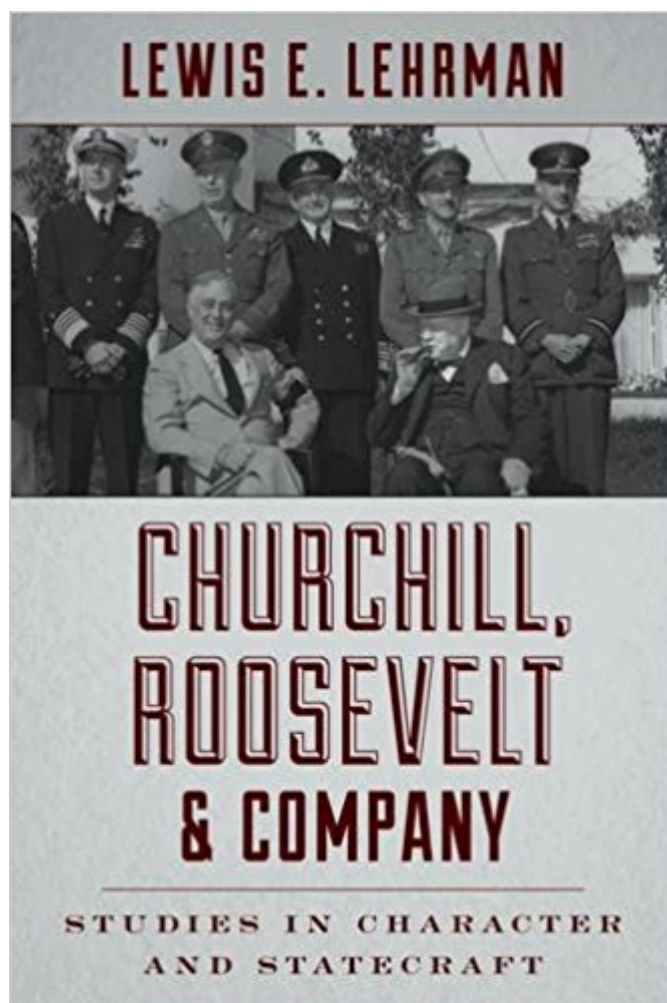


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Churchill, Roosevelt & Company: Studies In Character And Statecraft



Synopsis

During World War II the “special relationship” between the United States and Great Britain cemented the alliance that won the war in the West. But the ultimate victory of that partnership has obscured many of the conflicts behind Franklin Roosevelt’s charm and Winston Churchill’s victory signs—the clashes of principles and especially personalities between and within the leadership of the two nations. Synthesizing an impressive variety of sources from memoirs and letters to histories and biographies, Lewis E. Lehrman explains how the Anglo-American alliance worked—and occasionally did not work—by presenting portraits and case studies of the men who worked the back channels and back rooms, the generals and the admirals, the secretaries and under secretaries, ambassadors and ministers, responsible for carrying out Roosevelt’s and Churchill’s agendas while also pursuing their own. Such was the conduct of Joseph Kennedy, American ambassador to England often at odds with FDR; generals George C. Marshall and Dwight D. Eisenhower; spymasters William Donovan and William Stephenson; Secretary of State Cordell Hull, whom FDR frequently bypassed in favor of Under Secretary Sumner Welles; the Soviet spy in the leadership cadre of the US Treasury, Harry Dexter White, and his struggle with Lord Keynes; British ambassadors Lord Lothian and Lord Halifax; and, above them all, Roosevelt and Churchill. The President and the Prime Minister had the difficult task, not always well-performed, of managing their subordinates. Churchill and Roosevelt frequently chose to conduct foreign policy directly between themselves, and with Stalin. Scrupulous in its research and fair in its judgments, Lehrman’s book reveals the personal diplomacy, the character and statecraft, at the core of the leadership of the Anglo-American alliance.

