

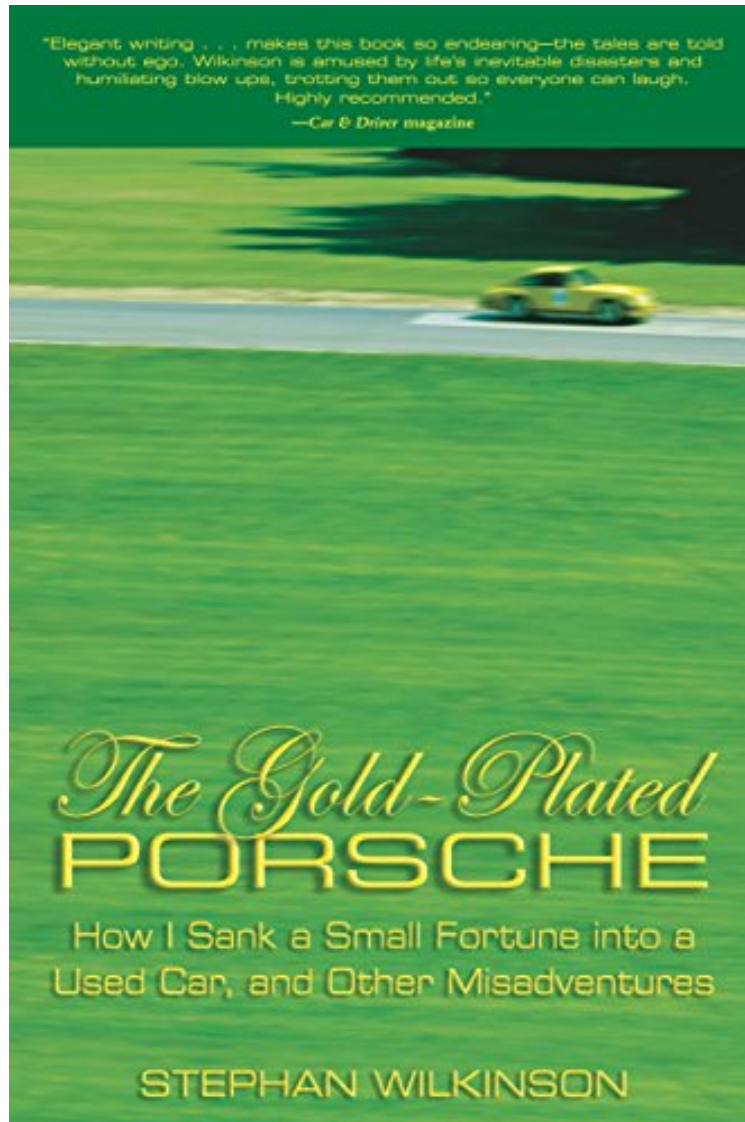
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[Mobile book] The Gold-Plated Porsche: How I Sank a Small Fortune into a Used Car, and Other Misadventures

The Gold-Plated Porsche: How I Sank a Small Fortune into a Used Car, and Other Misadventures

Stephan Wilkinson : The Gold-Plated Porsche: How I Sank a Small Fortune into a Used Car, and Other Misadventures before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Gold-Plated Porsche: How I Sank a Small Fortune into a Used Car, and Other Misadventures:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Determination.By Stephen K.A great account of a man determined to build his dream car.He makes no bones about the fact that he spent way more than the car is worth,but of course he

