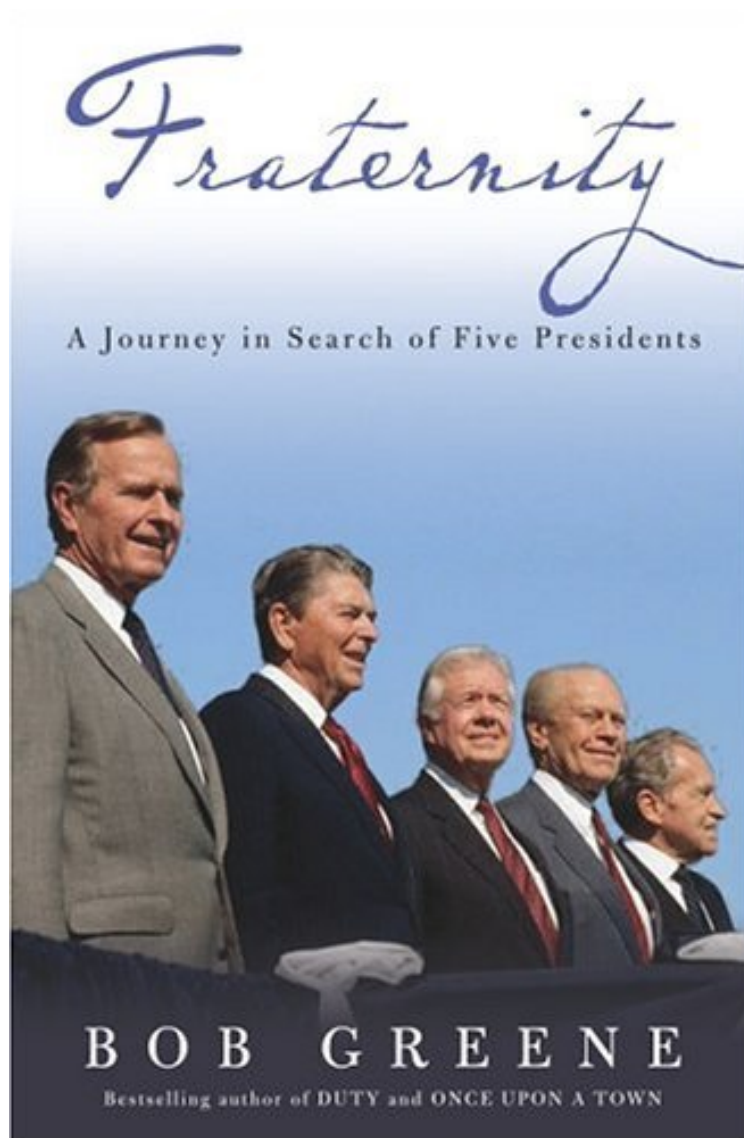


[Free pdf] Fraternity: A Journey in Search of Five Presidents

Fraternity: A Journey in Search of Five Presidents

Von Bob Greene

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Von Bob Greene : Fraternity: A Journey in Search of Five Presidents before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Fraternity: A Journey in Search of Five Presidents:

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Meet The Presidents Von James Gallen Did you ever think that you would get to meet a president? Not just to shake hands at a rally or get a photo op, but really spend time talking with him and asking him questions to get a sense of what his life view is? Author Bob Greene managed to do that with not one but four presidents, Nixon, Ford Carter, and Bush. He

was scheduled to meet Reagan but had it cancelled when Reagan revealed his Alzheimer's disease in his Letter to America. "Fraternity" is the result of that journey. Greene starts with Nixon, the man who was addressed even by his closest friends as "Mr. President." He went on with Carter whose micromanagement was evident during the time spent with him. Ford was the happy golfer who no longer had to answer the phone in the middle of the night. Bush was the war hero who erased a Swastika in the sand that he and Barbara found during an early morning beach walk. The reader obtains insights into the men behind the images, the human beings who sought greatness or had it thrust upon them, the men who answered those calls in the middle of the night, who made the decisions that shaped our history. Greene leads us in reflection about the men who we think we know, but really do not. Finally he points out a common bond between these men, the fact that each reached the pinnacle and was then pulled down by the people whom they served, Nixon through resignation and the other through electoral defeat. We are introduced to how each of these men dealt with rejection and how they found new purpose in their lives and new forms of service. I found this to be a book filled with anecdotes reflecting both favorably and unfavorably on its subjects. It leads us to examine our own attitudes, not only toward our presidents, but on how we deal with success and disappointment in our own lives and encourages us to believe that for us, as for America, there will always be a bright dawn ahead.

Kurzbeschreibung What if you set off on a vacation trip in search of history and your destination was the men who had been president? Asking himself that tantalizing question, bestselling author and award-winning journalist Bob Greene embarked on a long journey across the breadth of the nation, hoping to spend time with Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter, George Bush and Ronald Reagan. The result of his odyssey is *Fraternity*. Rich with the sounds of the presidents own voices, *Fraternity* is dramatic, surprising, funny, revealing, inspiring, tragic, touching and unforgettable: a story destined to be read and enjoyed not just now, but far into the future as Americans think about who we are as a people. Here is Nixon, in an unmarked office high above Manhattan, explaining the reason for his solitary walks through New York streets at 5:30 every morning. Here is Carter, riding in a Secret Service van, recalling the sting of his family's being mocked for their rural Southern heritage, even after he had won the White House. Here is Ford, beside a golf course fairway, laughing at his startled discovery that of all his presidential papers, the one worth the most on the open market was a letter from a woman who tried to kill him. Here is Bush, on the road with his son, remembering his despair and anger at encountering a swastika carved into the sand behind an elegant resort on American soil. And here is Nancy Reagan, in a Beverly Hills hotel, on the haunting first night she must stand in for her husband after the announcement of his illness. A travelogue of the national spirit that chronicles a quest stretching over fifteen years and starring the biggest names in the modern American saga, this is living history of the most human kind, and Bob Greene at his very best. From the Hardcover edition. From Booklist Bob Greene's back, and the good news is he's found a topic that doesn't have anything to do with his younger self or with growing up in the bucolic 1960s. The bad news is he manages to inject himself into the middle of the narrative anyway. When last we saw Greene, he had just lost his job as a Chicago Tribune columnist over an inappropriate relationship; he's been lying low ever since the scandal, shunning the usual TV mea culpas. Instead, he's used the time to brush up a manuscript he had been apparently working on for a while: American history through the lenses of five past presidents--Nixon, Carter, Bush, Ford, and Reagan. Beginning with an interview of Nixon at his nondescript New York office and ending at a dinner that Ronald Reagan was supposed to attend but didn't because of Alzheimer's, the interviews find Greene working the "man-behind-the-president" angle. Consequently, there are many questions along the lines of this one to President Ford: "What is your favorite movie?" (Mrs. Doubtfire!) Still, the presidents' postpresidential lives come through interestingly. As usual, though, the book is as much about Greene as the "fraternity" of presidents. What Greene felt, what Greene was thinking, what silly metaphors he was imagining: "If my visit with Jimmy Carter had been a meal, it would have been a little like an endless smorgasbord; with Bush . . . it would have been more like a sandwich." Ilene Cooper Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved Pressestimmen Extraordinary Esquire Bob Greene at his best, full of perfectly captured ordinary moments that reveal our former presidents as the flesh-and-blood men they are. Chicago Sun-Times Brilliant . . . a captivating, colorful kaleidoscope of five significant private lives of public leaders. . . . Greenes writing was never better. Paul Harvey, ABC Radio Exhilarating . . . Takes the reader on the ultimate road trip. Library Journal From the Trade Paperback edition.