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Customer Reviews

Lewis E. Lehrman's arresting and deeply researched study of the Anglo-American alliance during the Second World War brilliantly establishes how Roosevelt and Churchill – sometimes willing to use back channels and bypass conventional diplomatic authority – found and relied on the right people to smooth relations between the two countries. Rich in historical immediacy, *Churchill, Roosevelt & Company* demonstrates how generals, diplomats, spies, businessmen, economists, and other key figures served the needs of both Prime Minister and President in their unyielding defense of democratic government. Not least, the book delivers a powerful reminder of the contingent role of human interaction and personal chemistry in determining the course of historical events. - Prof. Richard Carwardine, Rhodes Professor of American History at Oxford University

Lewis E. Lehrman demonstrates an almost uncanny feel for all the senior personalities around Winston Churchill and Franklin D. Roosevelt during the Second World War; he understands their characters, viewpoints and motives and has an enlightening insight into all of them, coupled with an impressively objective judiciousness. I didn't think much more of genuine value could be written about this glittering gallery – one of the great 'genius clusters' of history – but this well-researched, well-written and profoundly thoughtful book proves me wrong. - Prof. Andrew Roberts, King's College, London, author of *Masters and Commanders: How Churchill, Roosevelt, Marshall and Alanbrooke Won the War in the West*

Lewis E. Lehrman has done a lot of business in his life, both public and private. He is also an accomplished scholar and historian. In this book, *Churchill, Roosevelt & Company*, he describes the business of war and politics during the Second World War. The focus is on Churchill and FDR and their Anglo-American team which led the war effort in the West. Mr. Lehrman is exceptionally well-qualified, and his excellent book is proof of that fact. - Prof. Larry Arnn, former research director of the multi-volume *Martin Gilbert* authorized biography of Winston Churchill; author of *Churchill's Trial*; now president of Hillsdale College and responsible for the Churchill project at Hillsdale College

Churchill, Roosevelt & Company offers a detailed look at the special relationship, especially during World War II, when Anglo-American cooperation achieved its most impressive results and faced its most formidable challenges. The book is packed with fascinating detail and illuminates not only the

past but the challenges of the present day. (Wall Street Journal) Lewis E. Lehrman's Churchill, Roosevelt & Company is a richly detailed history of the Anglo-American alliance, in which the architects of the war effort include not only Winston Churchill and Franklin Delano Roosevelt, but a host of diplomats, ministers, secretaries of state, spymasters, business leaders and other subordinates. Lehrman, a historian and recipient of the National Humanities Medal, offers compelling portraits and case histories of the men who worked together—and sometimes intrigued against each other—in the campaign to end world war. The resulting group biography is a veritable embarrassment of riches for history buffs eager for a deeper understanding of the forces that led to the end of the greatest global conflict in modern times. Lee Polevoi, Foreword (Forward) Lewis E. Lehrman's Churchill, Roosevelt & Company: Studies in Character and Statecraft, is an impressive array of eclectic sources, Lehrman has constructed an intimate narrative of the personalities that traversed these great events, their role in shaping the world around them as well as their limitations. Lehrman's insight and extensive research, his willingness to let the individuals speak for themselves through endless quotations in a seamless narrative, make this an excellent addition to the bookshelf. Chris Murray, DefenceReport.com Lewis Lehrman has written an invaluable and notably unsentimental account of the relationships between the two leaders and their respective staffs. Lehrman writes with a deep knowledge of the period that is productive of much insight. His portrait of "an intimate, effective Anglo-American alliance" is not only illuminative of a finest-hour chapter in the history of nations that carry on the English tradition of liberty, it also moves the reader to ponder the future. Michael Knox Beran, National Review (National Review) His well researched analysis begins by utilizing numerous sources, Lehrman conveys the complexities, jealousies, and challenges these men confronted during the war and how many disagreements—some petty, many substantial—were set aside in the interest of defeating Germany and Japan. This impressive and thorough history will appeal to those with an abiding interest in WWII. Publishers Weekly (Publishers Weekly) "In his newest work, Churchill, Roosevelt & Company: Studies in Character and Statecraft" (Stackpole, 2017), historian Lewis E. Lehrman offers deep insights into that remarkable relationship [between the United States and Great Britain]. The volume provides a candid and unvarnished accounting of pivotal moments in the story of the world's most consequential alliance, going beyond the broad strokes of history into the far more nuanced realities. Lehrman performs a significant public service through his powerful analysis of this key moment in history. Michael Poliakoff and Ted Eismeier, Real Clear

