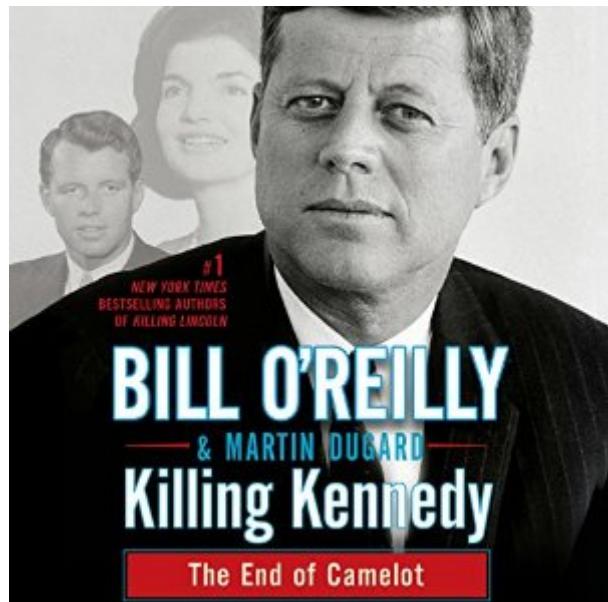


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Killing Kennedy: The End Of Camelot



Synopsis

A riveting historical narrative of the shocking events surrounding the assassination of John F. Kennedy, and the follow-up to mega-bestselling author Bill O'Reilly's *Killing Lincoln* More than a million listeners have thrilled to Bill O'Reilly's *Killing Lincoln*, the can't-stop-listening work of nonfiction about the shocking assassination that changed the course of American history. Now the anchor of *The O'Reilly Factor* recounts in gripping detail the brutal murder of John Fitzgerald Kennedy—and how a sequence of gunshots on a Dallas afternoon not only killed a beloved president but also sent the nation into the cataclysmic division of the Vietnam War and its culture-changing aftermath. In January 1961, as the Cold War escalates, John F. Kennedy struggles to contain the growth of Communism while he learns the hardships, solitude, and temptations of what it means to be president of the United States. Along the way he acquires a number of formidable enemies, among them Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev, Cuban dictator Fidel Castro, and Alan Dulles, director of the Central Intelligence Agency. In addition, powerful elements of organized crime have begun to talk about targeting the president and his brother, Attorney General Robert Kennedy. In the midst of a 1963 campaign trip to Texas, Kennedy is gunned down by an erratic young drifter named Lee Harvey Oswald. The former Marine Corps sharpshooter escapes the scene, only to be caught and shot dead while in police custody. The events leading up to the most notorious crime of the 20th century are almost as shocking as the assassination itself. *Killing Kennedy* chronicles both the heroism and deceit of Camelot, bringing history to life in ways that will profoundly move the listener. This may well be the most talked about book of the year.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

O'Reilly is a good story-teller, and this one is a real stem-winder. While it is well-written, it belongs in the Fiction section as the entire "Oswald was a lone shooter, acting alone, and so was Jack Ruby, who never even heard of organized crime" theory of this event has been completely discredited by information that was available even to the Warren Commission (though they completely ignored it for the sake of expediency and the company line) and has been fleshed out in dozens of well-researched and documented books over the past three or four decades. I was completely taken aback that Reilly would simply buy off on this theory and not even raise a question. This is a book that could have been written in 1965 and been appropriate to the times, had the author not read the entire Warren report and its supporting documents. In 2013, it's just a joke.

I got this on CD and it is too awful to even lend to anybody so I threw it out. Also not for children to read. O'Reilly seems to get a kick out relating sexual rumors and naked swims at the white house - this is not a book for serious historians. What an embarrassment for O'Reilly.

