



# The Uncrowned King: The Sensational Rise of William Randolph Hearst

*Kenneth Whyte*

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## **The Uncrowned King: The Sensational Rise of William Randolph Hearst** Kenneth Whyte

A lively, unexpected, and impeccably researched piece of popular history, *The Uncrowned King* reveals how an unheralded young newspaperman from San Francisco arrived in New York and created the most successful daily of his time, pushing the medium to an unprecedented level of influence and excitement, and leading observers to wonder if newspapers might be “the greatest force in civilization,” more powerful even than kings and popes and presidents.

Featuring an eight-page insert of black and white photographs, *The Uncrowned King* offers a window onto the media world at the turn of the 19th century, as seen by its most successful and controversial figure, William Randolph Hearst. Kenneth Whyte’s anecdotal, narrative style chronicles Hearst’s rivalry with Joseph Pulitzer, the undisputed king of New York journalism, in the most spectacular newspaper war of all time. They battled head-to-head for three years, through the thrilling presidential election campaign of 1896 and the Spanish-American War—a conflict that Hearst was accused of fomenting and that he covered in person. By 1898, Hearst had supplanted Pulitzer as the dominant force in New York publishing, and was well on his way to becoming one of the most powerful and fascinating private citizens in 20th-century America.

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