Coolidge: Amity Shlaes' Masterful Exploration of America's Silent President

In her meticulously researched and engagingly written biography, Amity Shlaes presents a fascinating portrait of Calvin Coolidge, the enigmatic thirtieth president of the United States. Shlaes delves into the life and career of this often-overlooked figure, shedding light on his profound impact on American history.



Coolidge by Amity Shlaes

★★★★★ 4.4 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 18258 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 595 pages



Coolidge's Rise to Power

Born in 1872 in Plymouth, Vermont, Coolidge was a quiet and unassuming child. He rose through the ranks of local politics before being elected governor of Massachusetts in 1919. His handling of the Boston Police Strike and his commitment to fiscal conservatism caught the attention of national leaders.

In 1920, Coolidge was chosen as Warren G. Harding's running mate. When Harding died in office two years later, Coolidge ascended to the presidency.

Despite initial concerns about his lack of charisma, Coolidge quickly proved to be a capable and effective leader.

Coolidge's Presidency

Coolidge's presidency was marked by a return to normalcy after the turmoil of the World War I era. He pursued a policy of limited government, reducing taxes, cutting spending, and promoting free markets. Under his leadership, the American economy flourished, unemployment declined, and the national debt was reduced.

Coolidge was also a staunch advocate for individual liberty. He vetoed legislation that would have restricted immigration and opposed labor unions' efforts to organize workers. He believed that the government's role was to protect the rights of citizens, not to interfere in their lives.

Coolidge's Legacy

Coolidge left office in 1929 with high approval ratings. He is often credited with laying the foundation for the economic prosperity of the 1920s. However, his legacy has been overshadowed by the Great Depression that began shortly after his departure.

Despite this, Coolidge's impact on American history is undeniable. He was a principled conservative who believed in the power of limited government and individual liberty. His presidency marked a turning point in American history, and his ideas continue to resonate today.

Shlaes' Masterful Storytelling

Amity Shlaes' biography of Coolidge is a masterfully written account of a complex and often misunderstood president. Shlaes' in-depth research is

evident on every page, and her vivid prose brings Coolidge to life.

Shlaes does not shy away from Coolidge's flaws. She acknowledges his lack of charisma and his sometimes-wooden demeanor. However, she also shows us Coolidge's strength, intelligence, and unwavering commitment to his principles.

Coolidge: Amity Shlaes' Masterful Exploration of America's Silent President is a must-read for anyone interested in American history or presidential biography. Shlaes' engaging writing and insightful analysis make this book a valuable contribution to our understanding of this important figure.

Calvin Coolidge was a remarkable president who presided over a period of great prosperity and change. Amity Shlaes' biography of Coolidge is a fascinating and insightful account of this enigmatic leader. Shlaes' masterful storytelling brings Coolidge to life, revealing his quiet strength, shrewd political instincts, and unwavering commitment to limited government. Coolidge: Amity Shlaes' Masterful Exploration of America's Silent President is a must-read for anyone interested in American history or presidential biography.



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