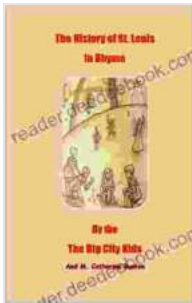


The History of St. Louis in Rhyme by The Big City Kids

St. Louis, Missouri, a city steeped in rich history and cultural heritage, has been the backdrop for countless tales and events that have shaped its identity and left an indelible mark on the nation. The Big City Kids, a local children's group known for their infectious enthusiasm and love for their hometown, have captured the essence of St. Louis's captivating past in their delightful book, "The History of St. Louis in Rhyme."



The History of St. Louis in Rhyme by the Big City Kids

by M. Catherine Bunton

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 3864 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 104 pages
Lending : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported



Through a series of vibrant rhymes and engaging illustrations, The Big City Kids take young readers on a captivating journey through the annals of St. Louis's history, from its humble beginnings to its transformation into a major metropolis. The book is not just a chronological account of events but a celebration of the city's spirit, resilience, and the countless individuals who have contributed to its legacy.

Early Days and the Gateway to the West

The story of St. Louis begins with the arrival of French fur traders in the early 18th century. In 1764, Pierre Laclede and Auguste Chouteau established a trading post on the west bank of the Mississippi River, which quickly became a hub for commerce and exploration.



“

***“ In seventeen sixty-four, a trading post was born,
On the banks of the Mississippi, where the river makes a turn.
Pierre Laclede and Auguste Chouteau, their names so grand,
Laid the foundation for a city that would soon expand.***

- The Big City Kids”

St. Louis's strategic location on the Mississippi River made it a vital gateway to the vast western territories. In 1803, the United States acquired the Louisiana Purchase, which doubled the size of the nation and opened up new frontiers for exploration and settlement. St. Louis became the starting point for legendary expeditions, such as the Lewis and Clark expedition, which set out to explore the uncharted lands of the Pacific Northwest.



The Lewis and Clark expedition embarking from St. Louis in 1804

“

***“ Lewis and Clark, a brave and curious pair,
Set off from St. Louis, their dreams beyond compare.***

***They mapped the wilderness, both far and wide,
Expanding our nation's reach with courage as their guide.***

- The Big City Kids”

Civil War and the Dred Scott Case

The mid-19th century brought turmoil to St. Louis as the nation grappled with the issue of slavery. In 1857, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in the infamous Dred Scott case that African Americans were not citizens and could not sue in federal court. This decision further inflamed tensions between the North and the South and contributed to the outbreak of the Civil War.



“

***“ Dred Scott, a man who sought his freedom's right,
His case before the court, a bitter fight.
The Supreme Court ruled against his plea,
A shameful decision, a dark part of our history.***

- The Big City Kids”

During the Civil War, St. Louis was a divided city, with many residents supporting the Union and others backing the Confederacy. The city became a strategic battleground, and its capture by Union forces in 1861 was a major turning point in the war.

The World's Fair and Modern St. Louis

After the Civil War, St. Louis experienced a period of rapid growth and prosperity. In 1904, the city hosted the World's Fair, a grand international exposition that showcased the latest technological advancements and cultural achievements. The fair left a lasting legacy on St. Louis, including the iconic Forest Park and the Missouri History Museum.



