



Mudsills & Mooncussers: A Novel of Civil War Key West (Paperback)

By Iris Chacon

Createspace Independent Publishing Platform, United States, 2016. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English. Brand new Book. A Yankee spy on Key West must eliminate a Rebel saboteur whom he fears may, in fact, be the young woman he loves. . In 1860 the tiny island of Key West, southernmost tip of the United States, boasts a small, eclectic population grown wealthy salvaging merchandise from the wreckage of ships. Some Key West "Conchs" have been known to build fires on the shore north of the official lighthouse, tricking doomed ships onto the coral reefs and into the hands of waiting "wreckers." Moonless nights work best for the wreckers, earning them the sobriquet, "mooncussers." In the worst cases, mooncussers might kill - or "fail to rescue" - passengers and crew members. Dead men tell no tales. There are no plantations and no great number of slaves on the island, still no one is more southern - geographically and philosophically - than the Conchs of Key West. That's why it is so ironic, and more than a little vexing, that a small battalion of Northern soldiers (derided as "mudsills") one night steals into the mostly-completed Fort Zachary Taylor. When the smoke clears over Fort...



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