



## Harry S. Truman

*Margaret Truman*

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The definitive biography of one of the most enduring political figures of the 20th century. Margaret Truman writes with unequaled insight and understanding about her father's extraordinary life and offers rare glimpses at the personalities and politics behind the world events of his time. A New York Times bestseller.

## Harry S. Truman Details

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Author : Margaret Truman

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## From Reader Review Harry S. Truman for online ebook

### Susan O says

4.5

I really enjoyed this biography of Truman. I've read a couple of others and much of the material was the same, but Margaret Truman's writing style is fun and conversational making the reading experience delightful. She also includes a lot of family anecdotes and personal correspondence which might not be available to others. As Truman's daughter, Margaret doesn't pretend to be completely objective, but I do think she gives a reasonably accurate portrait of her father based on the other information I've read. I highly recommend it.

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### James Burns says

It was refreshing to read about a President, from the perspective of a Daughter, you can tell that she adores her father. the book is filled with letters and document backing up her theories and conclusions. She is very biased about her fathers history and record, but the facts are well researched and documented. Harry Truman was a great President and Commander in Chief, and yet he is the only world Leader ever to authorize the use of an Atomic bomb against civilians and military targets. He also relieved a popular General of his command. Politics have not changed, President Truman had to fight the hostile press and a hostile congress, and accusations from Senator McCarthy about him being to weak on communist regimes and having communist in his cabinet. This is a very good book and I encourage political junkies and Presidential enthusiasts to read it.

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### Beverly Hollandbeck says

I love reading about Truman. I picked this one up because I thought - since it is by his daughter - it would add more of a personal touch to his image. It does do that, but it also repeats most of the historical and political experiences that other books provide, so I was a little disappointed.

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### Sharon says

This is one of the first adult biographies I read. I always thought my mom was crazy for reading non-fiction, but this book was so good, that I've continued some non-fiction throughout my reading life. I wrote a report on this one for sophomore English.

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### Emmy says

This was an informative read and interesting to follow. It read more as a family memoir than a political

history book so the tone was different from other presidential biographies I have read.

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### **Sharla says**

Margaret Truman was uniquely qualified to write this book. First of all she was Harry Truman's daughter and secondly, she could write. The perspective is one no one else could have provided. Of course it is a biased perspective but one that should be welcome to anyone with an interest in history or the presidency. You can get the facts of what happened and when anywhere but no other book will provide the insight this one does.

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### **John says**

Rated: B+

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### **Sean says**

Harry Truman's daughter Margaret writes a personal but very factual account of her father's life, from his early days as a county judge, through his career in the US Senate, Vice Presidency and then his time as the 33rd president.

Margaret Truman is uniquely positioned to infuse lots of personal details about Harry Truman and his beliefs and motives throughout his life. This gives her biography a very rich feel to it, as we see Truman's political life from the inside.

What makes this such a great read, though, is that it's not merely a daughter's personal viewpoint of a famous man. Rather, Margaret Truman was an intelligent and well educated woman who knew a great detail about the issues that her father faces and the broader political climate of the time. Her work therefore becomes that much more authoritative.

The result is a rich and interesting portrait of a president who many consider to be one of our top four or five greatest presidents of all time.

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### **Doug says**

Clearly, the author adores the subject of her book. Still, I was surprised to find that she managed to write a book that isn't hero-worship. You'll learn about a side of Harry Truman that no one else could possibly understand.

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### **Amy says**

VP Sarah Palin glossed over a lot of history when she erroneously compared herself to Truman. She can only

wish to be in his league.

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### **Jeff Dawson says**

An excellent tribute to Harry.

The only fallacy I could find was his faith that sooner or later Russia would start honoring its agreements. We know how that turned out.

I found several quotes that are just as important today in what we believe is a political free-for-all as they did back then:

“I have been all over these United States from one end to another, and when I started out the song was - Well, you can’t win, the Democrats can’t win. Ninety percent of the press is against us, but that didn’t discourage me one little bit. You know, I had four campaigns here in the great state of Missouri, and I never had a metropolitan paper for me the whole time. And I licked them every time! People are waking up to the fact that this is their government, and that they can control their government if they get out and vote on election day. That is all they need to do. . . . People are waking up, that the tide is beginning to roll, and I am here to tell you that if you do your duty as citizens of the greatest Republic the sun has ever shone on, we will have a government that will be for your interests, that will be for peace in the world, and for the welfare of all the people, and not just a few.”

“I don’t go that far, but I sometimes think that if Congressmen talked less and worked more for the public interest they would come out much better and so would the country.”

“We must not fall victim to the insidious propaganda that peace can be obtained solely by wanting peace. This theory is advanced in the hope that it will deceive our people and that we will then permit our strength to dwindle because of the false belief that all is well in the world.”

“Communism is based on the belief that man is so weak and inadequate that he is unable to govern himself, and therefore requires the rule of strong masters. Democracy is based on the conviction that man has the moral and intellectual capacity, as well as the inalienable right, to govern himself with reason and justice.”

“Held Cabinet meeting - explained to Cabinet members that in my opinion the Cabinet members were simply a Board of Directors appointed by the President, to help him carry out the policies of the government; in many instances the Cabinet could be of tremendous help to the President by offering advice whether he liked it or not. But when President made an order they should carry it out. I told them I expected to have a Cabinet I could depend on and take in my confidence and if this confidence was not well placed I would get a Cabinet in which I could place confidence.”

Little disappointed shed didn’t spend a some more time talking about the Berlin Airlift. This was a watermark point in the Cold War.

If you want a good look at Harry, well worth the time.

Five Stars

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### **Nancy says**

Read years ago, but remember that I loved it.

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### **Kressel Housman says**

As we're in the midst of a historic election year, this bio was an especially fascinating read. The very first chapter is all about his unexpected victory over Dewey! The book was written by Truman's daughter, so naturally, she portrays him in glowing terms, but the book is so well-documented, you can't help but believe her. She also interweaves history and politics with personal anecdotes, which keeps the book from getting too heavy and dry (though, I admit, some parts were slow). She details all his major decisions - the A-bomb, firing MacArthur, and my personal interest, the support of the State of Israel. She also discussed many things I didn't know about Truman - assassination attempts on his life, his support of civil rights before the movement really took off, and even his love of classical music. But the main theme that shone through was that his policies grew out of his dedication to public service, NOT self-service and personal ambition. He must be turning over in his grave over the current image-driven political process. The world needs another Truman - an honest and courageous person who will risk his popularity to make life-and-death decisions. I don't know if either of the current candidates is that, but may Hashem bring about whatever is best for the world as a whole.

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### **Ronald Golik says**

#### **Great man**

Very well written. Great insight to the man and his presidency. Had to make some tough decisions and did a great job. One of our best presidents.

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### **Kieran says**

A little tedious at times but packed full of great information and the historical sourcing couldn't be better. Definitely worth a read.

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