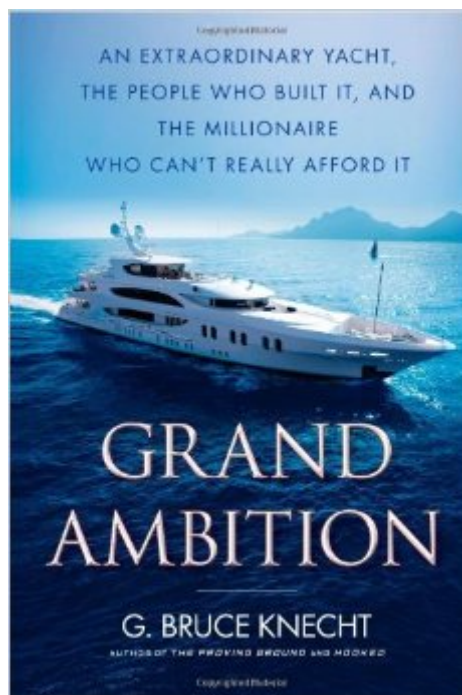


The book was found

# Grand Ambition: An Extraordinary Yacht, The People Who Built It, And The Millionaire Who Can't Really Afford It



## Synopsis

G. Bruce Knecht, former reporter for The Wall Street Journal and author of *The Proving Ground* and *Hooked*, describes the creation of an outsized yacht in a sweeping narrative centered on the men and women who made it happen. DOUG VON ALLMEN, a self-made man who grew up in a landlocked state dreaming of the ocean, was poised to build a 187-foot yacht that would cost \$40 million. Lady Linda would not be among the very largest of the burgeoning fleet of oceangoing palaces, but Von Allmen vowed that it would be the best one ever made in the United States. Nothing would be ordinary. The interior walls would be made from rare species of burl wood, the floors paved with onyx and exotic types of marble, the furniture custom made, and the art specially commissioned. But the 2008 economic crisis changed everything. Von Allmen's lifestyle suddenly became unaffordable. Then it got worse: desperate to reverse his losses, he fell for an audacious Ponzi scheme. Would Von Allmen be able to complete Lady Linda? Would the shipyard and its one thousand employees survive the financial meltdown? The divide between the very rich and everyone else had never been greater, yet the livelihoods of the workers, some of them illegal immigrants, and the yacht owners were inextricably intertwined. In a sweeping, high-stakes narrative, the critically acclaimed author of *The Proving Ground* and *Hooked* weaves Von Allmen's story together with those of the men and women who are building his yacht. As the pursuit of opulence collides with the reality of economic decline, everyone involved in the massive project is forced to rethink the meaning of the American Dream.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 256 pages

Publisher: Simon & Schuster; unknown edition (March 5, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1416576002

ISBN-13: 978-1416576006

Product Dimensions: 6 x 1.1 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (72 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #326,289 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #66 in [Books > Business & Money > Finance > Corporate Finance > Venture Capital](#) #100 in [Books > Business & Money > Industries > Manufacturing](#) #109 in [Books > Business & Money > Industries > Industrial Relations](#)

## Customer Reviews

An extraordinary yacht, the people who built it and the millionaire who can't really afford it. Simon & Shuster. Don't walk, run to your neighborhood bookstore to buy this book. Stop reading this review now and go to your favorite e-seller and get a copy or a download. This book, intentionally or not, is remarkable for its detailed up-close and personal depiction of the people who have made the country what it is. Full disclosure: I love yachts of all kinds, including superyachts. I own a modest yacht myself and have upgraded and bought a different boat four times in the last 30 years. So I understand dissatisfaction in the nautical realm. My yearly yard bills cost the same as tuition in a state university. I subscribe to several superyacht glossies and attend as many major yacht regattas as I can. I write about yachting for a local paper and can talk about yachts all day and night. I also have several really rich friends, and I don't hold their Forbes listings against them. That said this book shocked me. For starters, writer G. Bruce Knecht has pulled off a coup of real proportions. I would pay to see the release form his subjects signed. They include the Von Allmens, Trinity Yachts, yacht designer Evan Marshall and Ingo Pfothenauer, the owner's rep. They must all believe that any celebrity is better than none. You can understand this for Snookie and JWOWW on Jersey Shore, but to lay bare all the absurdity and incompetence of your supposedly successful life for all to see really takes chutzpah. Let's start at the end. Three years later, the Von Allmens kinda get the yacht they want, the yacht that was supposed to be the ultimate American-made one. Yet they don't seem satisfied.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Grand Ambition: An Extraordinary Yacht, the People Who Built It, and the Millionaire Who Can't Really Afford It  
Military Millionaire: How You Can Retire a Millionaire and Live a Life of Wealth (No Matter What Your Pay Grade) Using Special Military Investment Benefits and a Proven Plan for Success  
What in the World is Going On?: 10 Prophetic Clues You Cannot Afford to Ignore  
The Millionaire Mind (Millionaire Set)  
The Grand Canyon, Monument to an Ancient Earth: Can Noah's Flood Explain the Grand Canyon?  
Sailing Wall Calendar 2015 - Boat Calendar - Ship Calendar - Yacht Calendar - Poster Calendar - Oversize Calendar  
By Helma  
Yacht design handbook  
The Royal Yacht Britannia 3rd Edition: Inside the Queen's Floating Palace  
Grand Canyon: The Complete Guide  
Grand Canyon National Park Autocourse 2015-2016: The World's Leading Grand Prix Annual - 65th Year of Publication (Autocourse: The World's Leading Grand Prix Annual)  
Dealing With Difficult People: Get to Know the Different Types of Difficult People in the Workplace and Learn How to Deal With Them (How To Win People, How To Influence People)  
Astoria: John Jacob Astor and Thomas Jefferson's Lost Pacific Empire: A Story of Wealth, Ambition, and Survival  
Trump Revealed: An American Journey of Ambition, Ego, Money, and Power  
Valiant Ambition:

George Washington, Benedict Arnold, and the Fate of the American Revolution Age of Ambition:  
Chasing Fortune, Truth, and Faith in the New China The Medici: Power, Money, and Ambition in the  
Italian Renaissance Once Upon a Time in Russia: The Rise of the Oligarchs\_A True Story of  
Ambition, Wealth, Betrayal, and Murder Essential Twain CD: Excerpts from Life on the  
Mississippi:The Boy's Ambition & Speculations and Confusion (Caedmon Essentials) Madonna:  
Ambition. Music. Style. The Ultimate Ambition in the Arts of Erudition: A Compendium of Knowledge  
from the Classical Islamic World

[Dmca](#)