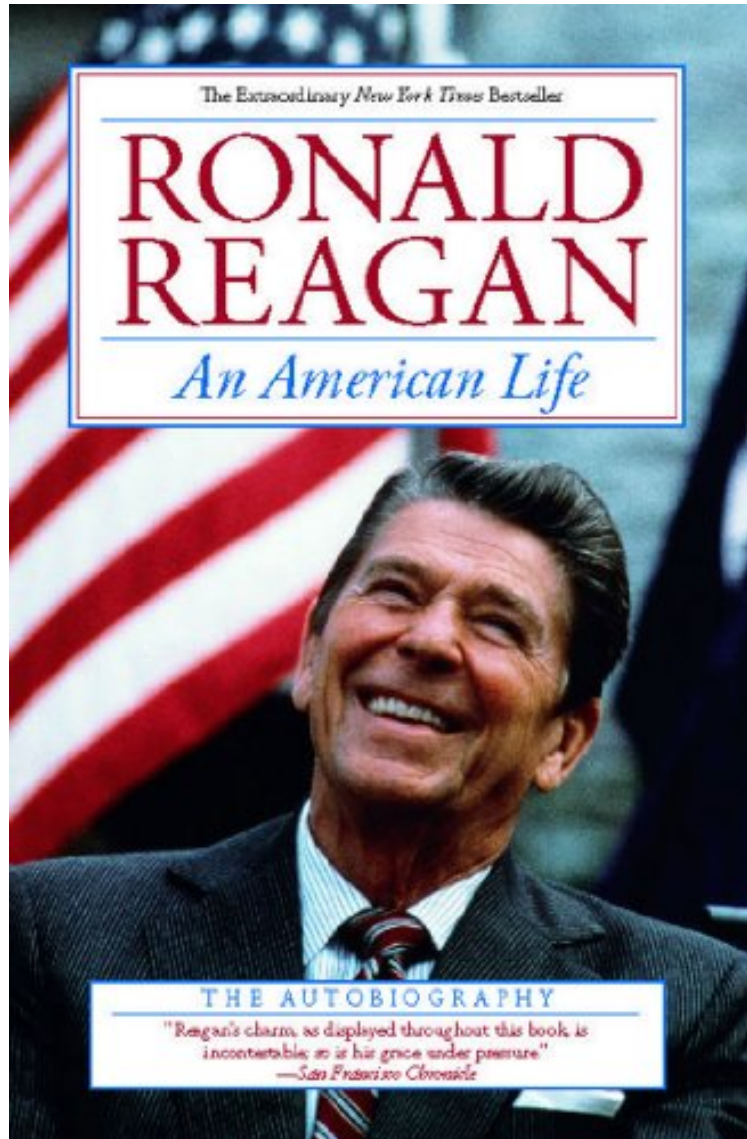


[E-BOOK] An American Life: The Autobiography (English Edition)

An American Life: The Autobiography (English Edition)

Von Ronald Reagan

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Von Ronald Reagan : An American Life: The Autobiography (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised An American Life: The Autobiography (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen11 von 11 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Der amerikanischste PrsidentVon Ein KundeDie 1990 erschienene Autobiographie des 40. US-Prsidenten zeigt uns einen Politiker jenseits der Machtbesessenheit. Im Gegensatz zu Senatorenshnen wie Al Gore, denen die Prsidentschaft

