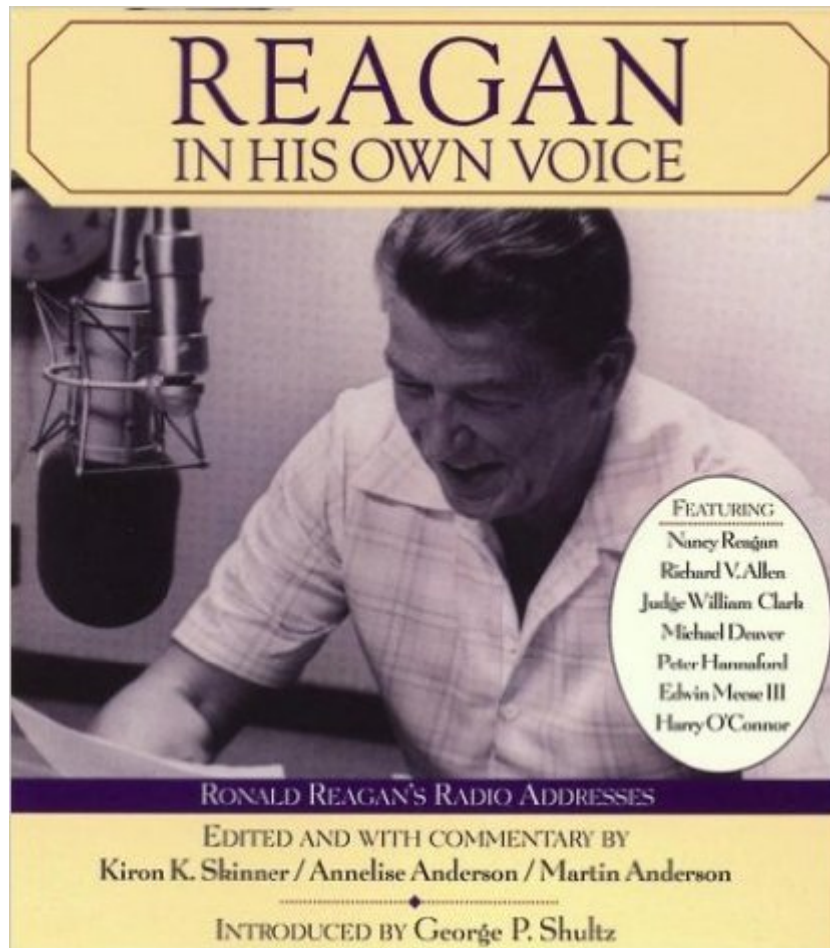


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Reagan In His Own Voice



Synopsis

Reagan In His Own Voice features Ronald Reagan's radio addresses from the late 1970s. Edited by Kiron K. Skinner, Annelise Anderson, and Martin Anderson, they are introduced by George Shultz and feature additional introductions by Nancy Reagan, Richard V. Allen, Judge William Clark, Michael Deaver, Peter Hannaford, Edwin Meese III and Harry O'Connor. From 1975 to 1979 Ronald Reagan gave more than 1,000 daily radio broadcasts, the great majority of which he wrote himself. This program represents the opening of a major archive of pre-presidential material from the Reagan Library and the Hoover Institution Archives. These addresses transform our image of Ronald Reagan, and enhance and revise our understanding of the late 1970s -- a time when Reagan held no political office, but was nonetheless mapping out a strategy to transform the economy, end the cold war, and create a vision of America that would propel him to the presidency. These radio programs demonstrate that Reagan had carefully considered nearly every issue he would face as president. Reagan's radio broadcasts will change his reputation even among his closest allies and friends. Here, in his own voice, Reagan the thinker is finally fully revealed.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I was too young to Remember Reagan prior to his Presidency and was therefore surprised to learn that he was a fixture on radio during the mid to late 1970s. It's going to be hard for historians to peddle the notion that he was a dunce after sifting through his writings on all of these far-ranging subjects. The media darling Clinton certainly couldn't focus long enough to present so many arguments so clearly and for such a long time. The book of these 3 minute radio pieces is

fascinating, but it can't compare to the great man reading the entries himself. Reagan can be serious and humorous, but he never loses his optimism. He brought to America a different kind of politics. He could lay out serious problems facing the country and yet positive changes that could make us a better nation. It allows his commentaries to be serious without the whining associated with so many out-of-power politicians. Many of the policy decisions he would later make are included here, but some of the most interesting entries are on government operations you don't think about. A good example is Reagan explaining the monopoly of the postal system with such precision that it is amazing that the system lasted throughout his eight years. Reagan tells of how small companies learned better ways to transport first class mail locally and were shutdown for doing so. He then compares the postal rates to long distance phone rates and how you could once send a 100 letters for the price of a long distance call, whereas by the 1970s you could only send three. Of course, nowadays you could read a ten page letter cheaper than sending it, only further proving his point.

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