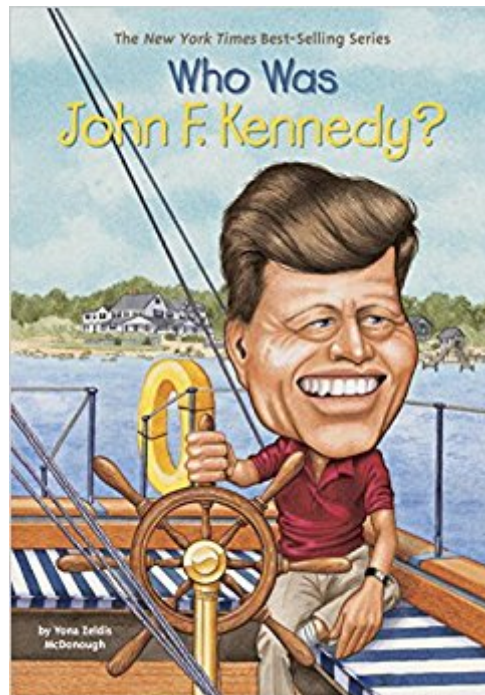




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Who Was John F. Kennedy?: Who Was...?



Synopsis

The man who saved the lives of his PT-109 crewmen during WWII and became the 35th president fought-and won-his first battle at the age of two-and-a-half, when he was stricken with scarlet fever. Although his presidency was cut short, our nation's youngest elected leader left an indelible mark on the American consciousness and now is profiled in our Who Was...? series. Included are 100 black-and-white illustrations as well as a timeline that guides readers through this eventful period in history.

Book Information

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Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

Yona Zeldis McDonough is a longtime doll lover and collector. She is also an award-winning author who has published numerous books for children and adults. She presently lives in Brooklyn with her husband and two children.

Who Was John F. Kennedy? Who Was John F. Kennedy? To my children, James and Katherine McDonough "Y.Z.M. For Charlotte with love" J.W. Who Was John F. Kennedy? The small boat sped quickly along in the dark. It was a hot night in August. The thirteen men onboard were quiet and tense. Their mission was a scary one: They were looking for Japanese warships in the

Pacific Ocean. Suddenly, there was an explosion. The small boat was ripped in half by a Japanese destroyer returning to its base. Two of the crew were killed instantly. The other eleven men clung to pieces of the boat until morning. Then the wreckage began to sink. The captain decided they all must swim to the safety of a nearby island. The men didn't think they could make it. "Will we ever get out of this?" asked one. "It can be done," replied the captain. "We'll do it." One of the men was burned so badly that he could not swim. He told the captain to save himself and the other men. But the captain would not leave the wounded man. He swam for five long hours with the burned man on his back. When they reached the island, the captain discovered two natives and a canoe. He also discovered a coconut shell on which he carved these words: NATIVE KNOWS POSITHE CAN PILOT 11 ALIVENEED SMALL BOAT KENNEDY He gave the shell with the message to the islanders who went by canoe to another island nearly forty miles away. Six days after the patrol boat was destroyed, the brave and quick-thinking captain and his crew were rescued. The captain's name was John Fitzgerald Kennedy.

Chapter 1 Little Boy, Big Family

On May 29, 1917, a baby boy was born to Joseph P. Kennedy, a wealthy, Irish-American businessman, and his wife Rose. They named him John Fitzgerald Kennedy, in honor of Rose's father "John F. Fitzgerald." Honey Fitz, as he was called, had been a popular politician and a former mayor of Boston. When his daughter Rose began dating the young Kennedy boy, Honey Fitz was not so sure he approved. But the couple kept seeing each other and, eventually, Honey Fitz was won over by Joe's hardworking and ambitious nature.

IRISH IMMIGRATION TO THE UNITED STATES

IN THE 1840S AND 1850S, MORE THAN ONE MILLION IRISH IMMIGRANTS SAILED TO AMERICA. BACK IN IRELAND, THE POTATO CROP HAD FAILED. WITHOUT THEIR STAPLE FOOD, AT LEAST ONE MILLION PEOPLE DIED OF STARVATION AND DISEASE. THE IMMIGRANTS WHO CAME HERE WERE CRAMMED INTO CROWDED, DIRTY SHIPS. NEARLY 20 PERCENT OF THEM DIED BEFORE THEY ARRIVED. THE ONES WHO DID WERE CALLED THE "FAMINE IRISH." LIKE MANY NEW IMMIGRANT GROUPS, THEY FACED DISCRIMINATION AND HATRED. THEY COULD NOT EASILY FIND JOBS OR PLACES TO LIVE. SIGNS WITH THE WORDS "IRISH NEED NOT APPLY" WERE COMMON. THEY TOOK THE ONLY WORK THEY COULD GET: LAYING RAILROAD TRACKS, SHOVELING COAL, DIGGING CANALS, AND CLEARING SWAMPS.

Great little book. We buy lots of Who Was books and use them for homeschool enrichment. Short chapters, larger font, and lots of pictures make these books an easy read. This was a great addition to our collection.

My fourth grader needed to research a past president and her teacher assigned JFK to her. We found this book online and she read it over a weekend. It was easy to read and she was able to retain the information easier than just looking at facts on the internet. She truly felt she knew about JFK and now she wants to know more about Jackie. Apparently she was a fashion icon and so that was all it took for my daughter. What a great way to learn history and to learn about a president that was frozen in time at the prime of his life due to his premature death. Highly recommended for your student.

Daughter loves the book, nice addition to the "Who Was" series

I wish they would actually put this series as being listed in the adult section! Why? Cause they are informative and big worded enough for an adult to enjoy. The illustration are not kiddish though enough for a teen to enjoy. I've read 302 pgs of these books so far, and I found all three of them to be captivating. I never really had an history class, and I loathe textbooks. This is more than I would actually get in a textbook if I read about John F. Kennedy, Albert Einstein, and Neil Armstrong. For instance: I didn't know about Neil Armstrong's daughter, I did know about Albert Einstein's sons only cause I read a 500pg book on him, and it took me two years of sidetracking to get it read. I already knew a lot about the Kennedys because I'm a space fan, and I've read parts of books on him already not too mention documentaries. I read these in about an hour before dinner. But seriously, they should be in the young adult section at least, as well. The only history I have truly learned comes from biographies,documentaries,museum trips, and I love it. I hope this person writes more of these.

Great book, my son loves all these in series

I purchased this book to supplement my grandson's reading on John F. Kennedy. By purchasing this book, I wanted to show my 13 year-old grandson that there were other available sources he could use to help him understand his main reading.I have since read this book and it is simply a linear volume of facts; and I think the "cartoon" illustrations are to somehow enhance the story, for me, it does not. The story weaves in and out of its basic story line. If you're looking for "just the facts" about the Kennedy clan this book should be okay.

J.F.K. IS MY FAVORITE PERSON IN THE WORLD. THAT'S BECAUSE OF THIS BOOK. THIS BOOK IS FULL OF INFORMATION. J.F.K. IN MY OPINION IS THE BEST PRESIDENT. YOU'LL LOVE THIS BOOK.

I would definitely recommendTo readers of all ages. Descriptive and really teaches you about John F Kennedy's whole life

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