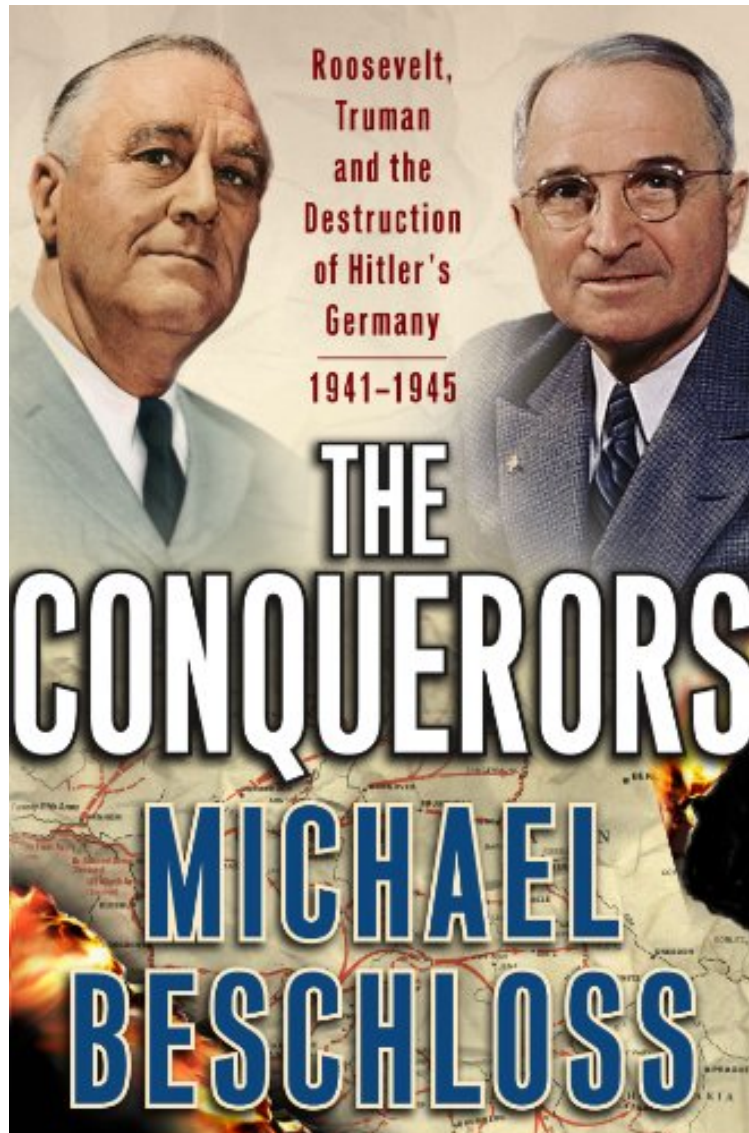


(Read now) The Conquerors: Roosevelt, Truman and the Destruction of Hitler's Germany, 1941-1945 (English Edition)

The Conquerors: Roosevelt, Truman and the Destruction of Hitler's Germany, 1941-1945 (English Edition)

Von Michael R. Beschloss

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Von Michael R. Beschloss : The Conquerors: Roosevelt, Truman and the Destruction of Hitler's Germany, 1941-1945 (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Conquerors: Roosevelt, Truman and the Destruction of Hitler's Germany, 1941-1945 (English Edition):

Kundenrezensionen
Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen
1 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Die andere Seite des 2. Weltkrieges
Von Max Deutsch
Der 2. Weltkrieg wird bei uns oft rein aus deutscher Sicht behandelt, alles konzentriert sich auf Deutschland und die anderen reagieren eigentlich nur. Das war natürlich rein gar nicht so. Dieses Buch gibt ein wenig Auskunft über die amerikanische Seite des Krieges, allerdings - und daher vergeblich - nur drei Sterne - konzentriert auf die Meinungsbildung am Ende des Krieges innerhalb des Kabinetts Roosevelt und seines Nachfolgers Truman sowie unter starker Betonung der Rolle des Finanzministers Morgenthau. Viel - und manchmal Erschreckendes - wird hier über die Zusammenkünfte, Meinungsaustausche und Tagebucheinträge der einzelnen Personen geschrieben. Zu kurz kommt eine Analyse der Gesamtzusammenhänge und auch die Behandlung der "harten" Fakten - was bedeutete der Krieg eigentlich für die amerikanische Gesellschaft insgesamt, für die Finanzen usw. Erschreckend finde ich v.a. die Informationen über Roosevelt und seine anscheinend nicht untypischen geistigen Aussetzer in den letzten Monaten vor seinem Tod, aber auch bereits davor.

Kurzbeschreibung
A New York Times bestseller, *The Conquerors* reveals how Franklin Roosevelt's and Harry Truman's private struggles with their aides and Winston Churchill and Joseph Stalin affected the unfolding of the Holocaust and the fate of vanquished Nazi Germany. With monumental fairness and balance, *The Conquerors* shows how Roosevelt privately refused desperate pleas to speak out directly against the Holocaust, to save Jewish refugees and to explore the possible bombing of Auschwitz to stop the killing. The book also shows FDR's fierce will to ensure that Germany would never threaten the world again. Near the end of World War II, he abruptly endorsed the secret plan of his friend, Treasury Secretary Henry Morgenthau, to reduce the Germans to a primitive existence -- despite Churchill's fear that crushing postwar Germany would let the Soviets conquer the continent. The book finally shows how, after FDR's death, President Truman rebelled against Roosevelt's tough approach and adopted the Marshall Plan and other more conciliatory policies that culminated in today's democratic, united Europe. Long before an Allied victory was assured during World War II, the Big Three--Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin--began discussing how to prevent Germany from ever again threatening the world. The fact that Germany today is a peaceful, democratic ally of the U.S. is "one of America's great twentieth-century international achievements," writes esteemed historian Michael Beschloss. How such a transformation was accomplished is the subject of *The Conquerors*. Drawing on thousands of previously unreleased documents, secret audio recordings, private diaries, and other information recently made available, Beschloss details the complex diplomacy between the Allied leaders, including their differences over whether to demand Germany's unconditional surrender; how, if at all, to divide Germany after the war; and how to effectively punish Germany without creating the kind of resentment that led to the rise of Hitler. The relationship between the three leaders, and later, Truman, is fascinating, as Beschloss reveals private conversations, ulterior motives, and numerous back-channel deals that took place. Of particular interest is the maneuvering of Roosevelt and Churchill, who were both concerned that the Soviets would attempt a postwar power grab in Western Europe if given the chance. The book also deals with Roosevelt's reluctance to deal with Germany's systematic extermination of the Jews, and the role that his old friend and Treasury Secretary, Henry Morgenthau, Jr., played in pushing the President into action. After learning of the Holocaust, Morgenthau became obsessed with punishing Germany severely, drafting a plan that called for the complete destruction of their mines and factories as a way of forcing Germany into subsistence farming--ideas that put him at odds with Secretary of State Cordell Hull, Secretary of War Henry Stimson, and many others in the administration. *The Conquerors* is a superbly written, if brief, treatment of the political events leading up to the defeat of Germany, with the main players brought vividly to life by Beschloss's keen eye for detail and his ability to expose the human strengths and weaknesses of the participants. --Shawn Carkonen.com
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