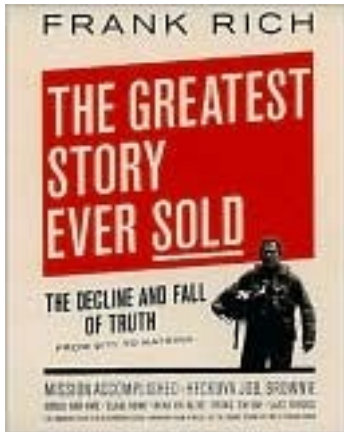

Frank Rich

The Greatest Story Ever Sold



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Author: Frank Rich

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Description

Demonstrating the candor and conviction that have made him one of our most trusted and incisive public voices, *The New York Times* columnist Frank Rich brilliantly and meticulously illuminates the Bush administration's disturbing love affair with "truthiness." Rich's step-by-step chronicle shows how, in the wake of 9/11, a propaganda president and his advisors misled a nation into war in Iraq and how the bungled aftermath, a Washington leak, and a devastating hurricane at long last revealed the lies in a story that had been so effectively sold to the nation as God-given patriotic fact.

Insightful reviews

Evan Casey: While certainly a book that may appeal a bit more to Democrats and those that lean to the left, his approach in tackling the Bush administration's is a reasonable, well-researched, and meticulously crafted one that few rational people could argue with. It was a joy to read not only because I strongly agree with the politics of it, but also because Rich is such an excellent writer that the story itself becomes interesting to read. In addition to that, I learned so much about the events of the past six years that I did not know before, by reading this book. Through the elegant use of words, good humor, and a great many facts and footnotes, Rich crafts an eloquent argument (that I wish I had the knowledge to develop and put forth myself) in dismantling the Bush administration's facade of deceit.

Jim: This is a stark account of the manipulation of the news media and the American people by the George W. Bush in order to fulfill its goal (set months before the attacks of 9/11) to invade Iraq and achieve regime change by toppling Saddam Hussein. The book almost takes one's breath away by the audacity, hubris and lack of principles by the neo-conservatives in the Bush Administration. Bush and his people decided to create their own reality - they ensured that the evidence matched their desire to invade Iraq - WMD weapons of destruction; a link between Iraq and Al Qaeda that resulted in the tragedies of 9/11. All of this was fiction. The war itself, according to the author, was fought almost in accordance with a political timetable developed by Karl Rove and the president's other political advisors in an effort to create a permanent Republican dominated government in Washington.

The sad thing is that this manufactured war led to so many lost lives - both American and Iraqi. Brave men and women went to fight a war that was driven by the political motives of G. W. Bush, Cheney, Rumsfeld and Wolfowitz. And the American people bought the administration's lies and falsehoods for so long before waking up.

The author concludes that the Bush Administration may be the worst ever in the history of the U.S. Its legacy includes "the destruction of America's image, credibility and prestige abroad; record budget deficits produced by unchecked spending and tax cuts; an abused and broken military; a subversion of the Constitution achieved by rigidly ideological judicial appointments;

the abridgment of civil liberties and outright lawbreaking in the White House; an indifference to environmental imperatives;" etc. etc. etc.

This is an important book that should wake up the American people. Unfortunately, I fear it will not have that effect. The political fabric of this country is too polarized and the government of our country is too broken. These too facts may be the true legacy of the Bush Administration!

Ken Crowley: An interesting look at the decline of truthfulness from the government and the press post-9/11.

Niki: Rich's booklet lines the latticework of lies equipped via the Bush (II) management to lead the state into struggle with Iraq. He focuses not just at the administration's public kin ideas to promote the war, however the press's complicity. yet why the click decide to abdicate its investigatory function is going rather unexamined. (Or rather, it truly is examined, yet now not as deeply as i'd have preferred.) for those who hadn't lived during the build-up to the Iraq battle and basically had Rich's publication as a guide, you are going to by no means be aware of that there *was* quite a lot of skepticism over the administration's claims, and that even at the eve of war, a lot of people weren't basically opposed to it, yet transparent concerning the administration's explanations and its deception. That these issues have been recognized and did not have any influence looks a desirable and troubling a part of the tale that destiny works in this query should still learn in larger detail. A reliable book, though, for those that have been outdoors the political debate surrounding the Iraq war. there is a convenient timeline on the again that juxtaposes what the administration stated and what it used to be truly doing.

Barbara: everybody was once commencing to salivate over bush final week as he opened his library so i learn this e-book to recap his tenure in office. someone who had a person killed or injured in Iraq or, for that matter, any Iraqi, will be irate that Bush, Cheney, Rumsfeld, Rice, Wolfowitz, Feitz, Powell and Rove usually are not rotting in penal complex for his or her crimes. i all this in genuine time yet seeing all of it awarded in a single publication made it stunningly transparent how harmful it really is to choose a shallow-thinking formidable individual to the presidency. its outstanding that the United States survived him.

Tucker: The organizing precept of this booklet is clear: it's a complete record of every thing the Bush management did wrong, mammoth and small, within the arguments best as much as the warfare in Iraq and within the dealing with of the warfare itself, until eventually 2006 whilst this booklet was once published. if you can't identify any of those mistakes, you'll do good to settle on this book; if you are primarily accustomed to the accusations that at last got here to mild within the press, you will not study something new, yet you may nonetheless savor having the entire references to the well-known gaffes and falsehoods in one volume. The writer strongly criticizes the "spin" that the Bush management wear the war, that is, he argues that they used a propagandist slant that selectively neglected reality. the matter is that the writer will be criticized for doing an analogous thing. The e-book is a number of hundred pages long; every one web page contains numerous issues on which the Bush management did anything ridiculous or deceptive. So there are a couple of thousand detrimental statements in regards to the presidency. Notably, there's not a unmarried optimistic assertion concerning the Bush presidency anyplace within the book. there isn't a unmarried point out of something he did right.

it's one lengthy rant approximately every thing wrong. I am no longer the simplest individual to safeguard the Bush administration. I am not fluent within the "other side's" speaking issues and that I do not desire to be. But it sort of feels to me that no matter if a president got down to intentionally dedicate one thousand sins, he might do not less than something correct through accident. The author's lack of ability or refusal to spot something that the Bush management may need performed good exhibits that the author, too, is making a paintings of spin. Some of his court cases opposed to the Bush management are extra severe than others. That army officers attended an inaugural ball the place a warfare journalist joked that he was once overpaid and the musical performers sang "Clap your hands!" to the amputee squaddies in attendance is unquestionably a minor embarrassment in comparison to the allegation that the invasion of Iraq was once in accordance with fake info and that the full struggle used to be mishandled. Missing from this booklet is any sustained try to inquire into the administration's intent for mendacity or in a different way coloring the reality approximately Iraq. "If Bush, Cheney, and corporate have been mendacity to themselves while they have been mendacity to the country," wealthy writes, "the most sensible that may be stated of their safety is they made an identical tragic blunders of all propagandists who come to ruin: they fell for his or her personal scam." yet why used to be there a rip-off within the first place? this question could be left to different psychologists and historians.

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