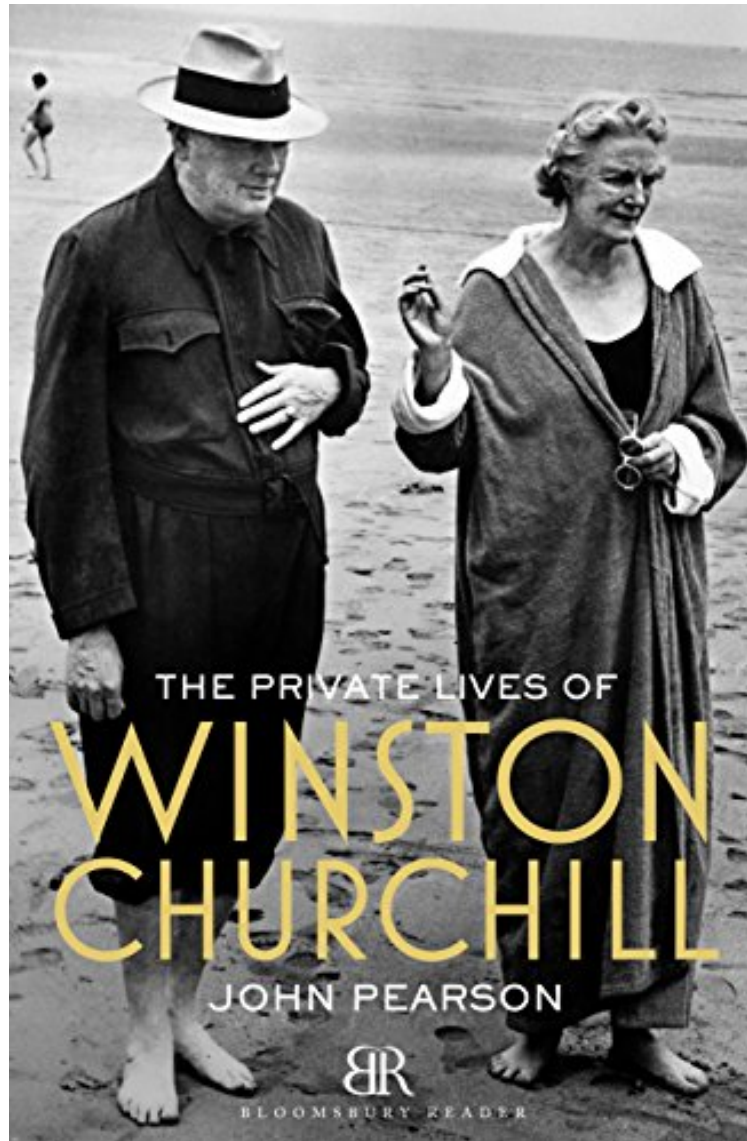


(Mobile library) The Private Lives of Winston Churchill (Bloomsbury Reader)

## The Private Lives of Winston Churchill (Bloomsbury Reader)

Von John Pearson

*\*Download PDF / ePub / DOC / audiobook / ebooks*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

Produktinformation -Verkaufsrang: #1389070 in eBooksVerffentlicht am: 2011-12-01Erscheinungsdatum: 2011-12-01File Name: B006GPKEP4 | File size: 63.Mb

**Von John Pearson : The Private Lives of Winston Churchill (Bloomsbury Reader)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Private Lives of Winston Churchill (Bloomsbury Reader):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. an expose but not a psychobiographyVon Siegfried SutterlinPearson did not write a psychobiography but provides a thorough expose of the private "lives" of Churchill. The question arises why not "life" instead of "lives" which raises

