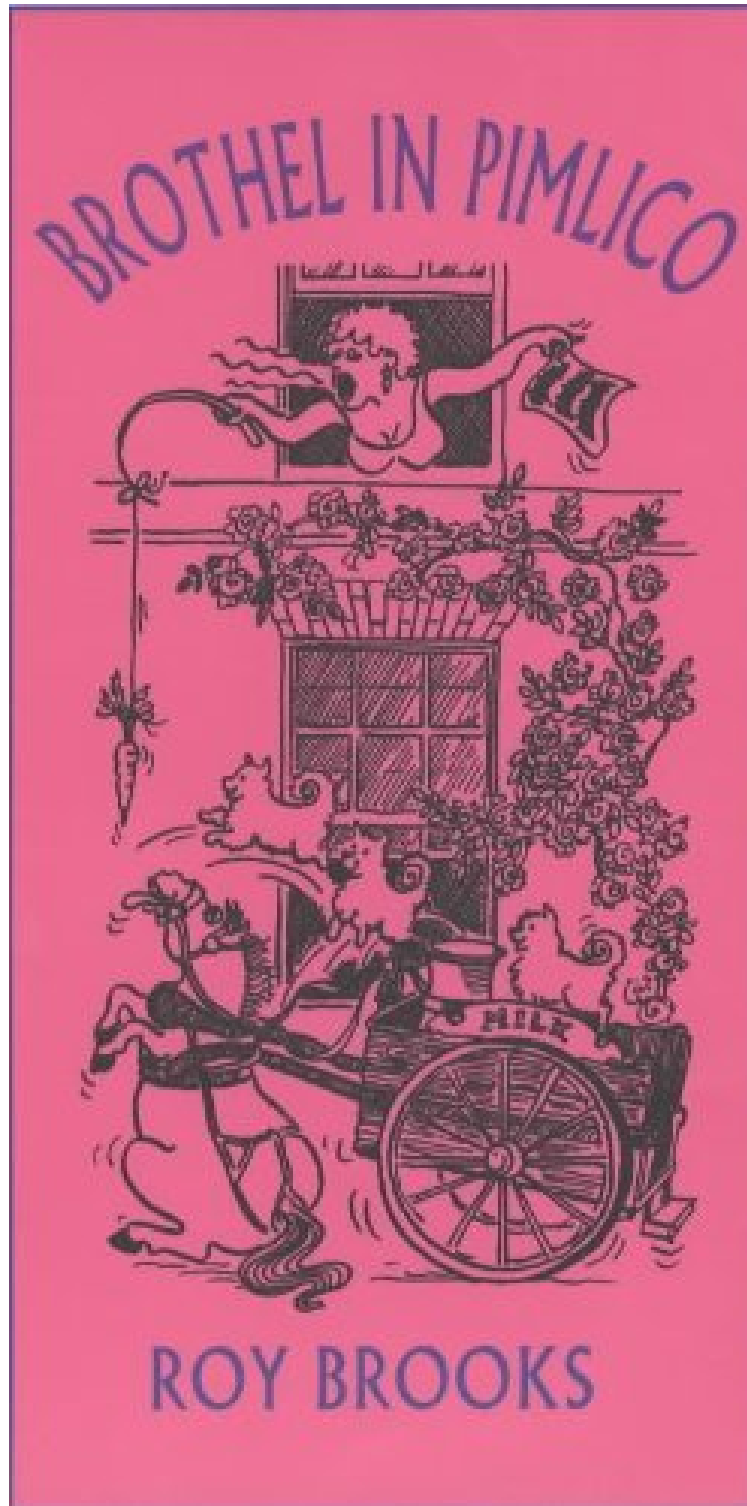


(Ebook pdf) Brothel in Pimlico

## **Brothel in Pimlico**

Roy Brooks

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#2365854 in Books John Murray Publishers Ltd 2001-11Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.50 x 4.25 x .50l, #File Name: 0719560284112 pages | File size: 51.Mb

**Roy Brooks : Brothel in Pimlico** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Brothel in Pimlico:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Funny and touching little bookBy The Strife of Love in a DreamThis

