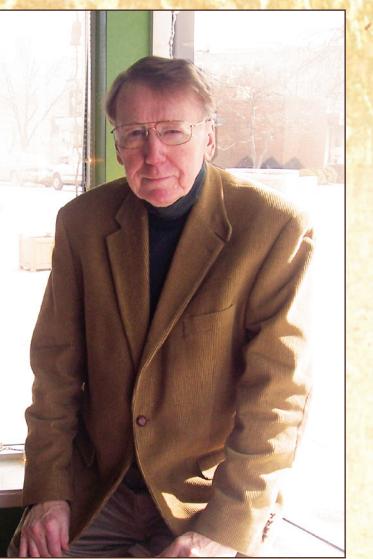




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JOHN GLAVIN is a lifelong Chicagoan who loves its history and its stories. As a departmental chair for 25 years, he published textbooks on writing including one selling a total of 500,000 copies. After retiring he researched and collected over 100 books on the Columbian Exposition. He developed *Trapped on the Wheel* from 1994 to 2008 as a labor of love. Currently, he is writing a sequel for Alessandra and the Pullman Railroad Strike of 1894, entitled *Striker!*

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## *Trapped ON THE Wheel*

"A great American writer has been born. I couldn't put it down. Glavin has accomplished a perfect example of what we authors call 'faction,' a skillful blending of fiction with actual fact. He not only brings the Columbian Exposition to life with its stark, real prose, he has skillfully balanced the ingredients of fiction with impeccable research that not only transports the reader to the actual locale of the story, but brings the characters to life. He leaves the reader with the warm feeling that he has personally witnessed what happened."

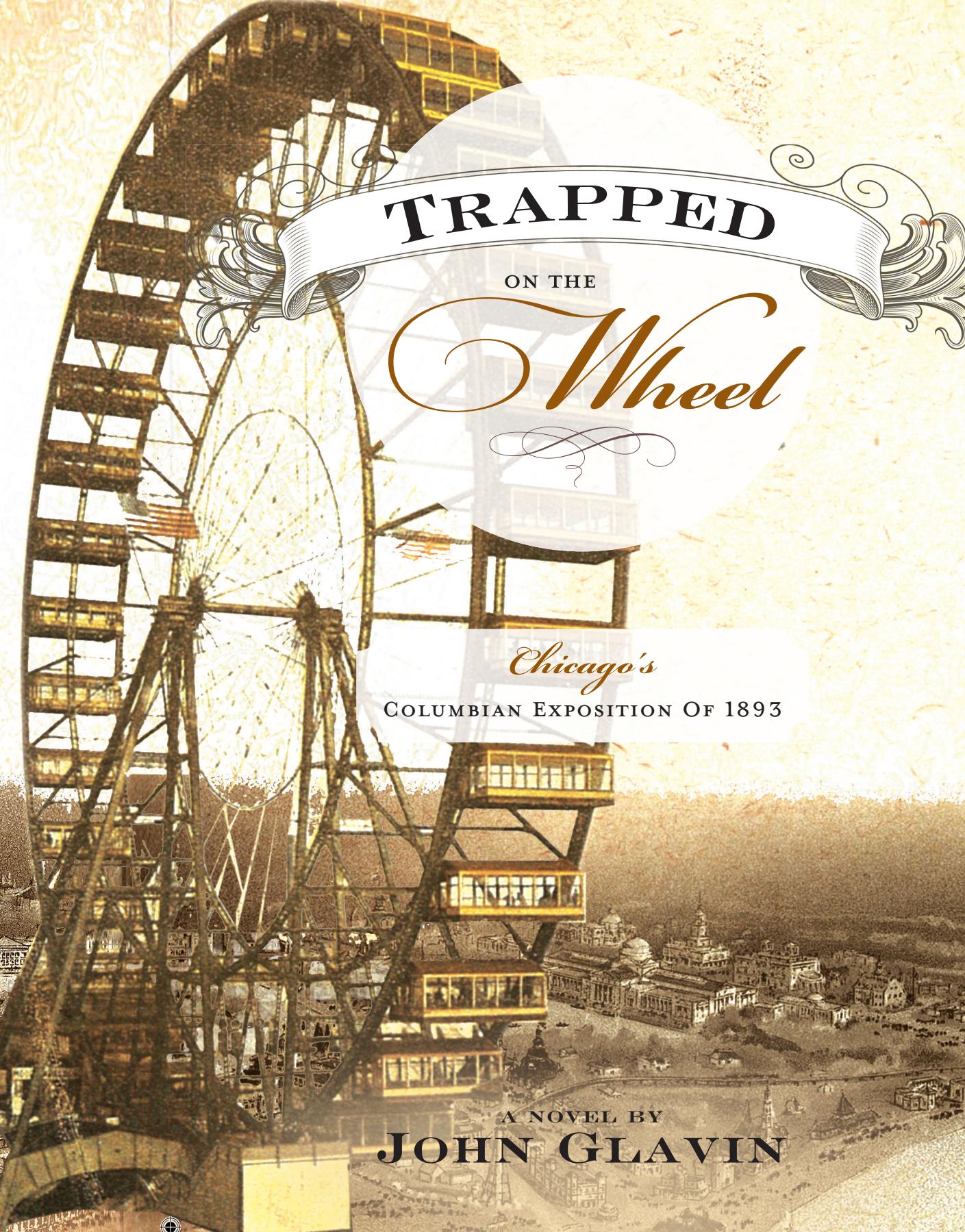
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"The Columbian Exposition of 1893 has scarcely received the attention it deserves from a talented novelist. This book changes all that. John Glavin brings to his subject the commitment and reach of the planners, architects, and artists who envisioned a White City rising out of the swamps and woodlands of Chicago's Jackson Park. Having researched the Great Fair and contemporary society with the care and ardor of a historian, Glavin has transformed his findings into a gleaming work of art that rivals the fair in its beauty, its grace, and the insights and possibilities it raises."

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"Author John Glavin takes us on a fascinating trip to the Gilded Age. Glavin captures the excitement of the World's Fair as Chicago's elite see the likes of Flo Ziegfeld, Buffalo Bill and the Great Sandow."

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ALESSANDRA IS WILLING TO RISK EVERYTHING to ride the largest bicycle wheel in the world —the original Ferris Wheel.

Lured by the temptations of the World's Fair, she rebels against her Victorian father, whose life-long vision is for her to become his Lady of the Manor. However, Alessandra vows to resist. After her 18th birthday ball, she begins her painful odyssey to escape the trap awaiting most women—a dominating parent, an arranged marriage, and society's false promises.

Although set over a century ago, *Trapped on the Wheel* depicts similar battles Chicago faces today: scandal, financial depression, and racism challenged by the people's belief in change and hope for a better life.