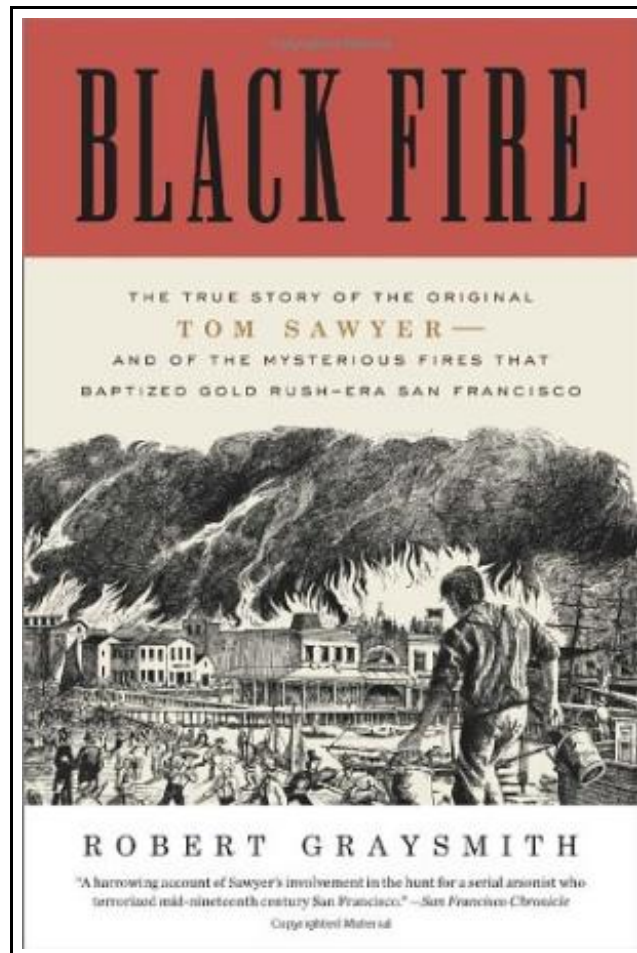


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## BLACK FIRE: THE TRUE STORY OF THE ORIGINAL TOM SAWYER--AND OF THE MYSTERIOUS FIRES THAT BAPTIZED GOLD RUSH-ERA SAN FRANCISCO

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Broadway Books, 2013. Book Condition: New. Brand New, Unread Copy in Perfect Condition. A+ Customer Service! Summary: "A harrowing account of Sawyer's involvement in the hunt for a serial arsonist who terrorized mid-nineteenth century San Francisco." -- San Francisco Chronicle "Graysmith has amassed an impressive amount of historical detail.A well-researched work about community and fire." -- Cleveland Plain Dealer "The journalist delved deep into archival material to find the connection between Mark Twain and a heroic San Francisco firefighter named Tom Sawyer, who became the model for one of Twain's most beloved characters." -- Sacramento Bee "Fascinating." -- San Jose Mercury News "A sizzling tale.[Graysmith] uncovers Mark Twain's friendship with the real-life Sawyer -- a colorful figure in the city's early firefighting culture -- and paints a detailed portrait of San Francisco, circa 1849-1866. It's jam-packed with notable residents whose long-ago importance lingers in the city's street names (Broderick, Brannan) -- plus mustachioed hooligans and "The Lightkeeper," an arsonist as mysterious as he was destructive." -- San Francisco Bay Guardian "Mark Twain fanatics and firefighter-history buffs alike will flock to the tale of the real-life Tom Sawyer's adventures fighting fires in the Gold Rush-era city, depicted in remarkable detail by Graysmith. Black Fire captures the spirit of rugged adventure so beloved in Twain's work and so characteristic of the undaunted city built--time and time again--on the hopes of fortune-hunters." -- Booklist "Rich.lively and chock-full of eye-opening tidbits" -- Kirkus Reviews "Packing a whirlwind of events around dizzying details of boggy, impassable streets choked with decaying refuse, characters of all manner of disrepute, throughout a booming city haphazardly constructed of highly flammable material, Graysmith (who also drew the book's illustrations) inserts a teenage Tom Sawyer, newly migrated from the east, into one of the most tumultuous periods in San Francisco's storied...



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