

Cameron: The Rise of the New Conservative



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The first major biography of the Conservative Party's dynamic new leader. David ('Dave') Cameron has recently emerged as the first Tory leader in years to come across as a man of the people, an ordinary bloke in a traditionally reviled political position. But, spin-doctoring aside, not a great deal is known about his background, his family life or his gradual rise through the ranks of the Party. The son of a prosperous and disabled stockbroker father and a magistrate mother, and a descendant of King Henry VII, Cameron excelled at Eton and was voted most likely amongst his classmates to become Prime Minister. At Oxford he 'played a lot of pool and ate a lot of kebabs', but loved politics and worked extremely hard to achieve a high first. It was clear by then that he was headed for Westminster, and indeed a former colleague at the Conservative Research Department, which Cameron joined after graduation, referred

to him as 'a young man in a hurry', a reputation cemented by his rapid rise to the head of the political department and the favour of John Major. Cameron has also worked very closely with Norman Lamont, Michael Howard, and has been an MP since 2001.

In 2005 he was asked by Howard to write the Tory manifesto, widely considered the most right-wing in post-war history. Months later, at the age of 39, he secured leadership of the Party. This biography reveals more about the man behind the spin, and the first Tory leader in years to have a chance of leading the party to victory. It explores the future direction of the Conservatives. Is the current honeymoon evidence of a new Tory Party, or simply recognition that the appearance of newness is needed? Will he really be prepared to jeopardise the support of the traditional grass roots? How deep are his environmental credentials? How will he react when the press turns nasty? Does his success mark a return of the old class deference? Or is it the opposite, a sign that background, for better or worse, is now unimportant?

作者介绍:

弗朗西斯·艾略特现为泰晤士报政治新闻副编辑，与妻子及两个儿子住在伦敦。他在英国国家政治方面的报导资历超过10年。曾获得2006年英国新闻奖的年度政治新闻记者提名。

詹姆斯·汉宁曾就读于伊顿公学，家住伦敦，与妻子育有两个孩子。起初是自由职业者，继而加入每日邮报，后又跳槽标准晚报旗下的伦敦人日记，在那里他升为助理编辑，负责评论版面。2004年他去到星期日独立报，并于2008年获委任为副主编。

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评论

作者文笔极佳，行文流畅，用词精准轻巧，立场不偏不倚，所佐资料极尽翔实之能事，读完之后一个有血有肉的卡相的形象已经印入脑中。看完此书，我更爱卡梅伦了。

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