is a collection of two previously-published works ("Brothel in Pimlico" and "Mud, Straw and Insults") reprinting the "best of" hundreds of hilarious and all-too-honest real estate advertisements made by Roy Brooks, a London Realtor active mostly during the 1950s and 1960s. It's hard not to be amused by his descriptions of "really nasty houses" or touched by his pleas for someone to donate a "scruffy house" for the use of "female tramps, who must still drag their tired sick frames from one disturbed place of rest to another." His descriptions of houses are often outshone by his descriptions of their sellers, as here: "WELSH MAIDEN, descended from King Edward III an old friend of His Majesty, makes the supreme sacrifice, sadly parts with her MOD. LUX. BLOCK SUNNY 2nd flr FLAT all f.f. - save the family sword for a mod fig." Brooks' big heart and sly British sense of humor shines through every page of this little book. I gave it four and not five stars because it really needed a glossary to explain the abbreviations and English real-estate terms like "Freehold" (or FHLd), which apparently just means it's an actual purchase of property and not an extended lease. I also would have appreciated a map of the neighborhoods he references and more of a biography of the man himself, and way more of these little gems of advertisements. The age level I'd say this book is meant for is adults, since I can't imagine anybody under the age of 16 or so caring about real estate ads. Because of the occasional confusions regarding abbreviations and terminology, it's also likely meant for people who are from the UK, though Americans will still get a kick out of it. Most of its humor transcends geography. All in all this is an excellent book and I'd happily gift it to someone who likes British culture or humorous advertisements. Anybody who remembers those little local college rags with the hilarious personals ads will welcome this book.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Laugh and Learn By Beauzeaux Everyone knows that this is a very funny little book but I also see it as tremendously informative. Anyone interested in post-WWII life in London can glean a remarkable amount from this book. Brooks's comments about houses, their contents, their owners, the neighborhoods, and speculations about the future are all well worth reading. The fact that the book is often laugh-out-loud hilarious is a bonus. An odd little book but wekk worth the few bucks it costs.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A Unique Approach To Real Estate By John D. Cofield Roy Brooks was an outsize character in the London real estate market from the 1950s to the early 1970s. His eccentricities, according to a friend of mine who bought a house from him, included ferrying his customers around in a Rolls Royce. But he was best known for his advertisements in the Sunday Times and the Observer, in which he gave prospective buyers the low down (sometimes horribly low down) truth about the properties he had up for sale. Imagine running across this opening sentence while you were scanning the listings for a new abode: "Under its mantle of dust and dirt this is a very fine house, there is even an air of aristocratic decay about the broken passenger lift." Would you not immediately line up for a look to see if it could possibly be as bad as all that? I know I certainly would, just as I would rush to view the "ENORMOUSLY SPACIOUS, super, but somewhat scruffy 1st Flr Flat" Brooks also advertised. This small book of slightly more than 100 pages contains dozens of these extremely funny ads, replete with their original spellings, abbreviations, and prices (which look amazingly cheap). My favorites would have to be those in which Brooks pretends to be impressed with the pedigrees or office holdings of the owners of these properties, for example, he lists one house as owned by "WELSH MAIDEN, descended from King Edward III and an old friend of His Majesty." Anyone who has ever suffered through the agony of locating and buying a new home will scoff at the idea that the process could be pleasant. Just hand them Brothel in Pimlico and they'll change their minds in a hurry!

Roy Brooks became a legend in his own time for the puckish delight he took in telling the truth, the whole truth - and even the unwholesome truth - about the properties, as an estate agent, that he advertised for sale. From 1950 to his death in 1971, his fame for these revolutionary, outrageous, funny, and on occasions, painful advertisements spread far and wide. In a trade well known for its euphemisms, optimistic cliches and skilful camouflage, he won the delighted applause of the property-buying and newspaper-reading, public. This is a collection of the best of Roy Brooks' property advertisements in the Sunday Times and Observer newspapers.

'Roy Brooks was to estate dealing what Gerard Hoffnung was to music - unique and irreplaceable.' Humphrey Burton; 'I remain for ever in his debt. Why does nobody do jokey estate agent ads nowadays?' Sheridan Morley From the Publisher "Will anyone take pity on a nasty old house adj. Regent's Pk. Ter.? On still nights the friendly howl of the Hyena floats over the Mappin terraces one can, maybe, imagine oneself far away from our acquisitive society. 9 rms., 2 bathrms. All in pretty foul order." Roy Brooks became a legend in his own time for the puckish delight he took in telling the truth, the whole truth—and even the unwholesome truth—about properties that, as a real estate agent, he advertised for sale. From 1950 until his death in 1971, his fame for these revolutionary, outrageous, funny, and, on occasion, painful advertisements spread far and wide. To readers of London's SUNDAY TIMES and OBSERVER, his property ads became essential weekend reading. Here is a selection of the best. About the Author Roy Brooks became a legend in his own time for the puckish delight he took in telling the truth, the whole truth - and even the unwholesome truth - about the properties, as an estate agent, that he advertised for sale. From 1950 to his death in 1971 his fame for these revolutionary, outrageous, funny and, on occasions, painful advertisements spread far and wide. In a trade well known for its euphemisms, optimistic cliches and skilful camouflage, he won the delighted applause of the property-

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