Otis Chandler and the Rise and Fall of the Times Dynasty

The story of Otis Chandler and the rise and fall of the Times dynasty is a fascinating one. Chandler was a brilliant businessman who transformed the Los Angeles Times into a national powerhouse. But he was also a flawed individual who made some disastrous decisions that ultimately led to the decline of the Times.



Privileged Son: Otis Chandler And The Rise And Fall Of The L.A. Times Dynasty by Dennis McDougal

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Chandler was born in Los Angeles in 1927. His father, Norman Chandler, was the publisher of the Times. Chandler grew up in the newspaper business, and he began working at the Times as a reporter after graduating from college. He quickly rose through the ranks, and he became publisher of the Times in 1960.

Under Chandler's leadership, the Times became one of the most successful newspapers in the country. Chandler expanded the paper's coverage of national and international news, and he hired some of the best

journalists in the world. The Times also became known for its aggressive investigative reporting. Chandler was a strong supporter of the First Amendment, and he fought for the right of the press to publish stories that were critical of the government.

However, Chandler also made some disastrous decisions that ultimately led to the decline of the Times. In 1971, he bought the Washington Post for \$85 million. The Post was a struggling newspaper at the time, and Chandler believed that he could turn it around. However, he was wrong. The Post continued to lose money, and Chandler was forced to sell it in 1981.

Chandler also made some bad decisions about the Times. He expanded the paper too quickly, and he hired too many reporters. The Times became too expensive to operate, and Chandler was forced to raise subscription prices. This alienated many readers, and circulation began to decline.

In 1985, Chandler sold the Times to the Tribune Company. The Tribune Company was a large media conglomerate, and Chandler believed that the Times would be better off as part of a larger company. However, the Tribune Company was not a good steward of the Times. The company cut back on staff and resources, and the quality of the paper declined.

The Times is still a major newspaper, but it is no longer the national powerhouse that it was under Chandler's leadership. Chandler's legacy is a mixed one. He was a brilliant businessman who transformed the Times into a national powerhouse. But he was also a flawed individual who made some disastrous decisions that ultimately led to the decline of the Times.

The story of Otis Chandler and the rise and fall of the Times dynasty is a fascinating one. It is a story of success, failure, and redemption. Chandler was a brilliant businessman who transformed the Times into a national powerhouse. But he was also a flawed individual who made some disastrous decisions that ultimately led to the decline of the Times. Chandler's legacy is a mixed one, but he will always be remembered as one of the most influential figures in the history of journalism.



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