinking of the day. The way that we subdued our native Indians gives credence to this history.

On the success of his two bestselling books about World War II, James Bradley began to wonder what the real catalyst was for the Pacific War. What he discovered shocked him. In 1905 President Teddy Roosevelt dispatched Secretary of War William Taft, his daughter Alice, and a gaggle of congressmen on a mission to Japan, the Philippines, China, and Korea with the intent of forging an agreement to divide up Asia. This clandestine pact lit the fuse that would-decades later-result in a number of devastating wars: WWII, the Korean War, and the communist revolution in China. In 2005, James Bradley retraced that epic voyage and discovered the remarkable truth about America's vast imperial past. Full of fascinating characters brought brilliantly to life, *The Imperial Cruise* will powerfully revise the way we understand U.S. history.

From Publishers Weekly Theodore Roosevelt steers America onto the shoals of imperialism in this stridently disapproving study of early 20th-century U.S. policy in Asia. Bestselling author of *Flags of Our Fathers*, Bradley traces a 1905 voyage to Asia by Roosevelt's emissary William Howard Taft, who negotiated a secret agreement in which America and Japan recognized each other's conquests of the Philippines and Korea. (Roosevelt's flamboyant, pistol-packing daughter Alice went along to generate publicity, and Bradley highlights her antics.) Each port of call prompts a case study of American misdeeds: the brutal counterinsurgency in the Philippines; the takeover of Hawaii by American sugar barons; Roosevelt's betrayal of promises to protect Korea, which greenlighted Japanese expansionism and thus makes him responsible for Pearl Harbor. Bradley explores the racist underpinnings of Roosevelt's policies and paradoxical embrace of the Japanese as Honorary Aryans. Bradley's critique of Rooseveltian imperialism is compelling but unbalanced. He doesn't explain how Roosevelt could have evicted the Japanese from Korea, and insinuates that the Japanese imperial project was the brainstorm of American advisers. Ironically, his view of Asian history, like Roosevelt's, denies agency to the Asians themselves. Photos, maps. One-day laydown. (Nov. 24) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist Bradley's first books, *Flags of Our Fathers* (2000) and *Flyboys* (2003), were sensationally popular World War II combat stories. His new one, about U.S.-Japanese diplomacy in 1905, represents a departure. Asserting a causal connection between diplomatic understandings reached then and war 36 years later, Bradley dramatizes his case with a delegation Theodore Roosevelt dispatched to Japan in the summer of 1905. Led by Secretary of War William Taft and ornamented by the president's quotable daughter Alice, it sailed while TR hosted the peace conference between victorious Japan and defeated Russia. As he recounts the itinerary of Taft's cruise, Bradley discusses attitudes of social Darwinism and white superiority that were then prevalent and expressed by TR and Taft. They modified their instincts, Bradley argues, in dealing with nonwhite Japan, and secretly conceded it possession of Korea. This is what Bradley asserts was a prerequisite to Pearl Harbor in 1941, a dubious thesis when the tensions of the 1930s stemmed from general Japanese aggressiveness, not its control of Korea per se. Bradley does fine on 1905 but falters when predicting the future. --Gilbert Taylor PRAISE FOR THE IMPERIAL CRUISE: "Incendiary...[The Imperial Cruise] is startling enough to reshape conventional wisdom about Roosevelt's presidency."?Janet Maslin, *New York Times*"A provocative study...What is fascinating about Bradley's reconstruction of a largely neglected aspect of Roosevelt's legacy is the impact that his racial theories and his obsession with personal and national virility had on his diplomacy. Engrossing and revelatory, *The Imperial Cruise* is revisionist history at its best."?Ronald Steel, *New York Times Book* "[Bradley's] ingenious narrative thread is to track an across-the-pacific 1905 goodwill voyage by Roosevelt's emissaries....[his indictment of Roosevelt] raises tantalizing questions."?Gene Santoro, *American History*"For readers under the impression that history is the story of good guys and bad guys...this book could be useful medicine."?USA Today" A page-turner."?Associated Press