I am a huge Bill O'Reilly fan, and read his book, *Killing Lincoln* three times. It was excellent, and I purchased numerous copies for gifts. I could hardly wait for, *Killing Kennedy*, because I am a huge Kennedy fan, and have an impressive personal library on Kennedy, his presidency, and the assassination. One of the recent books I read was *Mary's Mosaic* by Peter Janney, published April 2, 2012. The reviews for this book indicate that the author finally answers some key questions regarding the assassination, after years of painstaking research and interviews, and that he may have well solved Washington's most famous unsolved murder. I thought that with Bill's No Spin reputation, surely, his book would go even deeper in answering so many unanswered questions. After reading, *Killing Kennedy*, I am of the opinion that Mr. O'Reilly and Mr. Dugan did not engage in "years of painstaking research and interviews," but simply regurgitated the same old government spin from 50 years ago. Is Mr. O'Reilly unaware that, contrary to the Warren Commission, the United States House Select Committee on Assassinations concluded that the Kennedy assassination was probably the result of a conspiracy, and found both the original FBI investigation and the Warren Commission Report to be seriously flawed? Is he unaware that even the Kennedy family believed that there was a conspiracy? When polls conducted from 1966 to 2004 found that as many as 80 percent of Americans have suspected that there was a plot or cover-up, I

am dumbfounded that someone as astute as O'Reilly would author such a book. And, more disturbing, is the thought that this book, like *Killing Lincoln*, will end up as required reading for American students. Shame on you, Bill O'Reilly, for writing a book with 50-year-old government spin. What happened to the No Spin Zone? You blew it big time. I agree with Larry Mullins review on .com rating this book with 1 star: "O'Reilly and his coauthor played it safe and wrote a book that pretends the research and investigations between 1964 and 2012 simply never happened. Beyond this, what they did write about is rife with all the errors, assumptions, and grievously incompetent conclusions of the Warren Commission Report. If Mr. O'Reilly's book had been submitted to a publisher by a non-celebrity, it would have been tossed in five minutes. *Killing Kennedy* is a colossal disappointment. Worse, it endangers the truth by assisting its submergence into fabricated history. "*Killing Kennedy*" is a disservice to the "folks" Mr. O'Reilly is supposed to be looking out for. Save your money. Or invest it in one of the more acclaimed books on the Kennedy assassination, such as *The Last Investigation* by Gaeton Fonzi." While "*Killing Lincoln*" has been deemed a page-turning work of nonfiction, I think we should we call *Killing Kennedy* a work of fiction. THIS BOOK GETS A "ONE" RATING - DON'T WASTE YOUR MONEY.

I was working in downtown Washington, D.C. on November 22, 1963, the day John F. Kennedy was killed. A few days later, I stood at Pennsylvania Avenue in bright November sunshine and watched an unforgettable funeral procession. A team of white horses pulled a two wheeled artillery cart carrying JFK's flag-draped casket, followed by a black, saddled but riderless horse. Boots, placed reversed, were in the stirrups. An unhurried, muffled drumbeat accompanied the inexpressible sensation of grief that pervaded the cool air. There was collective anguish for the man, of course, but also grief because it seemed our country would never be the same. What I am about to write is not a political rant. Rather, it concerns the ever-lengthening shadow that continues to be cast to this day by the unthinkable events of November 22, 1963. I still have a copy of the *Life* magazine that came out just a few days after the assassination. An article in *Life* stated that the President had turned toward the School Book Depository, which explained the entrance wound that the Parkland doctors had discovered in his throat. Later this was corrected by the FBI, and we were told the Texas doctors were wrong about the entrance wound, it was an exit wound. By December 3rd a story was "leaked" to the press stating that J. Edgar Hoover and the FBI had already determined that Lee Harvey Oswald was the lone assassin. This information seemed to calm the distraught nation. Almost a year later, the Warren Commission Report was published. It was hailed by the mainstream media with virtually universal praise, although its supporting 26 volumes of evidence

