

Dead Certain: Unraveling the Enigma of George W. Bush's Presidency

In the annals of American history, few presidencies have been as controversial or consequential as that of George W. Bush. From the 9/11 attacks to the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, Bush's time in office indelibly shaped the course of the 21st century. Now, in "Dead Certain," veteran journalist and political commentator Jane Mayer unveils the untold story behind one of the most enigmatic and consequential presidencies in modern history.

The Rise to Power

Mayer begins by tracing Bush's unlikely journey to the White House. A privileged youth and a lackluster start in politics did not seem to mark him as a future leader. Yet, through a combination of ambition, family connections, and political opportunism, Bush rose to the pinnacle of power.



Dead Certain: The Presidency of George W. Bush

by Robert Draper

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

Language : English

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Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

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Print length : 482 pages

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Mayer reveals the behind-the-scenes machinations of the Bush campaign, including the disputed recount in Florida that ultimately handed him the presidency. She paints a portrait of a candidate who exuded a folksy charm and a "can-do" attitude, but whose policies often belied his public image.

The 9/11 Attacks and the War on Terror

Bush's presidency was irrevocably altered by the horrific events of September 11, 2001. In the aftermath of the attacks, he spearheaded the War on Terror, a global campaign against terrorism that would have far-reaching consequences.

Mayer provides a gripping account of the Bush administration's response to 9/11, including the decision to invade Afghanistan and the disastrous invasion of Iraq. She meticulously documents the intelligence failures and flawed decision-making that led to a war that destabilized the Middle East and claimed the lives of countless civilians.

Domestic Policy and the Legacy of George W. Bush

Beyond foreign affairs, Bush's domestic policies also left a significant mark on American society. Mayer explores the administration's tax cuts, education reforms, and environmental initiatives, revealing the complex interplay between ideology, politics, and public opinion.

Mayer's book offers a nuanced assessment of Bush's legacy. She acknowledges his decisive leadership in the aftermath of 9/11, but also shines a harsh light on the mistakes and misjudgments that marred his presidency.

Character, Ideology, and the Man Behind the Presidency

At the heart of "Dead Certain" is a penetrating psychological portrait of George W. Bush. Mayer draws on extensive interviews and research to reveal the man behind the public persona. She explores his faith, his family relationships, and his unwavering belief in his own destiny.

Mayer's analysis goes beyond mere biography. She places Bush's personal characteristics in the context of his political ideology and decision-making, arguing that his faith and his perceived mandate from God played a significant role in shaping his presidency.

Legacy and Impact

The legacy of George W. Bush is a complex and multifaceted one. In the years since he left office, his presidency has been re-evaluated and debated from countless perspectives.

Mayer's book contributes to this ongoing conversation by providing a comprehensive and incisive account of Bush's presidency. She argues that Bush's policies and decisions had profound consequences for the United States and the world, and that his legacy will continue to be debated for generations to come.

"Dead Certain" is a tour de force of investigative journalism and political analysis. Jane Mayer has produced a definitive work that sheds new light on one of the most important presidencies in American history. Through meticulous research and incisive insights, she unravels the complex tapestry of George W. Bush's presidency, leaving readers with a deeper understanding of the man, his motivations, and the lasting impact of his time in office.

Whether one admires Bush's leadership or condemns his policies, "Dead Certain" is essential reading for anyone interested in American history, politics, and the forces that have shaped our world.

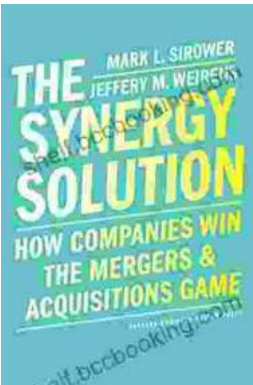


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