



# The Wicked City: Chicago From Kenna To Capone (Illinois)

*Curt Johnson*

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## **The Wicked City: Chicago From Kenna To Capone (Illinois)** Curt Johnson

*The Wicked City* is an account of Chicago's vice, crime, capitalism, and corruption from Pierre the Mole, who sold whiskey to the Indians, through Jonny Torrio and Al Capone, who bootlegged a Great Lake's worth of booze during the Roaring Twenties. Chicago's drive for wealth and power in this fifty-year span are evoked through the spirited accounts of the careers of its leading tycoons—such as Charles Yerkes, Marshall Field, George Pullman, and Big Bill Thompson—and its leading gangsters: the Terrible Gennas, Jim Colosino, Dion O'Banion, Diamond Joe Esposito, Johnny Torrio, and Al Capone. The Chicago portrayed here is raw, real, and vital; its raucousness, lawlessness, ebullience, and greed become poetic.

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