the issue of the psychologically plagued Churchill whose frequent and ongoing depressions were solved, according to Pearson, by vigorous aggression. This aggression was acted out at the personal and political and foreign policy level with disastrous consequences. The use of the plural "lives" also raises the issue of cultivating an image removed from reality and that provides the author with lots and lots of chances to debunk the hero-worship of Churchill. He thus demonstrates that butlers have no heroes. It portrays Churchill as being close to schizophrenic, certainly not humane but "brutal" as the author says. According to polls in Britain, Churchill is still the most admired statesman in a manner, cynics or realists can say, in which Stalin, Churchill's admired and personal friend for years, is still viewed by polls as the second most admired man in Russia's history next to Alexander Nevsky. Carefully cultivated images and myths die indeed slowly. The masses still admire someone who was responsible for the deaths of many innocent Iraqi villages when Churchill ordered the use of gas in the early 1920s while he was Colonial Secretary and who later, in the early 1950s as Prime Minister, maltreated and oppressed thousands of Africans in colonial concentration camps. Pearson's focus is highly concentrated on Churchill's historical background and family affairs. Having had access to good sources he is able, with plenty of quotes from private primary family sources, to make his case that Churchill was an authoritarian family man, vain, egotistical, self-centered and an imperialist, an aristocrat and, above all, a frothing militarist. Pearson in fact likens his character qualities, surprisingly enough, to Hitler but attempts to save him from disgrace by presumably having correctly anticipated Hitler's awful deeds. Early on, Churchill admired both Mussolini and Hitler and that didn't change significantly until after 1936. One almost gets the impression that he was envious of their political success while he was in the political doldrums. Of Churchill's four children, whom Pearson gives ample attention, two died of alcoholism, one committed suicide and only one led a reasonably normal life. That is severely dysfunctional family, one could say. Addicted to alcohol and nicotine did not help the family situation nor the children nor military/foreign policy if one believes De Gaulle's statement that Churchill's alcohol beclouded his moral sense. Churchill's fame rests upon having fought Nazism and Pearson adheres to this interpretation, too. In his inaugural speech as PM, Churchill stated that he did not assume the office in order to preside over the dissolution of the British Empire, which he wanted to sustain and consolidate. But, as historical irony would have it, that is precisely what Churchill did. Some Br. historians have made the case that Ch. did not fight Hitler to fight Nazism but to sustain the Br. Empire which collapsed rapidly in the aftermath of WWII. Churchill's fame rests upon fighting Hitler who was a great admirer of the British and their empire and did not want a war with Britain. The question Pearson, understandably pre-occupied with family affairs more than foreign policy, does not answer and that isn't answered in the history books is this: an anti-Hitler conspiracy existed in Germany long before Pearl Harbor, which contacted the British Foreign Office (and the U.S. State Dept.) with the offer to assassinate Hitler if Br. (and indirectly the U.S.) were to stop warring on Germany. Churchill failed to give the green light and never once reacted to this or other peace offers and/or opportunities to PREVENT a world war. Did Churchill neglect these chances to prevent the war from widening. He massively pushed for widening the war and to draw the U.S. into it. How did this serve the 54 millions who died as well as the hapless Jews on the continent? Wouldn't this mean some culpability rests on Churchill whose pre-occupation were military/naval actions to emulate his famous military ancestor the Duke of Marlborough?

Kurzbeschreibung He was a lion of a man who helped shape the course of this century with his relentless ambition and fierce political instincts. Few have matched Winston Churchill's cunning or force of will. Few have seen the equal of his audacity on the battlefield or the determination with which he strove toward his own ideal of greatness. At the height of his power, he seemed to embody the ideals of the empire he helped sustain: valor, pride, and above all, tradition. His sense of personal destiny was rooted deeply in the legacy of his birth-right, the heritage of his family, and the awesome responsibility of being born Churchill. In *The Private Lives of Winston Churchill*, first published in 1991, John Pearson takes us behind the myth of Churchill and deep into the psychology of a dynasty that some have called the most complicated Anglo-American family of this century. In doing so, he reveals, in rich portraits, some of the family's greatest, most charismatic, and most deeply troubled members and shows us the real, private Winston Churchill. *Pressestimmen* An extraordinary biography...Pearson...has a sensitive pen, matching the wit of his subject, and shows perceptive intuition towards the delicate relationships between the members of the Churchill family and their assorted spouses and lovers. *International Journal on World Peace* "An extraordinary biography...Pearson...has a sensitive pen, matching the wit of his subject, and shows perceptive intuition towards the delicate relationships between the members of the Churchill family and their assorted spouses and lovers." --*International Journal on World Peace* Kurzbeschreibung He was a lion of a man who helped shape the course of this century with his relentless ambition and fierce political instincts. Few have matched Winston Churchill's cunning or force of will. Few have seen the equal of his audacity on the battlefield or the determination with which he strove toward his own ideal of greatness. At the height of his power, he seemed to embody the ideals of the empire he helped sustain: valor, pride, and above all, tradition. His sense of personal destiny was rooted deeply in the legacy of his birth-right, the heritage of his family, and the awesome responsibility of being born Churchill. In *The Private Lives of Winston Churchill*, first

published in 1991, John Pearson takes us behind the myth of Churchill and deep into the psychology of a dynasty that some have called the most complicated Anglo-American family of this century. In doing so, he reveals, in rich portraits, some of the family's greatest, most charismatic, and most deeply troubled members and shows us the real, private Winston Churchill.