beinahe in die Wiege gelegt wurde, drngte sich der Sohn eines Schuhverkufers nie in politische Spitzenmter. Und dennoch sagte er nicht nein, als er erst mit 55 Jahren als Gouverneur von Kalifornien kandidierte und mit fast 70 Jahren fr das hchste Amt der USA. In seinen Erinnerungen schildert er mit groer Wrme und sehr persnlich die Kindheits- und Jugendjahre, seine Ttigkeit als lokaler Sportreporter im Radio und seinen Aufstieg in Hollywood, bevor er sein politisches Wirken ins Zentrum rckt. Sicher geht er nicht allzu kritisch mit sich selbst ins Gericht, aber man hrt ihm gerne zu, gewinnt er doch die Herzen der Leser durch seine unprtentise Sprache, die deutsche Leser freilich mitunter als etwas kitschig empfinden mgen. Doch das ist Amerika, und das ist Ronald Reagan. Was wre er ohne seine Frau Nancy geworden, die er nicht mde wird zu loben? Aber was wre mit der Konfrontation zwischen Ost und West geworden, htten sich linke Utopisten wie hierzulande Erhard Eppler durchgesetzt, die Reagans Politik der Strke attackierten? Fr Friedenstauben stand Reagan nicht. Die Geschichte gab ihm indes recht. Vielleicht war es ein Satz wie jener, den er Gorbatschow 1985 in Genf vorhielt, der ins Schwarze oder besser gesagt Rote traf: "Wir haben die Wahl: Wir knnen uns ber eine Abrstung einigen, oder wir knnen das Wetttrsten fortsetzen. Aber ich bin sicher, da Sie wissen, dies nicht gewinnen zu knnen." So war es. Clinton erst konnte die reifen Frchte der Reaganschen Wirtschaftspolitik ernten, ein Ergebnis von Abbau der Administration und des Sozialsystems sowie Steuersenkungen auf breiter Front; denn Reagan selbst konnte den Staatshaushalt durch die immensen Rstungsausgaben nicht konsolidieren. Kurz, auch der deutsche Leser findet Genu an dieser ebenso kurzweiligen wie informativen Lektre des wohl beliebtesten Prsidenten der USA seit Kennedy.

1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. If You Want The Real Story, Go Straight To The Source Von Danielle For those disappointed in the debacle that is "Dutch", take heart: turns out that the definitive Reagan biography was authored ten years ago by the man himself. In his straightforward, unpretentious style, Reagan chronicles the journey from his humble beginnings in Tampico, Illinois to the pinnacle of power in the White House. And what a fascinating journey it is. And, what a refreshing change of pace to read an account by a politician who was fueled not by personal ambition and self-aggrandizement (ie, his reluctance to run for Governor of California) but by dedication to his principles and sheer patriotic pride. In some ways, this book is significant for what it doesn't contain: no gratuitous mud-slinging against ex-wife Jane Wyman (who is mentioned only once) or his political enemies (still obeying the 11th commandment). No lame attempts at self-analysis in the lingo of pop psychology. In fact, Reagan would no doubt be puzzled by those who claim they are searching for the "real" Reagan, since, as far as he is concerned, he was never anything but. Not only does Reagan serve as a "witness to history" for the eight years of his presidency, but for other epoch-making events of the 20th century as well, such as the Depression, World War II and the rise of Communism. All of these had an effect on Reagan and helped shaped his political ideology. In sum, if you like Reagan, you'll love this book.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. The Great Communicator Writes Too! Von James Gallen The Great Communicator has done it again! An American Life takes the reader from his birth in Tampico, Illinois to the return to California with mission accomplished. Ronald Reagan earned the moniker The Great Communicator for his ability to reach an audience. An American Life proves that he could do it in ink too. His writing is direct, easy to follow and engaging. The theme of the book is the optimistic world view of the Reagan we knew. There is little introspection. Reagan knew what he believed and told it with gusto! Many of the stories are ones with which we are familiar. This book is the Gippers exposition of his belief in family values and the individual. The readers are drawn into the issues which defined the Reagan Administration. As a frequent traveler in Reagans native region in Northern Illinois, I found the narratives of his youth in Galesburg and Dixon and his years at Eureka College to be particularly interesting. The reader follows Reagan to Iowa and on to California. The sections on Reagans years in Hollywood give the reader an insight into the movie world. The chapters on Reagans involvement with the Screen Actors Guild focus on his opposition to Communist domination of the industry. Reagans years in California politics are related with many of the stories we have heard, such as the student protesters who entered his office to tell him that his generation could not understand them because he did not grow up with the modern conveniences, to which he replied that his generation had invented them. Reagan tells of his conversion, which began with the General Electric tour in the 1950s, from a liberal Democrat to a conservative Republican and from a reluctant candidate to an enthusiastic agent of destiny. From a reluctant governor, Reagan matured to a candidate who sought the presidency, not to be somebody, but to do something. In the sections on his presidential years, Reagan goes through the issues, such as tax reductions, the military buildup, Supreme Court appointments, Middle Eastern diplomacy and Soviet relations. The exhilaration of the return of hostages contrasts with the pain of the return of bodies and disasters, such as the Challenger. Reagans dealings with the Soviets pulled his car up and down the roller coaster of emotions. On these pages we are made privy to turning points, such as his refusal to run for vice-president in 1976, Fords refusal to run for veep in 1980, and the considerations involved in decisions dealing with SDI. His relationship with Margaret Thatcher is seen as one of the crucial partnerships of the Twentieth Century. An American Life lacks the analysis of Dinesh DSouzas Reagan: How an Ordinary Man Became An Extraordinary Leader (see my review), but in it the Gipper tells his story. DSouza says that an ordinary man became an extraordinary leader. In An American Life an ordinary man has written an

