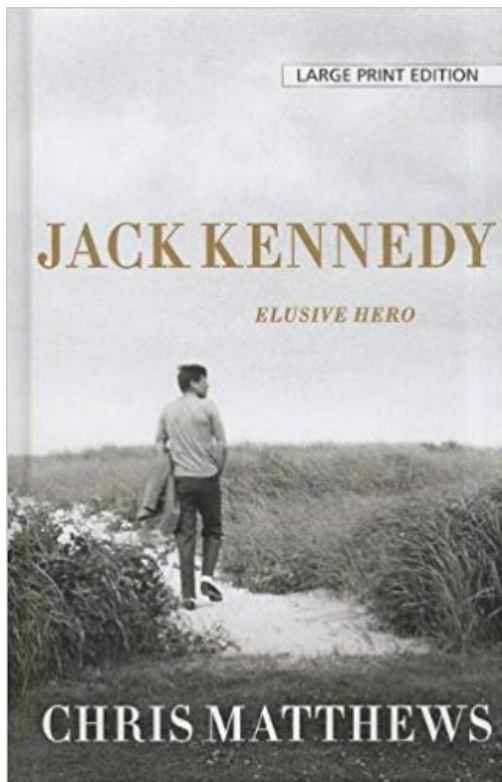


## Jack Kennedy: Elusive Hero (Thorndike Press Large Print Popular and Narrative Nonfiction Series) by Chris Matthews



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Based on interviews with some of his closest associates, a new portrait of the 35th president by the host of Hardball traces his early education through the end of his life and includes coverage of such topics as his privileged childhood, military service and struggles with a life-threatening disease. Simultaneous. (biography & autobiography).



**Reviews of the Jack Kennedy: Elusive Hero (Thorndike Press Large Print Popular and Narrative Nonfiction Series) by Chris Matthews**

Velan

At my age, I remember most of the history Matthews presents. Jack Kennedy was a hero and I -- like many others -- mourned his death. I learned a lot about the assassinated president, such as his being a womanizer, but I also learned about the constant pain he suffered and the debilitating disease he tried so hard to keep out of the public eye. Matthews shows us a very "real" man, one most of his biographers tried to paint as the hero of Camelot.

Anayajurus

I have been a Kennedy fan for decades, and I've read any number of books and articles on him. This is an excellent insight into his personal and political life. It details all phases of his life from childhood to his death, and in countless instances, the book provides invaluable insight into his motivations and instincts. If you have an interest in JFK, this is a great read. He was a hero for his day and wishing his kind were available for the 2016 election.

OwerSpeed

When you pick up a book on JFK, most likely it's about the assassination, the conspiracies, the cover-ups, the scandals, etc etc etc.

This book focuses on JFK the human, behind the myth without the negatives that populate the other bios. It's a positive look at the making of a leader. A human being who went against odds to become the 35th president of the United States. No telling what it would've been like if he wasn't murdered but odds are, he'd go down in history as a good to great president. This book succeeds in trying to find some glimpses of who this man was and what his agenda was. At the end, we get a clearer picture, but he remains a mystery.

Snowskin

Through stories and memories from the men and women who really knew him, the real John F. Kennedy comes alive through Chris Matthews eloquent prose. No glorified saint in these pages, the martyred President is presented as both flawed and courageous. While I would have liked a more detailed treatment of the 1960 election, to get Matthew's patented insider version of the rumors we have so often heard about votes delivered by Daley and Giancana, it was nevertheless satisfying to learn of the Kennedy-Nixon friendship and Jack's year of door-to-door campaigning. I was also sorry not to learn more about the Marilyn Monroe episode. The details of PT 109 more than made up for it though. To anyone interested in JFK the man, especially those too young to remember him, I highly recommend this book.

Amis

I read this book because of the author. I wanted to know the Matthews perspective both from his political and personal perspective. I have been politically aware and interested in the Kennedys since 1952, first with Bobby, so I was not expecting new information. The detailed political machinations at the state level as the fight for delegates proceeded to a presidential candidate nomination was new for me, but that was because I had never been interested in that level at so much detail before. A discussion about the relationship with Jerry Brown was interesting as he has at least a peripheral role in the 2016 contest. Without the Matthews name, I would have chosen a different Kennedy book. I have recommended this book to my 12-year-old son as an interesting introduction to a turbulent time.

Xava

Excellent accounting of JFK. His was the first political campaign I covered in school. He was an excellent speaker and he was very handsome. I remember he and his father did not see eye to eye on politics.

My favorite line from his acceptance "as my wife and I prepare for a new administration and a new baby"

Ironfire

A little late to the party, as the book was written years ago, however this book is ageless. It was so well written it will become a mandatory read when studying the late President Jack Kennedy. Thank you, Chris Matthews

I have been a Kennedy fanatic since a very cold November night in 1960 when my Dad took his 12 year old daughter with him to the voting poll to ask adults to cast their votes for JFK. I so wanted to meet him, and held that as a hope until another November after noon three years later. I have read many versions of his story, none as moving as this one...I now feel I met him.

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