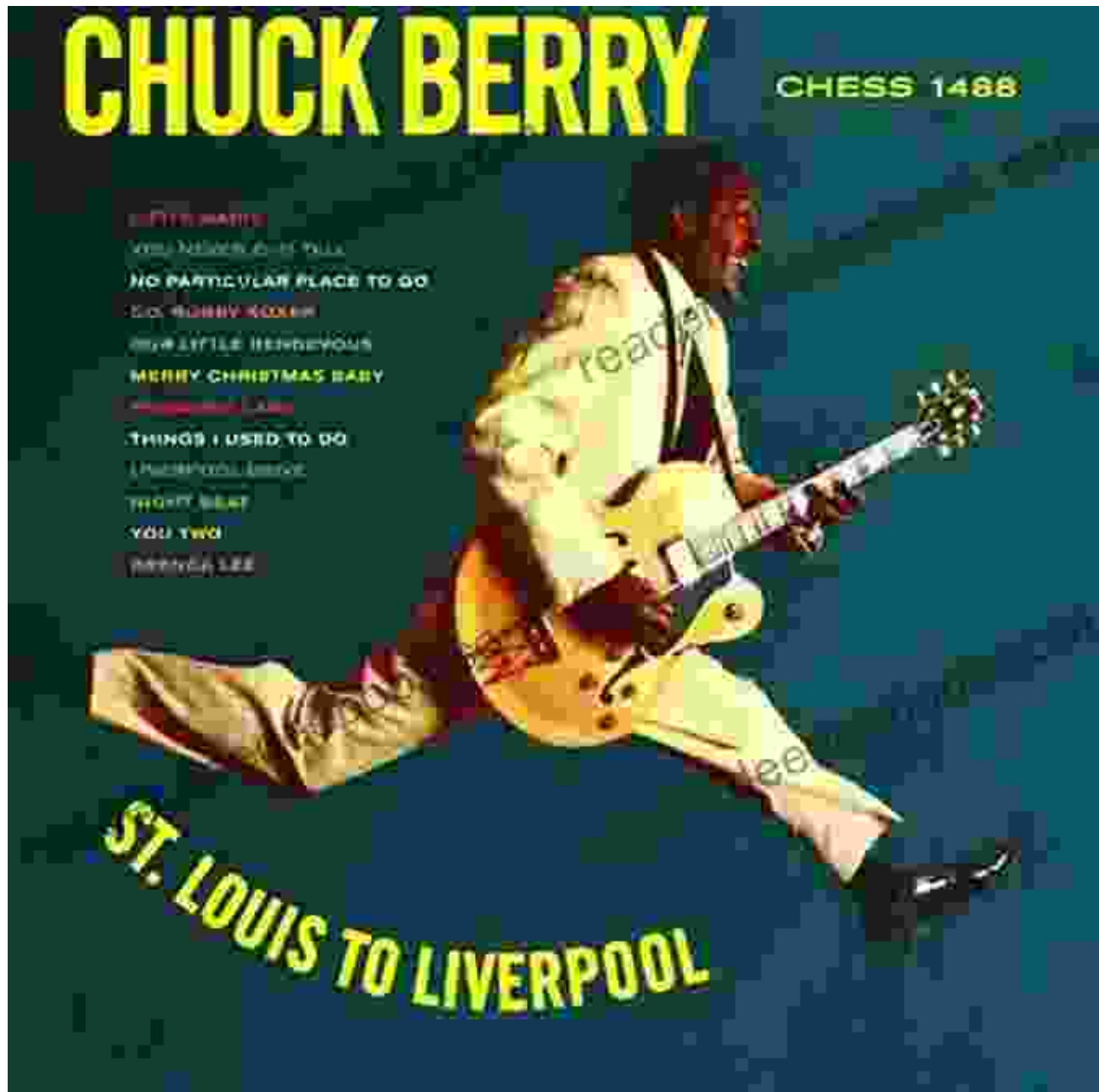
The 1904 World's Fair in St. Louis



***“ In nineteen hundred and four, the World's Fair came to town,
A grand exposition, where marvels could be found.
St. Louis showcased its pride and might,
Leaving a legacy that shines so bright.***

- The Big City Kids”

In the 20th century, St. Louis continued to flourish as a major center of commerce, industry, and culture. The city became known for its thriving music scene, producing legendary artists such as Chuck Berry and Miles Davis. St. Louis also boasts a rich baseball tradition, with the St. Louis Cardinals being one of the most successful teams in Major League Baseball history.



“

*“ Chuck Berry, the father of rock 'n' roll,
With his guitar, he captivated every soul.
His music lives on, a timeless sound,
A St. Louis icon, forever renowned.*

- *The Big City Kids*”

The Gateway Arch and Beyond

In 1965, St. Louis's skyline was transformed by the completion of the Gateway Arch, a soaring monument



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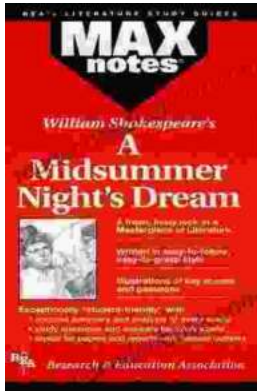
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