



Young Mr. Roosevelt: FDR's Introduction to War, Politics, and Life

By Weintraub, Stanley.

DaCapo. 1 Cloth(s), 2013. hard. Book Condition: New. In his third book on the Roosevelt era, following *Final Victory* and *Pearl Harbor Christmas*, National Book Award-nominated historian and biographer Stanley Weintraub takes us back to Franklin D. Roosevelt's early political career. He was an unpromising patrician playboy when he was appointed assistant secretary of the navy in 1913, a young and enterprising nephew of his predecessor "Uncle Ted," who had been the assistant secretary 15 years earlier. But Franklin expedited the re-arming of the navy after war broke out in Europe, despite President Wilson's neutrality, and when the United States entered the conflict in 1917, Roosevelt's role increased dramatically. During this time his testy marriage to his cousin Eleanor frayed, and Franklin began an affair with her social secretary Lucy Mercer, though Eleanor cannily kept the scandal under wraps. As Weintraub assays here, Franklin parlayed his national stature into a Democratic vice-presidential nomination in 1920, after which nothing—not the loss of the election, nor even the onset of poliomyelitis—could dissuade Roosevelt's ambitions for higher office. Weintraub also paints a picture of early 20th-century Washington, D.C., where the residue of Victorian social mores made life resemble the novels of Henry James. A brisk, short,...



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