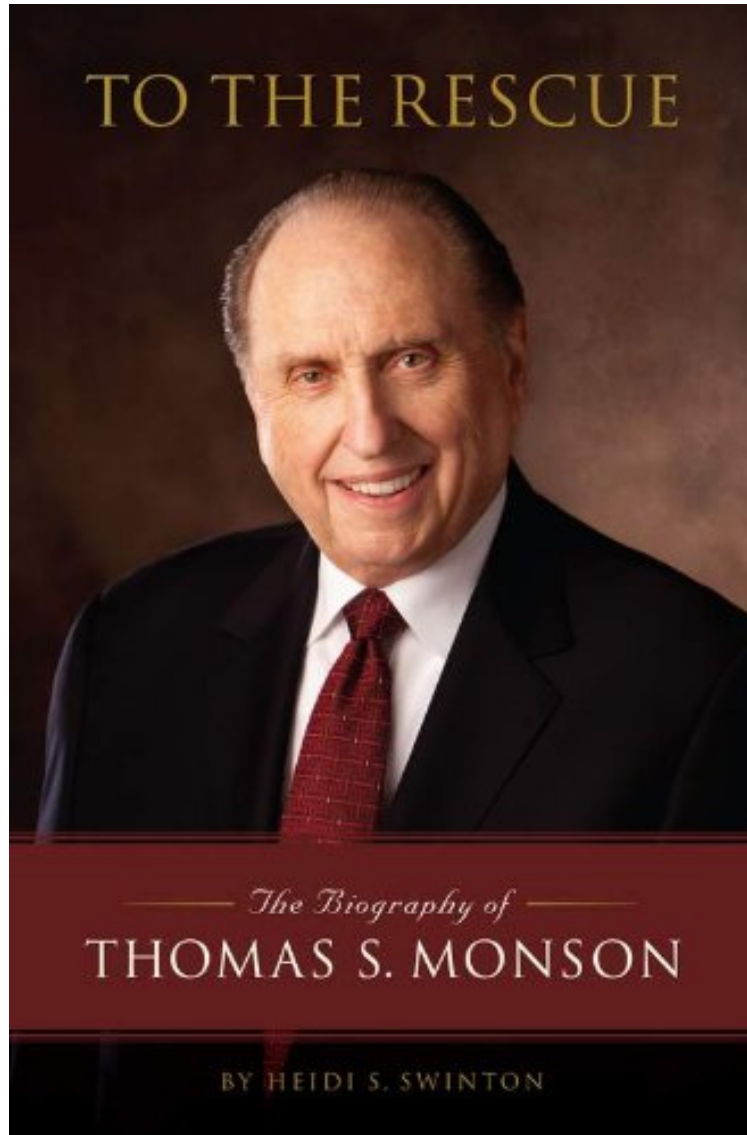


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To the Rescue: The Biography of Thomas S. Monson

Von Heidi S. Swinton

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Von Heidi S. Swinton : To the Rescue: The Biography of Thomas S. Monson before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised To the Rescue: The Biography of Thomas S. Monson:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. To the Rescue: Biography of Thomas S. MonsonVon JohnThomas S. Monson is the current President and Prophet of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. His colleagues among the general authorities of the Church told him that he should have a biography written while he is still among us. This is not an autobiography; President Monson asked

Heidi S. Swinton to write it for him, an enormous task. She read all his talks and books, also his diaries, and spent many hours talking to him and many other people with whom he had had any contact. This book is not a chronological collection of dates, places, and callings in the Church. Sister Swinton is concerned to show how he grew and developed to become the man he now is. In particular, she relates many incidents which show how the Lord guided him by inspiration and how he quickly learnt to be receptive to the still small voice. There are many spiritual experiences to relate. But another aspect of President Monson is his love for people, whether they be the janitor or a visiting president from another country. He has a knack of seeing people whom others don't notice, and he takes time to elevate them. In particular he has always concerned himself with those who have problems or who have fallen by the wayside. Many are those he has saved -- hence the title of the biography "To the rescue". President Monson also has a prodigious memory for faces and names. He was called at the age of 22 to be the bishop of a ward in Salt Lake City with some 1000 Members, including many elderly widows and widowers. He visited them all as often as he could, and even after his release as bishop maintained contact with many, even speaking at their funerals many years later. As a businessman he learnt administration and organisation, which he also applied to his Church callings to great effect. For those in Germany the book is of special interest because Thomas S. Monson as an apostle was responsible over many years for Europe and in particular Germany. He was the first general authority to enter East Germany behind the iron curtain and Berlin wall, although the State Department had advised against it because East Germany was not a recognised state and they could not pull him out in case of trouble. But Thomas S. Monson trusted in the Lord. He even prophesied to the saints in East Germany that the day would come when they would enjoy all the blessings available to saints elsewhere, including having a temple. The saints in East Germany did in fact have a temple (in Freiberg, near Dresden) long before one was built in the Federal Republic (West Germany) in Friedrichsdorf near Frankfurt. This is a fascinating book about a man whom the Lord formed in many different callings so that he could eventually lead the Church as President and Prophet. Highly recommended for anyone interested in the way the Church is organised and led by inspired leaders.

Kurzbeschreibung To the Rescue chronicles the life and ministry of this extraordinary leader. It is filled with the heartwarming personal accounts so typical of President Monson - some that have become favorites over time and many others that have not been told before. Readers will be transported to his childhood, where he learned his first lessons about reaching out to others. They will glimpse his school experiences, his hobbies (especially his prize Birmingham roller pigeons), his military service in the navy, and his courtship with Frances Johnson, who would become his eternal companion and greatest support. Most important, readers will observe Thomas S. Monson going "to the rescue" in his more than six decades of devoted Church service. Called as a bishop at age twenty-two, as a counselor in a stake presidency at age twenty-seven, as a mission president at age thirty-one, and as a member of a Quorum of the Twelve Apostles at age thirty-six, he became early on a skilled administrator and a tireless servant of the Lord. He oversaw the work of the Church in East Germany for more than twenty years, beginning with hushed meetings held in automobiles to avoid listening devices and culminating in the dedication of a temple behind the Iron Curtain. He played key roles in landmark programs in the Church, from correlation to welfare to the publication of the LDS editions of the scriptures. And through it all, he recognized people as individuals and ministered to their need in personal ways.

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