TANGLED BYLINES
A FATHER AND SON COVER THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

Clyde H. Farnsworth

Journalism/Biography

“Two of the most respected bylines of twentieth century American newspapering were Clyde A. and Clyde H. Farnsworth. The son sweeps the reader along with his dad—from a police beat in small-town Ohio to the Communist revolution in China—and on his own journey—from the massive Billy Sol Estes scam in rural Texas to the miasma of post-Baby Doc Duvalier’s Haiti. A two-for-one tour de force.”—Lewis Simons, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and co-author of The Next Front: Southeast Asia and the Road to Global Peace with Islam

This memoir of father and son journalists—both named Clyde Farnsworth—draws on the unfinished autobiography of the author’s father. Largely biographical, this book can be read as a panoramic history of American newspaper journalism in the twentieth-century, covering Prohibition gangs, prison fires, and botched executions in the 1920s and 1930s, to global war, the shaping of postwar Europe and Asia, and America’s emergence from the Cold War. Tangled Bylines includes off-beat encounters with Amelia Earhart, Douglas MacArthur, Charles de Gaulle, Winston Churchill, and Simon Wiesenthal.

Clyde H. Farnsworth is a former foreign correspondent who has written several books, including a novel, Shadow Wars. In 1968 he won the E. W. Fairchild Award of the Overseas Press Club of America for Best Business News Reporting from Abroad. In 1969 he was a Pulitzer Prize finalist for articles on the Warsaw Pact invasion of Czechoslovakia. He lives in Washington, D.C.

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