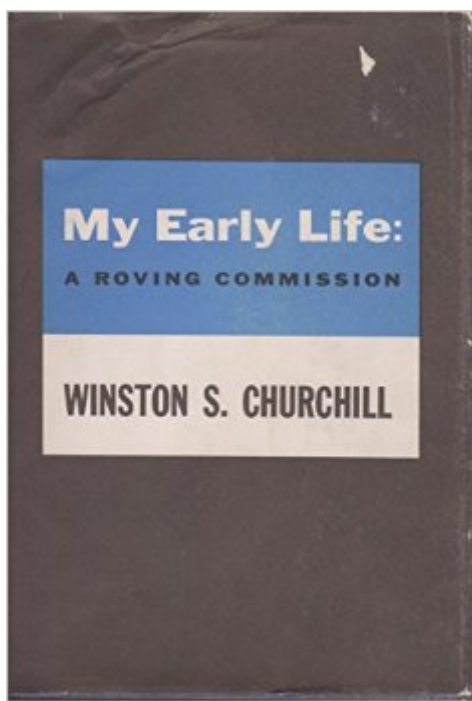


The book was found

My Early Life: A Roving Commission



Synopsis

The story of the launching of Sir Winston's career and the formation of his character at Harrow, Sandhurst, and with the Army in India and Africa.

Book Information

Paperback: 372 pages

Publisher: Scribner's Sons (1958)

Language: English

ASIN: B000GKNG64

Product Dimensions: 7.9 x 5.4 x 0.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (4 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,085,046 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #125 in Â Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Leaders & Notable People > Presidents & Heads of State > U.K. Prime Ministers

Customer Reviews

For a book written by the author when in his 30s (I may be off by a few years), this is incredible. First, because Churchill himself wrote it, and not some professional writer. Second, because of the extreme detail, which suggests either an incredible memory, or a willingness to make up finely constructed overlays of fiction. Maybe this is a little of both. Churchill either covers his tracks well, or presents the facts very pleasantly. His mom ignores him and his dad holds about 3 substantive conversations with him. In return, he idolizes and idealizes both, consoling himself by getting in trouble at school, and playing army at home. Like a latter-day Peter the Great, his childhood army games lay a foundation for adult army leadership, although Churchill stays more constrained than the despotic Russian. He maintains, however, a raw animal side to his spirit which stays intact his whole life, resulting, in one memorable event about 40 or 45 years after this book cuts off with Churchill's marriage, where Churchill pauses on an inspection of a European battlefield after the defeat of Germany to urinate on the famed "Siegfried Line" in front of a group of military dignitaries. Naughty boy to the end. Churchill convincingly puts himself back into young boy mode and preserves for us portraits of his nurse, Mrs. Everest, the hatefulness of boarding school, and the release of achieving self-actualization in the form of military school at Sandhurst, and then a whirlwind of military adventures on several continents, arranged mostly by his influential and adulterous mother. Not much adultery here, but William Manchester goes through it in detail in his first of the two-volume set "The Last Lion."

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