(with a supplementary FBI report) would not be published for another two months. I believe I am one of the very few people who ever read the 888 page Warren Commission Report. The Warren Commission Report reassured Americans that there was no conspiracy, and that Jack Ruby, who had murdered Oswald, was also a lone assassin and in no way connected to organized crime. After reading the report, I explained to people how the first assassination bullet missed, how the second bullet hit Kennedy in the back, exited from his throat, and traveled on to wound Governor Connally, and how the third bullet inflicted the final fatal head wound. But new books began to emerge from credible researchers who reported that much of the evidence in the Commission's 26 volumes of documentation is dramatically contrary to its own findings. Clearly the Warren Commission had gone to extreme measures to ignore Jack Ruby's organized crime connections. Even more disturbing, it was equally apparent that not one witness to the assassination testified that the event had taken place the way the Warren Commission described it. Not one. Especially not John and Nellie Connally. (Both of whom testified under oath that they were absolutely convinced that JFK was hit a moment before Governor Connally, and by a different shot. If this is true, there had to be at least two assassins.) Not Zapruder, who filmed the tragedy and testified (along with scores of witnesses) that a shot definitely came from the grassy knoll. Evidence accumulated, and there was a steady decline in the credibility of the Warren Commission Report between 1964 and 1976.

Lyndon Johnson disowned it before he died. Driven by public entreaties, there was a new congressional inquiry, 1976 - 1978, called the House Select Committee on Assassinations. The new governmental investigation managed to take a baby step toward reality. It determined that there had been a conspiracy that involved at least two shooters (one from the grassy knoll) and was probably orchestrated by organized crime. However, the government still could not tell us what happened, nor who was involved, and it still generally supported most of the incongruous conclusions of the Warren Commission Report. In 1993, the late Gaeton Fonzi, who spent three years as an investigator for the House Select Committee on Assassinations, lamented the failure in his book, *The Last Investigation*. Historians consider Fonzi's book among the preeminent and most scholarly of the six hundred or so that have been published on the Kennedy assassination. He wrote: "Despite the clamor of the last few years, all the books, the films and the articles, the assassination of President John F. Kennedy is being allowed to go quietly into history. We must not let that happen-not yet, not ever ... The conspiracy to kill the President of the United States was a conspiracy against the democratic system-and thus a conspiracy against each and every one of us ... The Government has failed us. It is outrageous that in a democratic society, after two official investigations, our Government still tells us it doesn't know what happened." I looked forward to Bill

O'Reilly's new book. At last someone would shift through the morass of information and distill a reasonable, no-spin presentation about what really happened on that catastrophic day in 1963. I was certain O'Reilly would dare to open the forbidden doors. However, much as I like Bill O'Reilly, his book is mostly a sad rework of timeworn material. He finally gets around to addressing the assassination by page 245. In his final 50 pages the legendary "no-spin" man embraces the most flagrant spin-job in American history, the Warren Commission Report. How could O'Reilly examine the assassination without scrutinizing the Commission's own published documentation and the FBI supplemental report? In them the autopsy drawings by Dr. James Humes and FBI agent James Sibert both illustrate the back wound of JFK as lower than the supposed throat exit wound. Or how could O'Reilly ignore information in the FBI report by agents Sibert and O'Neil (who were present at the autopsy) that stated Dr. Humes probed the back wound and determined the bullet had entered at a trajectory of "45 to 60 degrees" and had penetrated less than the length of his finger? Or the testimony of Secret Service agent Glen Bennett who saw the bullet strike Kennedy "about four inches down from the right shoulder"? Or the testimony of Secret Service agent Clinton Hill who examined Kennedy's body in the morgue and again described a back wound that could not possibly have exited from the President's throat because it was "about six inches below the neckline and to the right hand-side of the spinal column"? O'Reilly and his coauthor played it safe and wrote a book that pretends the research and investigations between 1964 and 2012 simply never happened. Beyond this, what they did write about is rife with all the errors, assumptions, and grievously incompetent conclusions of the Warren Commission Report. If Mr. O'Reilly's book had been submitted to a publisher by a non-celebrity, it would have been tossed in five minutes. "Killing Kennedy" is a colossal disappointment. Worse, it endangers the truth by assisting its submergence into fabricated history. "Killing Kennedy" is a disservice to the "folks" Mr. O'Reilly is supposed to be looking out for. Save your money. Or invest it in one of the more acclaimed books on the Kennedy assassination, such as *The Last Investigation* by Gaeton Fonzi.

LARRY MULLINS

Bill O'Reilly lies right in the book, according to his former Dallas colleagues and police report. If he lied about his presence in one scene, what else should we start to doubt? O'Reilly is a bully with the truth just as he is with his guests.

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