Books

“Lewis E. Lehrman’s new book, *Churchill, Roosevelt & Company*, is a formidable digest of most of the memoirs and serious historical analyses and biographies about and around the 1940-1945 era alliance between Winston Churchill, Franklin D. Roosevelt, and Joseph Stalin. As such, it is up to date and contains a great many and interesting asides that even the devotees of that great drama will find enlightening. The book is a very interesting read, and in many places, is perceptive. I strongly recommend it for its insightful portrayal of almost all the key personalities in the upper echelons of Anglo-American leadership in the European part of World War II.

• Conrad Black, *The New Criterion*

“Lewis E. Lehrman applies scholarly yet lucid treatment to complicated relationships. *Churchill, Roosevelt & Company* is written to be enjoyed by lay readers and scholars alike. It is immediately accessible. The story Lehrman reports appears to be the fruit of a lifetime of research. There is hardly a point he makes that is without substantial documentation. His fascinating endnotes encompass over 100 pages. This provides an immediately accessible story that is easy to read and follow.

• William R. Collier, *Tioga Freeman*

“In his new book, *Churchill, Roosevelt & Company: Studies in Character and Statecraft*, National Humanities Medal holder Lewis E. Lehrman describes, in a strong narrative and with great precision, the tense diplomatic relationship between the United States and Great Britain in the lead-up to World War II. Lehrman demonstrates a jeweler’s eye for detail. He does an excellent job at documenting and capturing personalities, and not only those of Roosevelt and Churchill. This book is suffused with human interest.

• Jon Schweppe

Townhall.com

“*Churchill, Roosevelt & Company* is a more detailed account of how the allies came together, executed their tasks, and then drifted apart, than any other book of its compact size that I have read. If you want to read a comprehensive account of the war in less than 500 pages, this is the book. Lehrman has produced a unique chronicle of World War II, focusing not on chronology but on the interaction of the war’s major figures and lesser figures. His research is overwhelming and he writes elegantly.

• R. Emmett Tyrrell, *The American Spectator*.

Lewis E. Lehrman was presented the National Humanities Medal at the White House for his work in American history. Lehrman has written for the *Washington Post*, *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *The Finest Hour*, *National Review*, *New York Sun*, *Harper’s*, *The Churchill Project* at Hillsdale College, and *The Chartwell Bulletin*. Lehrman authored *Lincoln at Peoria: The Turning Point* (a history of Mr. Lincoln’s anti-slavery campaign from 1854 to 1865); *Lincoln* (a book of essays about President Lincoln); and, *Money, Gold, and*

History (essays analyzing the modern history of money and its role in civilization), among other books. Lewis E. Lehrman and Richard Gilder established the Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance and Abolition at Yale University. Together Lehrman and Gilder developed the unique Gilder Lehrman Collection of original historical manuscripts and documents to teach American history from primary sources. The collection is on deposit for public access at the New-York Historical Society (and cataloged definitively at <https://www.gilderlehrman.org/collections>.) The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History has developed a highly acclaimed national program for teaching American history in high schools and colleges throughout America (www.gilderlehrman.org). Lehrman received a B.A. from Yale and an M.A. in history from Harvard. He was a Carnegie Teaching Fellow in History at Yale and a Woodrow Wilson Fellow in History at Harvard. He has been awarded Honorary Degrees from Babson College, Gettysburg College, Lincoln College, Marymount University, and Thomas Aquinas College.

Churchill, Roosevelt & Company is a must-read for anyone who is passionate about American history, World War II, and for those who have an interest in the characteristics and personalities of successful and effective leaders. In this book, Lewis E. Lehrman offers an incredible, astonishing breadth and depth of research and an exceptional understanding of the historical details and nuances of the day. Beautifully written, elegant prose, compelling narrative, each chapter opens a captivating window into the thoughts, viewpoints, relationships, actions, results and consequences of Winston Churchill, Franklin D. Roosevelt and some of their closest associates. The book offers powerful insights about character and leadership that are important for today. I was inspired to learn and understand things about World War II and leadership that I had never considered before. I couldn't put the book down and still think about it weeks after finishing the last chapter. A great book, a compelling read!

