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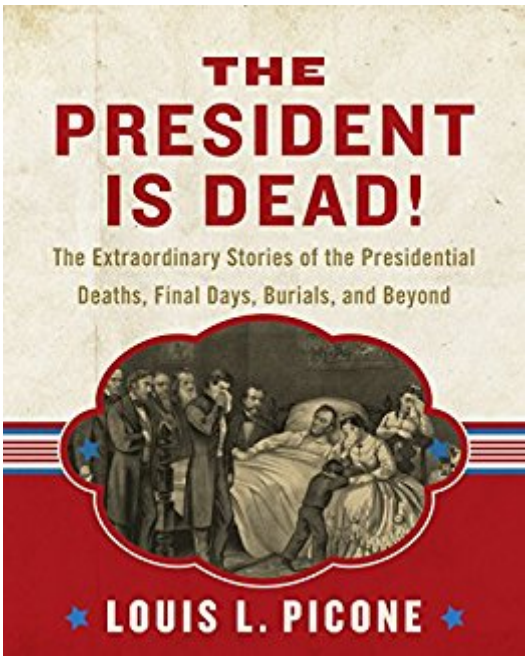
The President Is Dead!: The Extraordinary Stories Of The Presidential Deaths, Final Days, Burials, And Beyond



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Synopsis

A fun, anecdote-filled, encyclopedic look at the circumstances surrounding the deaths of every president and a few “almost presidents,Ã¢â ¬Â• such as Jefferson Davis.Packed with fun facts and presidential trivia, The President Is Dead! tells you everything you could possibly want to know about how our presidents, from George Washington to Gerald Ford (who was the most recent president to die), met their ends, the circumstances of their deaths, the pomp of their funerals, and their public afterlives, including stories of attempted grave robbings, reinterments, vandalism, conspiracy theories surrounding their deaths, and much more.The President Is Dead! is filled with never-before-told stories, including a suggestion by one prominent physician to resurrect George Washington from death by transfusing his body with lambÃ¢â ¬â„¢s blood. You may have heard of a plot to rob Abraham LincolnÃ¢â ¬â„¢s body from its grave site, but did you know that there was also attempts to steal Benjamin Harrison's and Andrew JacksonÃ¢â ¬â„¢s remains? The book also includes “Critical Death Information,Ã¢â ¬Â• which prefaces each chapter, and a complete visitorÃ¢â ¬â„¢s guide to each grave site and death-related historical landmark. An “Almost PresidentsÃ¢â ¬Â• section includes chapters on John Hanson (first president under the Articles of Confederation), Sam Houston (former president of the Republic of Texas), David Rice Atchison (president for a day), and Jefferson Davis. Exhaustively researched, The President Is Dead! is richly layered with colorful facts and entertaining stories about how the presidents have passed. Skyhorse Publishing, as well as our Arcade imprint, are proud to publish a broad range of books for readers interested in history--books about World War II, the Third Reich, Hitler and his henchmen, the JFK assassination, conspiracies, the American Civil War, the American Revolution, gladiators, Vikings, ancient Rome, medieval times, the old West, and much more. While not every title we publish becomes a New York Times bestseller or a national bestseller, we are committed to books on subjects that are sometimes overlooked and to authors whose work might not otherwise find a home.

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Customer Reviews

If you are at all intrigued by the men we Americans have called president--this book will give you yet another insight into their personalities, their quirks and weaknesses and their final days. The book reports each president's final days and actually days (and in some cases years) after death. Many of the presidents returned quietly to citizen status--and some did not. You will be surprised to see how these men handled their post-presidential years when you read this book.Picone starts each President's section with a summary of such things as "last words" and "place of death" and even how many times each president was dug up and reburied. The President sections are in the chronological order of their deaths not their terms of office. The longest time between presidential deaths was more than 20 years between the death of George Washington and Thomas Jefferson. The shortest time between presidential deaths was Thomas Jefferson and John Adams. And there is plenty more to learn--I could not stop reading this book.What I found most fascinating? That as you will read through this book, you will see how the culture of America changed in the attitude toward presidential death and how it should be addressed. Picone presents such a fascinating late life history of our presidents that you will be planning to visit some of the post-presidential homes and burial sites , no doubt.If I had one complaint it was in the Kennedy section--I felt a little "icky' when I read that the cause of death was listed as "Bullet to the Head". I was 11 years old on that day in 1963, and it was an "icky" day.

