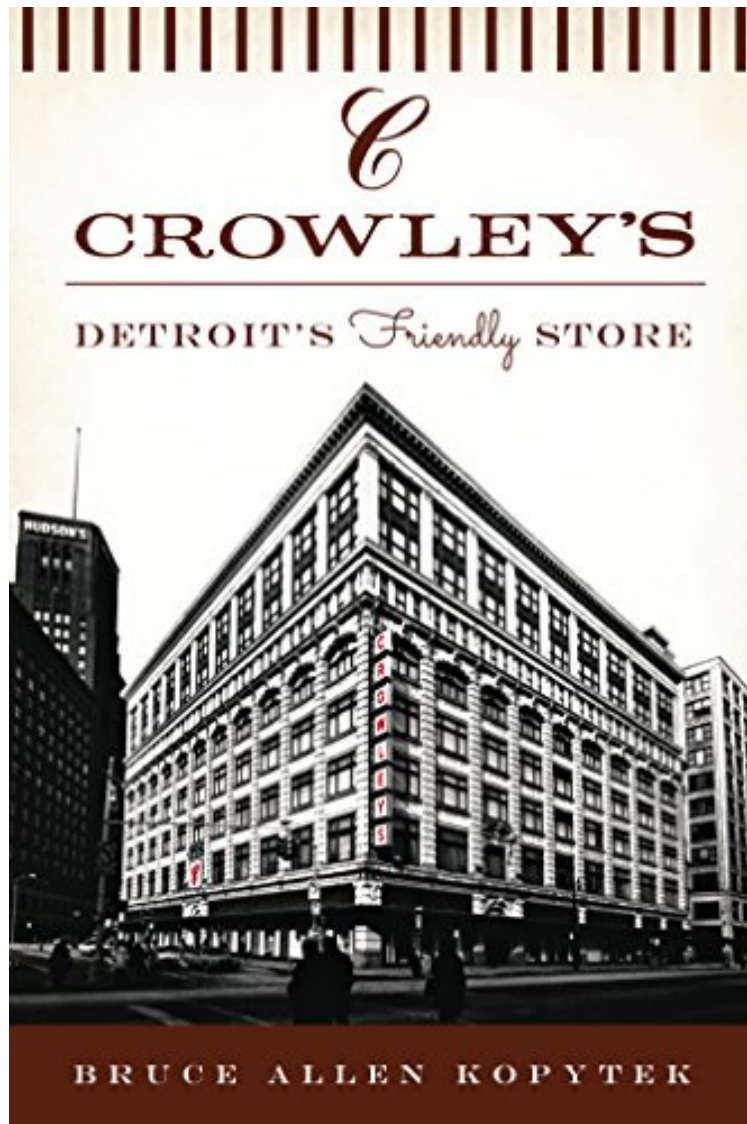


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## Crowley's: Detroit's Friendly Store (Landmarks)

*Bruce Allen Kopytek*

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**Bruce Allen Kopytek : Crowley's: Detroit's Friendly Store (Landmarks)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Crowley's: Detroit's Friendly Store (Landmarks):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Crowley's the friendly storeBy GaelyOK...I guess if I had read this to be more a book of Steve Kennedy than Crowley's , I would be better about it. But maybe needed to be titled "Steve Kennedy's view of Crowley's; the friendly store. I was sad to hear him shocked to see the rickety wooden escalator as just that rather than the wonderful history of it being the first escalator ever in a department store that a trip to Crowley's wasn't complete until you rode it all the way up and all the way down. It was sad to see it go....but I am sure at some point it had to.Three wooden steps from that still sit in my house and one will be denoted to Detroit Historical

Society. The riots and unrest in the 60's were scary, but I have to correct that Mr, Winkel, the president, did not send his family away to where ever to be safe. We were safe in our own home. Mr. Winkel was kept informed of what was happening and make note their Grand River store right in the worst part remained untouched. The Crowley store there was considered fair and helpful to that community over many years. I am not sure expansion branch stores were totally represented as to who did what, Mr. Winkel, as president, had visions of expansion....one big one being Lakeside. Weekends I trailed after him in the Lakeside store watching the building, changes, him asking my opinion on decor for childrens' clothing. On branch stores, I do not remember which person had more influence than the other....but it wasn't all Mr,Kennedy's doing. And of course, the Crowley family always was a huge influence. The growth, the decline, the leveling of the downstore where we all were part of the Winkels, the Kennedys and the Carlsons Mistakes were made. And eventually the handwriting on the wall spelled the end of a store full of so many memories for so many people. I guess calling the wooden escalator as a description of how run down Crowley's had become....no that was historical many, many people cried to see it go. Sigh!!! I know I am a person with a bit of emotional attachment to Crowley's. I bought 2 of these books to send one to my brother, but I won't because he will have the same reaction as me....this is a story about Steve Kennedy, not the real Crowley's, not what made them the friendly store. This, during the era as Mr. Winkel, did not believe in marking down clothes to rock bottom to clear inventory, but at a certain percent markdown he donated the clothes to Goodwill, Salavation Army, etc. I do thnak Steve Kennedy's compliments of Mr Winkel because right on. And since I know Steve Kennedy, I would have to agree, it is a good book of him0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Claudia SeymourGreat book! Really brought back memories of me working there years ago.

Operating in the shadow of the enormous J.L. Hudson Co., Crowley?s earned Detroit?s trade with fine merchandise and good service, all in an atmosphere that made it the Motor City?s ?friendly? department store. Generations of customers still hold Crowley?s close in their memories, fondly recalling the store?s ancient wooden escalators, fashionable merchandise and special events like ?Breakfast with Santa.? Wander back in time with historian Bruce Allen Kopytek through the venerable old store and its suburban branches to discover all the things that made Crowley?s such a special retail destination.

About the AuthorBruce Allen Kopytek is the author of Eaton's, Toledo's 3 L's and Jacobson's, I Miss It So! Raised in Detroit, he runs the popular Department Store Museum website.