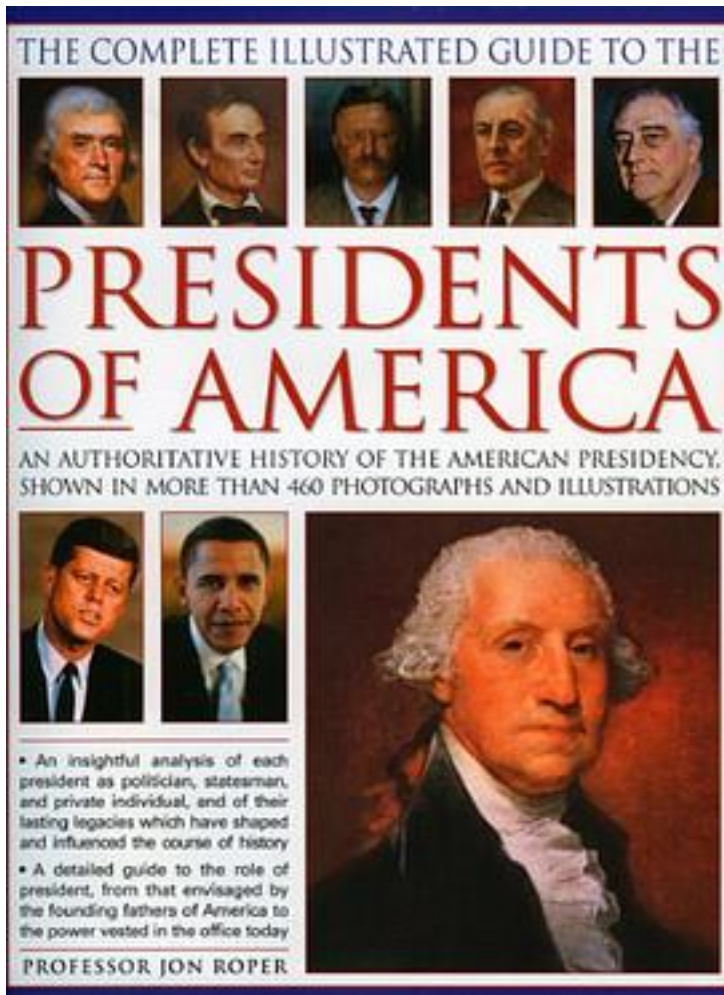


The Complete Illustrated Guide to the Presidents of America



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This unparalleled illustrated reference book is a fascinating guide to the 43 statesmen who have held the highest-ranking political office in the United States' government. The book opens with a brief history of the events that led to the 13 colonies declaring independence from Britain, and recounts the details of how a new union of states was forged. To avoid the dangers of tyrannical rule the Founding Fathers divided the power of government between three key institutions, the President, the Supreme Court and the Houses of Congress. Beginning with George Washington, this stunningly illustrated book provides an in-depth analysis of each of the statesmen who have held office, their politics and personalities, and how each has shaped and been defined by the role. It looks at the way in which presidential powers have developed in scope and responsibility. As ceremonial head of state, head of government, and commander-in-chief of the armed forces, the office of president is invested with powers that make it one of the most influential in the world. Of the 43 incumbents, many are synonymous with major events of world history such as Abraham Lincoln and the emancipation of the slaves, Teddy Roosevelt and the building of the Panama Canal, or Franklin Roosevelt and the New Deal. Some presidents have disappeared quietly from office, while others have courted controversy, been assassinated or been impeached. Key facts about each president, their term in office, and their life stories are presented in context with domestic and international events. More than 600 photographs, fine-art paintings, contemporary sketches, election campaign posters, and documents illustrate this authoritative volume.

作者介绍:

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