



# Empire of Deception: The Incredible Story of a Master Swindler Who Seduced a City and Captivated the Nation

By Dean Jobb, Jobb Dean

HIGHBRIDGE AUDIO, United States, 2015. CD-Audio. Book Condition: New. Unabridged. 164 x 136 mm. Language: English . Brand New. A rollicking story of greed, financial corruption, dirty politics, over-the-top and under-the-radar deceit, illicit sex, and a brilliant and wildly charming con man who kept a Ponzi scheme alive perhaps for longer than anyone else in history. It was a time of unregulated madness. And nowhere was it madder than in Chicago at the dawn of the Roaring Twenties. Speakeasies thrived, gang war shootings announced Al Capone s rise to underworld domination, Chicago s corrupt political leaders fraternized with gangsters, and the frenzy of stock market gambling was rampant. Enter a slick, smoothtalking, charismatic lawyer named Leo Koretz, who enticed hundreds of people (who should have known better) to invest as much as \$30 million upwards of \$400 million today in phantom timberland and nonexistent oil wells in Panama. When Leo s scheme finally collapsed in 1923, he vanished, and the Chicago state s attorney, a man whose lust for power equaled Leo s own lust for money, began an international manhunt that lasted almost a year. When finally apprehended, Leo was living a life of luxury in Nova Scotia under...



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