wasn't doing it as an investment, he did it for the satisfaction of rebuilding his dream car to as good as or better than new. If you can understand that, you will love this book. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The book goes into his rebuild and touches on topics like how 911s are constructed and come apart. By R. Baumgartner Stephan Wilkerson recounts how he sunk a small fortune into rebuilding a beater 1983 Porsche 911 SC. He did most of the work himself. The book goes into his rebuild and touches on topics like how 911s are constructed and come apart, systems, issues in rebuilding it, carburetor tuning, results, other 911 topics like track driving events. It's a story not a manual. Into the tale is weaved stories from his rather eclectic work background such as editor of Car and Driver magazine, drug smuggler, writer for Flying magazine, volunteer EMT, seaman on tramp steamers, and surveillance of the FBI in a borrowed Cessna Centurion for the American Indian Movement during the Wounded Knee protests in 1973. The book is quite funny and I learned a lot about the older 911's and the mechanics of it. Even learned that you should unload your torque wrench after using it. Stephan's writing style is easy to read. I highly recommend it. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Building My Own Lemon Yellow Flake Streamlined Baby. By Dennis Elam David E. Davis used to intone that Tom Wolfe was one of the writing inspirations for the institution that became Car and Driver magazine, back in the day. That was when antics like comparing a Porsche Speedster to a VW Karmann Ghia or creating the Cannonball Baker Sea to Shining Sea Trophy Dash were the way to become a literary institution. Goodness knows Hot Rod magazine and the world literary never appeared juxtaposed. Wilkinson deftly moves from the Porsche to C/D to Flying to Wounded Knee, never losing a beat. Clearly some of the intricacies of tuning three barrel carbs, two sets at once, will only appeal to real gear heads. But this is the sort of stream of consciousness here and there and everywhere that makes this one a fun read. In the process he dashes a few of the sacred beliefs about Porsches, suggesting that indeed they are cars underneath the hyperbole.

"This isn't a book about Porsche restoration. It's about Wilkinson's colorful life. That, along with elegant writing, is what makes this book so endearing--the tales are told without ego. This is less a tale about a machine than a tale about a man enjoying a machine."--Car and Driver Stephan Wilkinson was looking for something to do. So he bought an old, run-down Porsche and over the next two years tore it apart and rebuilt it in a garage behind his house. The project cost him a small fortune, and it started him thinking about many other things. Quirky, cool, entertaining, and opinionated, The Gold-Plated Porsche captures Wilkinson's inspired digressions on his various other careers and misadventures. As he recounts his own personal history, Wilkinson also waxes eloquent on the history of Porsche, American engineering and culture, status, and all things mechanical.

From Publishers Weekly Wilkinson's spunky and entertaining memoir is a yarn-spinning and wise-cracking romp over the author's many occupations, hobbies, blunders and idiosyncrasies. Bored after finishing an addition on his house and building an airplane, Wilkinson, automotive editor at Condé Nast Traveler, turns his antsy, irrepresible need to tinker on a well-used 1983 Porsche 911 and two years and \$60,000 later, he has a car worth far more in hard-earned experience than blue-book value. Among other misadventures, Wilkinson recounts how he spent his undergraduate years at Harvard under the hood of a 1936 Ford Phaeton; his ill-fated tenure as the editor of Car and Driver magazine; his small-plane reconnaissance missions over Kansas for the leader of the American Indian Movement; and a stint as a teenage merchant marine in South Asia, where he survived two typhoons, helmed a 10,000-ton freighter and witnessed a drowning off the docks in Saigon. The author also offers up philosophical musings on the manias of car aficionados, the weirdness of German engineering and the importance of crankshaft-to-bearing clearances and proper torquing technique. Although there is a good deal of shop talk and automotive jargon, it is a testament to Wilkinson's writing skills that he can make his description of the unbolting of a transaxle as engaging as his stories about crashing test cars and absconding with the company jet to visit his girlfriend. The author's nerdy enthusiasm and sassy wit will be irresistible to both the technically disinclined and the die-hard gear head. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. ". . . this isn't a book about Porsche restoration. It's about Wilkinson's colorful life. . . . That, along with elegant writing, is what makes this book so endearing--the tales are told without ego. Wilkinson is amused by life's inevitable disasters and humiliating blow-ups, trotting them out so everyone can laugh. This is . . . less a tale about a machine than a tale about a man enjoying a machine."--Car and Driver "...fascinating and delightful. He dissects enthusiast car ownership with such clarity and spirited writing that it is refreshing. Brilliantly crafted and a great read no matter what season."--More magazine Your Porsche book is magic. If on picking this up a reader expects a how-to manual on restoring a Porsche 911, he will be disappointed because all you give him is a how-to manual on life. The clear and colorful way you explain difficult and convoluted mechanical functions is pure John McPhee at his best. Your experiences - with cars, as a merchant seaman, as an EMS driver, building airplanes - come together in this glorious tale. Thank you for sharing it."--AutoWeek