Tremendous! Compliments to Mr. Lehrman for his exhaustive research (his footnotes are stunning) as he profiled both the complicated personalities and agendas of the three allied leaders in directing their nations separately and collectively in and through World War II and defeating both Nazi Germany and imperial Japan; but Mr. Lehrman also does a masterful job in profiling a subset of lesser players who had huge influences on decision making. The positive character of people such as Churchill, Hopkins, the British citizen, Harrison, Marshall, Eden are all encouraging. Harry Dexter White, Silverman, Chambers tragic. Mr. Lehrman's ability in weaving it all together was genius. Churchill, Roosevelt and Company also laid the groundwork in my understanding of

how the war's ending emboldened American liberals in their pursuit of a world order. A Pax Americana – militarily, politically, and economically. A successful era now badly fraying.

I agree with all the encomiums that previous reviewers have bestowed upon Lew Lehrman's new book, CHURCHILL, ROOSEVELT & COMPANY, which is a worthy companion to his masterful earlier work LINCOLN AT PEORIA: THE TURNING POINT and a tantalizing teaser for his forthcoming book on the statesmanship of Lincoln and Churchill. I found especially poignant the portrait of Harry Hopkins, who so ably facilitated the FDR-Churchill relationship, and the way that that crucial relationship grew and then (sadly) deteriorated. The chapters on Assistant Treasury Secretary Harry Dexter White and the Bretton Woods accord are most illuminating, partly because of the author's deep understanding of international finance and monetary policy, and partly because he shows in detail how White's spying for the Soviets damaged American interests. Lehrman avails himself of the meticulous and revelatory scholarship on the Communist Party USA by Harvey Klehr and John Earl Haynes, whose books on that subject are among this generation's most important contributions to the understanding of modern American history.

Churchill, Roosevelt & Company is a fabulous meticulously researched historical account of the key players in the management of World War II. The footnotes are almost as long as the actual text carefully attributing important interesting information about the personal thinking of these individuals. It is apparent from reading Lewis Lehrman's analysis that Stalin certainly outmaneuvered Roosevelt throughout the war. Churchill is seen once again as an indefatigable leader willing to do whatever was necessary to save both Great Britain and its allies. As in any human endeavor many of the individuals profiled in Churchill, Roosevelt & Company involved in this epic battle for the survival of democratic governments had outsized roles. Harry Hopkins appears life sized in the pages as does Averell Harriman, Joseph Kennedy and the US generals Marshall and Eisenhower. What really transpired at Yalta and Tehran as well as Dumbarton Oaks is vividly portrayed and the roles of lesser known players such as Harry Dexter White are described in detail. This is an academic history book that reads like a bestseller!

I've read so many books about Churchill, Roosevelt and World War 2 that I find myself questioning myself: Do I really need to read another? In this case a definite YES! I've learn so much more about

Roosevelt by reading it. This book lets us see him as a real, human, American politician instead of the god-like myth that is so often publicly portrayed. It seems a very fair portrayal, backed up by a lot of end-notes. As another reviewer noted. It gives us a glimpse into the workings of the "Deep State" that is so powerful today with appointment of un-elected officials shaping policy, according to their personal prejudices, that can have long-lasting effects on our history and welfare. This book is just super. I'm so glad I picked it up. There's a lot of information and insight crammed into this modest sized volume.

I purchased the book in both hard copy and the Kindle digital edition and found myself migrating to the Kindle digital edition as I found the layout to be more easy to read. The larger text in the Kindle digital version was very helpful for me as I indulged Lehrman's latest work. I agree with the other reviewers that "Churchill, Roosevelt & Company" is a fascinating piece of work and required reading for those inspired by these key historical figures. As Lehrman has done with his other work relating to President Lincoln, he incorporates a vast amount of research to provide a balanced and grounded account of these influential leaders and time in history. I highly recommend this book to those who are intrigued by this time in our history as well as those interested in analyzing different leadership styles!

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