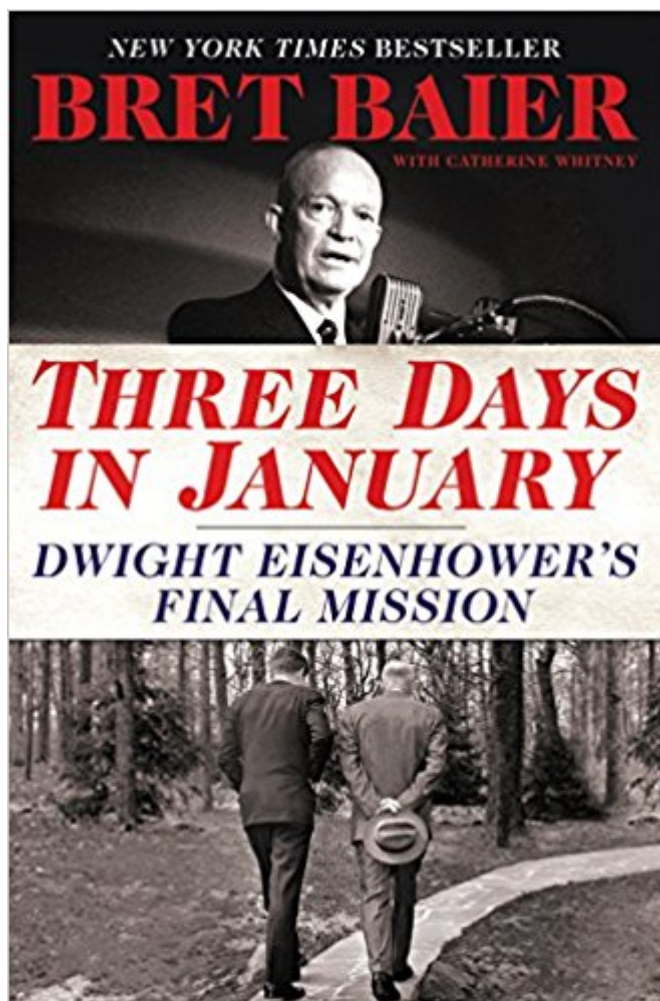


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Three Days In January: Dwight Eisenhower's Final Mission



Synopsis

The blockbuster #1 national bestseller Bret Baier, the Chief Political Anchor for Fox News Channel and the Anchor and Executive Editor of Special Report with Bret Baier, illuminates the extraordinary yet underappreciated presidency of Dwight Eisenhower by taking readers into Ike's last days in power. "Magnificently rendered. Destined to take its place as not only one of the masterworks on Eisenhower, but as one of the classics of presidential history. Impeccably researched, the book is nothing short of extraordinary. What a triumph!"

—JAY WINIK, New York Times bestselling author of *April 1865* and *1944*

In *Three Days in January*, Bret Baier masterfully casts the period between Eisenhower's now-prophetic farewell address on the evening of January 17, 1961, and Kennedy's inauguration on the afternoon of January 20 as the closing act of one of modern America's greatest leaders—during which Eisenhower urgently sought to prepare both the country and the next president for the challenges ahead. Those three days in January 1961, Baier shows, were the culmination of a lifetime of service that took Ike from rural Kansas to West Point, to the battlefields of World War II, and finally to the Oval Office. When he left the White House, Dwight Eisenhower had done more than perhaps any other modern American to set the nation, in his words, "on our charted course toward permanent peace and human betterment." On January 17, Eisenhower spoke to the nation in one of the most remarkable farewell speeches in U.S. history. Ike looked to the future, warning Americans against the dangers of elevating partisanship above national interest, excessive government budgets (particularly deficit spending), the expansion of the military-industrial complex, and the creeping political power of special interests. Seeking to ready a new generation for power, Eisenhower intensely advised the forty-three-year-old Kennedy before the inauguration. Baier also reveals how Eisenhower's two terms changed America forever for the better, and demonstrates how today Ike offers us the model of principled leadership that polls say is so missing in politics. *Three Days in January* forever makes clear that Eisenhower, an often forgotten giant of U.S. history, still offers vital lessons for our own time and stands as a lasting example of political leadership at its most effective and honorable.