If you're a fan of presidential history in all its forms this is a great addition to your personal library - paper or electronic. Concisely written and beautifully illustrated, Picone thoroughly researched many

details and actually visited many death and gravesites of our presidents so he offers some useful information on that aspect.This book doesn’t just cover the chief executives who died in office (as traumatic as those events can be in ANY age), he chronicles the obsequies for ex-presidents: what they were doing when death struck; their burial arrangements; the elaborate ceremonies and monuments; and many interesting asides on reburials and public access to the graves.Today most presidents are buried on their libraries’ grounds so if you’re touring and plan to pay your respects it may cost you some coin, that and how long the POTUS has been dead. A couple of details struck me, a photo of Picone risking life and limb by posing in the middle of Constitution Avenue, once the location of the Baltimore and Potomac Railroad Station, where Charles Guiteau "put a stalwart in office" by shooting James Garfeld in the back (along with his doctors’ incompetence).The photos of the next assassination site, present-day Buffalo, New York, where William McKinley was shot by Leon Czolgosz, at the long-gone Temple of Music at the Pan-American Exposition. Two decades later at former president TR’s funeral service, his son Archie went to the back of the church and brought a grief-stricken and formerly estranged President William Howard Taft to the front with the family, saying he was "one of them."Also the pathos of LBJ’s final days struck a chord, and that his casket was transported to Washington, for his turn under the Rotunda, in the very same 707 he took the Oath of Office next to JFK’s widow a decade earlier. There’s scores of interesting tidbits of long forgotten leaders. Another note was Picone visited dead President (and Garfield’s Veep) Chester A. Arthur’s once posh address (and death site) on Lexington Avenue, New York, which is now a rundown apartment building fronted by a deli/spice store. He does what ANY of us trivia leaden PITAs would do by desperately sharing the Arthur connection with the owner, who to his credit at least knew (or pretended to know) a POTUS once owned his building.To open another can of worms the author speculates convincingly that the 21st President was, GASP! Canadian born and UNQUALIFIED for office, though prolly because he was a Republican, switching birth certificates with a dead brother wouldn’t be impeachable then (or today). Perhaps a secret stash of papers is lying in wait at the spice store.Life was less complicated then for foreign usurpers I guess. So whether you’re American, Canadian, Kenyan or Russian, this is a fun book. God knows, this is an era where some fun is really needed, especially in our gallery of presidents. I hope some late 21st century historian is as deft as Picone, especially when they find Putin’s spyware at the future 50-story transient hotel and bodega at 721Ãƒ Â¢Ã â ¬Ã â œ725 Fifth Avenue.

it was a gift for my step father who hates reading, and guess what? he really enjoys this book. i figured if the man likes history and especially likes our presidential history then he would like this

book. and i was right

Excellent accounting of the final moments of the various occupants of the Oval Office. A fun, detailed and interesting read, and well organized by the author. I would highly recommend this book to any presidential history student or history buff. I have read biographies on all 44 men that have occupied the White House, and have visited 24 presidential graves, and found this book enlightening and highly entertaining.

Based on my limited reading thus far, it is a very interesting read. The history is well researched by a writer who is concerned about accuracy rather than a quick book to publish as quickly ASAP. These details of the Presidents' final days, although sad, is written to retain my interest.

Very detailed deaths and burials as well as exhumations of various presidents in our history. Very sobering and interesting illustrated book!

this book tells the story of how the presidents died and where they are buried it was very informative and i would recommend it

I ENJOYED READING THIS BOOK , WELL WRITTED AND VERY DETAILED, A LOT OF QUESTION ANSWERED, IN A VERY PLEASANT WAY

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