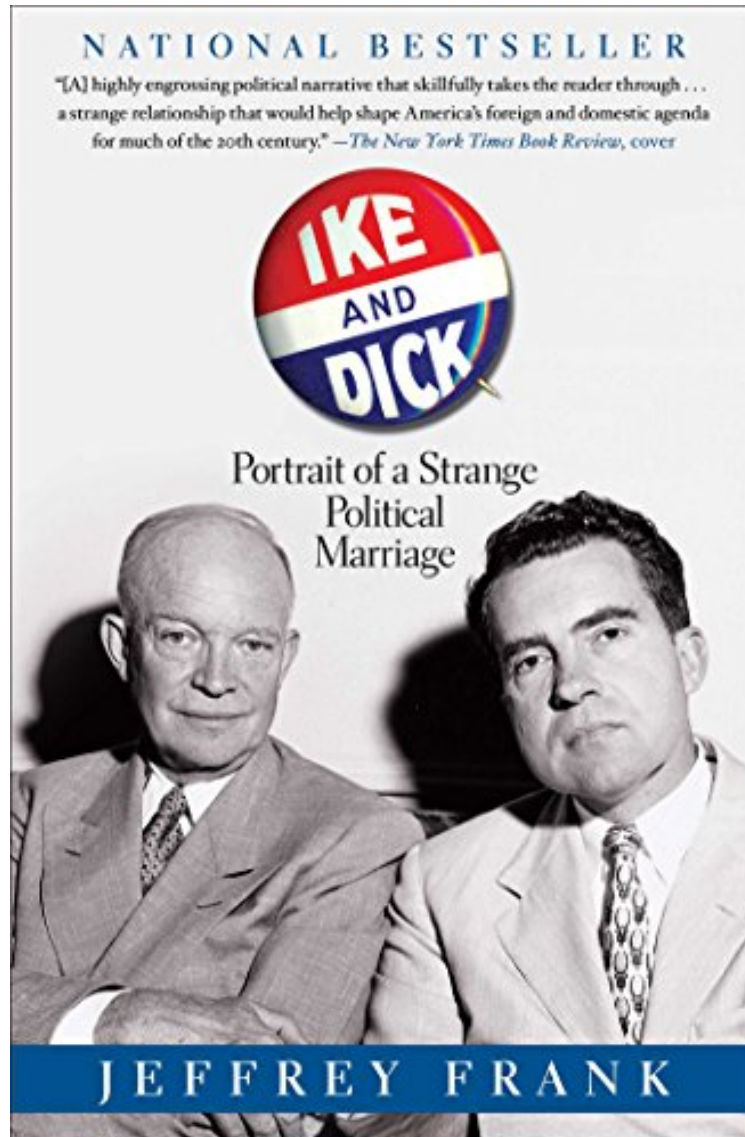


[Get free] Ike and Dick: Portrait of a Strange Political Marriage (English Edition)

## Ike and Dick: Portrait of a Strange Political Marriage (English Edition)

Von Jeffrey Frank

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**Von Jeffrey Frank : Ike and Dick: Portrait of a Strange Political Marriage (English Edition)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Ike and Dick: Portrait of a Strange Political Marriage (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. An Indepth Study of a Compex Political RelationshipVon James Gallen"Ike and Dick" is the story of one of the strangest