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Customer Reviews

“Bret Baier has given history a great gift: a riveting account of Dwight Eisenhower’s determination to call on his vast experience to prepare America for the perils of the new war--the cold war.” (Tom Brokaw, author of *The Greatest Generation*) “Captures the essence of Ike’s leadership style. Through stories and the keen observations at the time, Baier makes Ike’s world view and philosophy come to life. *Three Days in January* is a great read.” (Susan Eisenhower, CEO and Chairman of The Eisenhower Group, Inc. and Chairman Emeritus at the Eisenhower Institute of Gettysburg College) “Bret Baier’s *Three Days in January* brilliantly illuminates the genius and intrigue behind Eisenhower’s historic Farewell Address. Written with verve and deeply researched, Baier ably dissects fact from myth. A landmark achievement in U.S. presidential history.” (Douglas Brinkley, author of *Cronkite*) “Magnificently rendered, Bret Baier’s *Three Days in January* is destined to take its place as not only one of the masterworks on Eisenhower, but as one of the classics of presidential history. Impeccably researched, the book is nothing short of extraordinary. What a triumph!” (JAY WINIK, New York Times best-selling author of *April 1865* and *1944*) “Brilliantly captures the drama of January 1961. ... *Three Days in January* is the BEST book on Eisenhower to appear in a very long time.” (DAVID EISENHOWER, Director, the University of Pennsylvania’s Institute for Public Service, and author of *Eisenhower: At War*, a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in History) “A valuable contribution to our appreciation of Ike, describing some of his most important qualities of character, wisdom, and leadership, which are so needed in the public figures of our own era.” (MICHAEL BESCHLOSS, author of *Presidential Courage*) “Superb. ... A quintessential American story of transcending dignity and success, of personal humility and enormous self-confidence, and unique achievements of which all Americans can be proud. ... Many have tried to assess Ike. Few succeed. Baier does.” (U.S.

Senator Pat Roberts, Washington Times) “Bret Baier has written a great book about a great president ... and the lessons in leadership that Ike offers to today’s era of polarization and gridlock. (CLARENCE PAGE, Pulitzer Prize-winning syndicated Chicago Tribune columnist) “Brings new relevance to Eisenhower’s parting message. ... A focused and timely study of Eisenhower’s significant speech and the sticky transition to JFK’s inherited new world. (Kirkus Reviews) “Vital lessons for our time. ... Powerful and enlightening, Three Days in January sheds light on a little-known Eisenhower. (The Costco Connection)

January 1961: President Eisenhower has three days to secure the nation’s future before his young successor, John F. Kennedy, takes power • a final mission by the legendary leader who planned D-Day and guided America through the darkening Cold War. Bret Baier, the Chief Political Anchor for Fox News Channel and the Anchor and Executive Editor of Special Report with Bret Baier, illuminates the extraordinary yet underappreciated presidency of Dwight Eisenhower by taking readers into Ike’s last days in power. Baier masterfully casts the period between Eisenhower’s now-prophetic farewell address on the evening of January 17, 1961, and Kennedy’s inauguration on the afternoon of January 20 as the closing act of one of modern America’s greatest leaders • during which Eisenhower urgently sought to prepare both the country and the next president for the challenges ahead. Those three days in January 1961, Baier shows, were the culmination of a lifetime of service that took Ike from rural Kansas to West Point, to the battlefields of World War II, and finally to the Oval Office. When he left the White House, Dwight Eisenhower had done more than perhaps any other modern American to set the nation, in his words, “on our chartered course toward permanent peace and human betterment. On January 17, Eisenhower spoke to the nation in one of the most remarkable farewell speeches in U.S. history. Ike looked to the future, warning Americans against the dangers of elevating partisanship above national interest, excessive government budgets (particularly deficit spending), the expansion of the military-industrial complex, and the creeping political power of special interests. Seeking to ready a new generation for power, Eisenhower intensely advised the forty-three-year-old Kennedy before the inauguration. Baier also reveals how Eisenhower’s two terms changed America forever for the better • perhaps even saved the world from destruction • and demonstrates how today Ike offers us the model of principled leadership that polls say is so missing in politics. The Supreme Commander of Allied Forces during World War II, Eisenhower only reluctantly stepped into politics. As president, Ike successfully guided the