extraordinary book.

Kurzbeschreibung Ronald Reagans autobiography is a work of major historical importance. Here, in his own words, is the story of his life public and private told in a book both frank and compellingly readable. Few presidents have accomplished more, or been so effective in changing the direction of government in ways that are both fundamental and lasting, than Ronald Reagan. Certainly no president has more dramatically raised the American spirit, or done so much to restore national strength and self-confidence. Here, then, is a truly American success story a great and inspiring one. From modest beginnings as the son of a shoe salesman in Tampico, Illinois, Ronald Reagan achieved first a distinguished career in Hollywood and then, as governor of California and as president of the most powerful nation in the world, a career of public service unique in our history. Ronald Reagans account of that rise is told here with all the uncompromising candor, modesty, and wit that made him perhaps the most able communicator ever to occupy the White House, and also with the sense of drama of a gifted natural storyteller. He tells us, with warmth and pride, of his early years and of the elements that made him, in later life, a leader of such stubborn integrity, courage, and clear-minded optimism. Reading the account of this childhood, we understand how his parents, struggling to make ends meet despite family problems and the rigors of the Depression, shaped his belief in the virtues of American life the need to help others, the desire to get ahead and to get things done, the deep trust in the basic goodness, values, and sense of justice of the American people virtues that few presidents have expressed more eloquently than Ronald Reagan. With absolute authority and a keen eye for the details and the anecdotes that humanize history, Ronald Reagan takes the reader behind the scenes of his extraordinary career, from his first political experiences as president of the Screen Actors Guild (including his first meeting with a beautiful young actress who was later to become Nancy Reagan) to such high points of his presidency as the November 1985 Geneva meeting with Mikhail Gorbachev, during which Reagan invited the Soviet leader outside for a breath of fresh air and then took him off for a walk and a man-to-man chat, without aides, that set the course for arms reduction and charted the end of the Cold War. Here he reveals what went on behind his decision to enter politics and run for the governorship of California, the speech nominating Barry Goldwater that first made Reagan a national political figure, his race for the presidency, his relations with the members of his own cabinet, and his frustrations with Congress. He gives us the details of the great themes and dramatic crises of his eight years in office, from Lebanon to Grenada, from the struggle to achieve arms control to tax reform, from Iran-Contra to the visits abroad that did so much to reestablish the United States in the eyes of the world as a friendly and peaceful power. His narrative is full of insights, from the unseen dangers of Gorbachevs first visit to the United States to Reagans own personal correspondence with major foreign leaders, as well as his innermost feelings about life in the White House, the assassination attempt, his family and the enduring love between himself and Mrs. Reagan. An American Life is a warm, richly detailed, and deeply human book, a brilliant self-portrait, a significant work of history. From Publishers Weekly Reagan presents anecdotes about his family, details his ideology, tells of his presidential candidacy and describes his eight years in the White House. Photos. Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc. Pressestimmen "San Francisco Chronicle" Reagan's charm, as displayed throughout this book, is incontestable; so is his grace under pressure. "The Washington Times" One of our classic American success stories.