but most fruitful political marriages in American history. The two giants of American politics were brought together in the cauldron of the 1952 Republican convention and would feed and fended off each other for 16 years. A generation apart, Eisenhower was the conquering hero with a secure place in history when he met Senator Nixon, a former junior naval officer. Although having only the benefit of brief encounters, Eisenhower was impressed by Nixon as a patriotic Commie hunter with a connection to the Conservative wing of the Republican Party. To a young man on the fast track, Ike provided a ticket to national office and an open path to the White House. The relationship was more that of a father and son than political partners. Nixon always craved the approval of his senior while Ike used him, felt dismayed by the wayward son's antics and, more than once, seemed to want to be rid of him. Ike sent Nixon to fight the battles he desired to remain above. The honeymoon was short lived. When the scandal over Nixon's political fund erupted the chess match began. While messages from the General's campaign suggested that his running mate resign, Nixon pulled through with his Checkers' speech that turned the decision over to the National Committee while asking the public to help it decide. In 1956 Nixon seems to have been genuinely undecided about continuing his political career. Eisenhower suggested that Nixon take a cabinet position to get experience in running an organization. Was this offer motivated by a genuine concern for Nixon's future or was it a crafty attempt to rid himself of a distasteful association? If it was the latter Nixon again outplayed his sponsor by staying on the ticket. In 1960 Nixon sought Ike's endorsement that only came after the nomination was decided. In October the "Give me a week" comment was a body blow to a surging campaign. Thereafter Eisenhower was alternatively supportive and standoffish through the disastrous gubernatorial race, the years in the wilderness and the return to power. Ultimately their families would be united in the marriage of Julie Nixon and David Eisenhower. The dramatis personae, for all their differences, were complementary. Ike, the kindly grandfather with a devious *modus operandi* needed Nixon's political acumen and enthusiasm for the campaign trail. Nixon, who always had his strident detractors, needed the affirmation and support of the man who could help him grab the highest ring. Author Jeffrey Frank has done an excellent job in analyzing the many facets of this complex relationship. He leaves the reader questioning, who had the better of this deal? Is Eisenhower to blame for foisting a flawed politico to the heights of American political life, or should he be blamed for scarring Nixon by using him as a hatchet man rather than providing mentoring to an eager pupil? Would Nixon have been a more credible candidate, and a better president, if he had led a cabinet department? Should Nixon have followed the advice, or would he have fallen into a trap and historical oblivion? We will never know but a book that can generate such questions is one not to be missed.

Kurzbeschreibung Dwight D. Eisenhower and Richard Nixon had a political and private relationship that lasted nearly twenty years, a tie that survived hurtful slights, tense misunderstandings, and the distance between them in age and temperament. Yet the two men brought out the best and worst in each other, and their association had important consequences for their respective presidencies. In *Ike and Dick*, Jeffrey Frank rediscovers these two compelling figures with the sensitivity of a novelist and the discipline of a historian. He offers a fresh view of the younger Nixon as a striving tactician, as well as the ever more perplexing person that he became. He portrays Eisenhower, the legendary soldier, as a cold, even vain man with a warm smile whose sound instincts about war and peace far outpaced his understanding of the changes occurring in his own country. Eisenhower and Nixon shared striking characteristics: high intelligence, cunning, and an aversion to confrontation, especially with each other. Ike and Dick, informed by dozens of interviews and deep archival research, traces the path of their relationship in a dangerous world of recurring crises as Nixon's ambitions grew and Eisenhower was struck by a series of debilitating illnesses. And, as the 1968 election cycle approached and the war in Vietnam roiled the country, it shows why Eisenhower, mortally ill and despite his doubts, supported Nixon's final attempt to win the White House, a change influenced by a family matter: his grandson David's courtship of Nixon's daughter Juliet. Teenagers in love who understood the political stakes of their union. *Pressestimmen* A New York Times Book Editors' Choice Best Books of 2013: Slate Staff Picks One of Jay Strafford's 10 favorite books of 2013: Richmond Times-Dispatch Best Books of 2013: Kansas City Star Books of the Year: The Spectator (Australia) One of the Eight Best Books for Potus Geeks in 2013 One of the best books ever written about Richard Nixon. *Ike and Dick* shows how much life remains in artfully straightforward narrative history. (The New Yorker) *Ike and Dick* is a highly engrossing political narrative that skillfully takes the reader through the twisted development of a strange relationship that would help shape America's foreign and domestic agenda for much of the 20th century. (The New York Times Book ) Engrossing worthwhile. At the heart of *Ike and Dick* are marvelously cringe-inducing anecdotes that capture an awkward relationship that improved over time without ever truly blooming. (The Wall Street Journal) Jeffrey Frank is a nimble writer with a clear-eyed understanding of power. [*Ike and Dick*] reveals the nuances of the complex relationship between Nixon and the man under whom he served as vice president, Dwight Eisenhower, nuances that should resonate with Republicans who are waging an internecine struggle over the future of their party. (The Miami Herald) Frank constructs a marvelous account of political history as well as astute portraits of the two men. the rich, inside-politics mix of rumor and maneuver in which connoisseurs of political history