country out of a dangerous war in Korea, peacefully through the apocalyptic threat of nuclear war with the Soviets, and into one of the greatest economic booms in world history. Five decades later, Baier's *Three Days in January* forever makes clear that Eisenhower, an often forgotten giant of U.S. history, still offers vital lessons for our own time and stands as a lasting example of political leadership at its most effective and honorable.

Wow! One of the best written books on Eisenhower that I have read. Bret Baier is quite the factual writer and has done his research to a "T". While reading this book, I was "in" the book and living through the history. Well done.

A powerful, well researched and gripping account of one of the most iconic presidents in US history. In this absorbing historical story of transition of presidential power, during one of the most perilous times in our country's history, Baier brings to life the aspirations, hopes and concerns of a president (Eisenhower) in a generational shift in leadership to JFK. New insights, conflicts, concerns and drama leap off the page in some never-before-covered aspects of presidential power. Baier's passion for the subject matter is evident in the writing, which for lovers of Presidential history, this book is a must-read. I predict that this work is destined become a definitive part of "the literature" on the Eisenhower presidency. Its parallels to today's presidential transition are stunning and instructive. You will not regret investing in this wonderful account of a great, oft-times underappreciated president, Dwight D. Eisenhower.

A riveting read. If you like history, intrigue, good story telling, and the Presidency, then this is a must-read. Bret Baier does a masterful job re-introducing a true American hero to a new American generation. This book will give you a great respect for the Greatest Generation, as well as a fresh outlook on our world today.

This is a great, great book. Brett has written a masterpiece. It is so well written and so well researched. I could not put it down. I remember so much of what happened. And I like the way he brought in our newest president and the forthcoming inauguration. Five stars for sure! Jack Kushner

If Eisenhower is your hero or idol like he is to me then this book is for you. Ike not only defeated Hitler with his military strategy but he also warned us about the Military Industrial Complex. His personal integrity was proven when after seeing off the 101st Airborne on June 5th the night before

D-DAY he handed a note to his assistant General Beadle Smith saying if "Overlord" fails the fault is mine and mine alone. You don't see that in today's politicians. Ike was a one of a kind person who had to deal with a bunch of megalomaniacs during the war including Patton, Montgomery, and Charles De Gaulle just to name a few. Omar Bradley was one of the few he could trust during the war years. Bret Baier does a pretty good job with the book. Of course there are things that should have been included that weren't and one was the fact that in an earlier draft of the final address he had written it as the "Military Congressional Industrial Complex" as it's shown at the Eisenhower Center in Abilene Kansas. I wonder why he took the word Congressional out??? Maybe he was threatened. I'll give \$50 to anyone who can tell me why.

I started this book and figured I would just read a few chapters a night. That wasn't the case. I kept saying, ok, just one more chapter until there were no more chapters left. Amazing written book. Best book I've read this year hands down. A book I could definitely see myself rereading again.

As a lover of current affairs, Bret has written a captivating account of the transition of power to JFK, during a perilous time in our country. So glad to see an authoritative piece on the Eisenhower presidency. As a teacher, I am absorbed by the history that comes alive in this great book. Mr. Baier, if Ike were alive, I think Ike would LIKE. Well done!

As a young person I was enamored by the rhetoric of John F. Kennedy & Martin Luther King, Jr, but I was born during the presidency of Eisenhower and wanted to know more about him, though I had no memory of him. What I found was a profoundly deep individual, with an extraordinary insight and respect for decision making & the effect of those decisions. I truly enjoyed this book and am very happy to see President Eisenhower in a modern study of his character...he truly deserves his unique place in our history...a man born to serve at just the right time. Bret Baier did a great job!

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