love to marinate. (Booklist) Jeffrey Frank knows a good story when he sees one, or sees two. Ambition and hesitation, intrigue and indifference, scheming and serenity, infuse 31 chapters. His saga evokes the seamy underside of the sunny 1950s. [A] detailed and charming history. (Martin F. Nolan *The San Francisco Chronicle*) "Ike and Dick is an elegant example of how pleasurable political history can be when written by a skilled teller of fictional tales who has a careful reporters respect for facts. It is top-drawer as political history, unusually well written, and stuffed with forty pages of notes providing sources for an extraordinary variety of information. It is also an entertaining human tale of generational conflict, filled with the elements that enliven popular novels and soap operas." (Russell Baker *The New York of Books*) This is superlative, compelling, cant-put-it-down history. Jeffrey Frank is an elegant writer, with a novelists eye; the relationship between Eisenhower and Nixon, in all its complexity and weirdness, is a treasure chest that he unpacks brilliantly. This is the perfect time for us to reconsider the trajectory of the Republican Party in the late twentieth century, and this book is a perfect way to do it. (Joe Klein *Time* columnist) The mating of Dwight Eisenhower and Richard Nixon was one of the strangest and most fateful in all of American political history. With psychological acuity and perfect pitch for the not-so-distant past, Jeffrey Frank has captured the story beautifully. Ike and Dick will surprise and greatly entertain as well as enlighten you. (Sean Wilentz author of *The Rise of American Democracy*) To read this book is to be reminded of Richard Nixons singularly tortured character in all its cussedness and genius and to learn anew of Dwight Eisenhowers capacity for shrewd political cunning and often insouciant human coldness. Ike and Dick deeply textures our understanding of two outsized American personalities and the complex layers of their long and consequential relationship and its full of delicious gossip, too. (David M. Kennedy Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Freedom from Fear*) Anyone interested in U.S. politics will enjoy Jeffrey Franks absorbing tale of two very different men and their turbulent relationship. (Bookpage) Fascinating. (Minneapolis Star-Tribune) A highly satisfying read. (Slate.com, Best Books 2013 pick) Ike and Dick is enthralling, innovative, and judicious. It rivets the reader. Jeffrey Frank knows Washington and national politics inside and out. He employs numerous interviews and recently declassified information superbly. In critical respects, and by using their own words with meticulous care, he peels away layers of disingenuousness from both men. The cast of characters, including indiscreet aides, ranges from bright red to shady gray. (Michael Kammen Pulitzer Prize-winning author and past president of the Organization of American Historians) The author does a fine job delineating the complex personalities of both men, and he provides novelistic touches befitting his background. A well-researched and -written history that will satisfy both Eisenhower and Nixon aficionados. (Kirkus s) Kurzbeschreibung Dwight D. Eisenhower and Richard Nixon had a political and private relationship that lasted nearly twenty years, a tie that survived hurtful slights, tense misunderstandings, and the distance between them in age and temperament. Yet the two men brought out the best and worst in each other, and their association had important consequences for their respective presidencies. In *Ike and Dick*, Jeffrey Frank rediscovers these two compelling figures with the sensitivity of a novelist and the discipline of a historian. He offers a fresh view of the younger Nixon as a striving tactician, as well as the ever more perplexing person that he became. He portrays Eisenhower, the legendary soldier, as a cold, even vain man with a warm smile whose sound instincts about war and peace far outpaced his understanding of the changes occurring in his own country. Eisenhower and Nixon shared striking characteristics: high intelligence, cunning, and an aversion to confrontation, especially with each other. *Ike and Dick*, informed by dozens of interviews and deep archival research, traces the path of their relationship in a dangerous world of recurring crises as Nixons ambitions grew and Eisenhower was struck by a series of debilitating illnesses. And, as the 1968 election cycle approached and the war in Vietnam roiled the country, it shows why Eisenhower, mortally ill and despite his doubts, supported Nixons final attempt to win the White House, a change influenced by a family matter: his grandson Davids courtship of Nixons daughter Julieteenagers in love who understood the political stakes of their union.