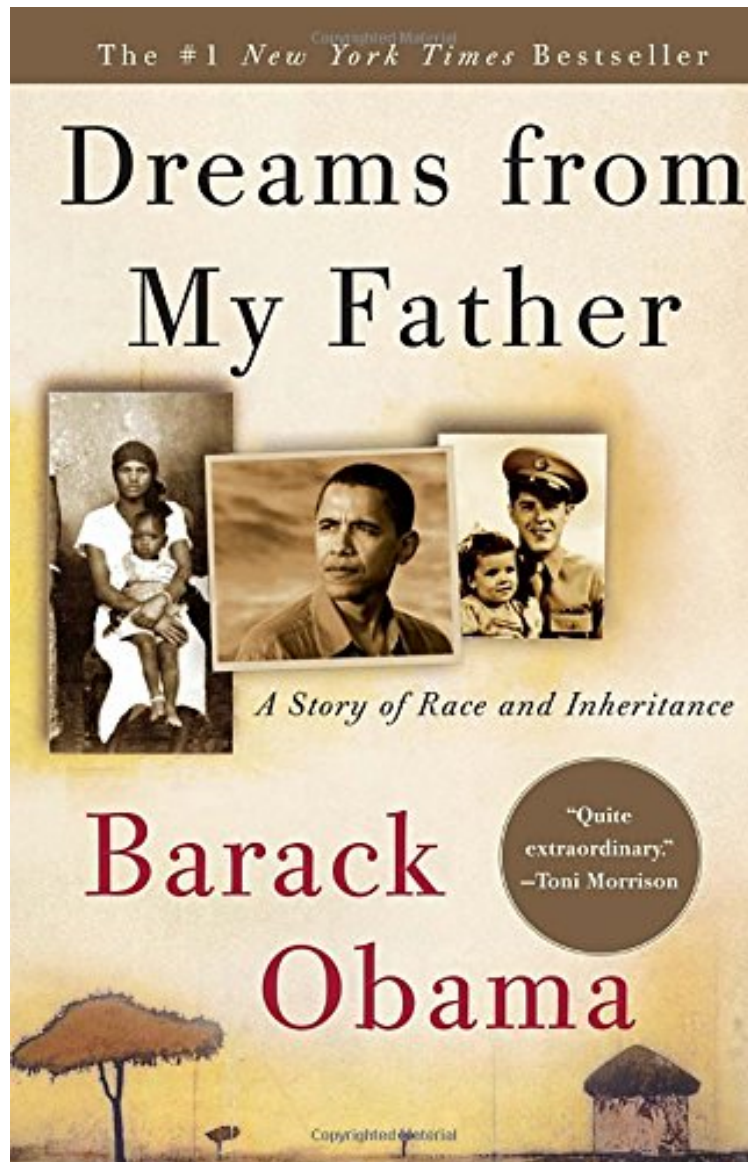


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Dreams from My Father: A Story of Race and Inheritance

Barack Obama

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Barack Obama : Dreams from My Father: A Story of Race and Inheritance before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Dreams from My Father: A Story of Race and Inheritance:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Must Read to Get to Know President # 44!By J. LavoieNormalcy...something he seemed to retain since birth. Yes, he was born in Hawaii, U.S.A.! I wonder about

myself if I had had all the opportunities and roads that he traveled on, I don't think I would have had normalcy; yet, he did. So I got a lot out of this wonderful book! Highs and lows, but that is what most all lives are about. His dad was very important to his community in Kenya due to leaving and receiving a higher education, as well as having children. Though he was not an "I'm here for dinner every night" father, President Obama doesn't condone him for this. He wrote this book with truth and his own lust for life. I praise him for writing his personal feelings, as well as the life he led. Definitely a 5 star book! President Obama? Where are you! We need you! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Good read By MAB If one can read this book with an open mind and not a political overlay, it is a wonderful story of a black man in America. As he has become the president, I feel it helps better understand his perspective on the world - open and inclusive, not closed and selective. His thoughtful, reflectiveness that is at times interpreted as "cold" seems just the normal way of a natural introvert. Well written, good read. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I recommend it highly By Carmen Flores-Guasti Beautiful. I recommend it highly. I always have admired President Barack Obama since he was running for election for president. It is a heart breaking story where you learn from himself the findings of his father's family and his ancestors. Also the story about his mother, and grandparents in Hawaii. Great book!!

In this lyrical, unsentimental, and compelling memoir, the son of a black African father and a white American mother searches for a workable meaning to his life as a black American. It begins in New York, where Barack Obama learns that his father—a figure he knows more as a myth than as a man—has been killed in a car accident. This sudden death inspires an emotional odyssey—first to a small town in Kansas, from which he retraces the migration of his mother's family to Hawaii, and then to Kenya, where he meets the African side of his family, confronts the bitter truth of his father's life, and at last reconciles his divided inheritance. Pictured in lefthand photograph on cover: Habiba Akumu Hussein and Barack Obama, Sr. (President Obama's paternal grandmother and his father as a young boy). Pictured in righthand photograph on cover: Stanley Dunham and Ann Dunham (President Obama's maternal grandfather and his mother as a young girl).

From Publishers Weekly Elected the first black president of the Harvard Law School, Obama was offered a book contract, but the intellectual journey he planned to recount became instead this poignant, probing memoir of an unusual life. Born in 1961 to a white American woman and a black Kenyan student, Obama was reared in Hawaii by his mother and her parents, his father having left for further study and a return home to Africa. So Obama's not-unhappy youth is nevertheless a lonely voyage to racial identity, tensions in school, struggling with black literature?with one month-long visit when he was 10 from his commanding father. After college, Obama became a community organizer in Chicago. He slowly found place and purpose among folks of similar hue but different memory, winning enough small victories to commit himself to the work?he's now a civil rights lawyer there. Before going to law school, he finally visited Kenya; with his father dead, he still confronted obligation and loss, and found wellsprings of love and attachment. Obama leaves some lingering questions?his mother is virtually absent?but still has written a resonant book. Photos not seen by PW. Author tour. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Booklist Obama argues with himself on almost every page of this lively autobiographical conversation. He gets you to agree with him, and then he brings in a counternarrative that seems just as convincing. Son of a white American mother and of a black Kenyan father whom he never knew, Obama grew up mainly in Hawaii. After college, he worked for three years as a community organizer on Chicago's South Side. Then, finally, he went to Kenya, to find the world of his dead father, his "authentic" self. Will the truth set you free, Obama asks? Or will it disappoint? Both, it seems. His search for himself as a black American is rooted in the particulars of his daily life; it also reads like a wry commentary about all of us. He dismisses stereotypes of the "tragic mulatto" and then shows how much we are all caught between messy contradictions and disparate communities. He discovers that Kenya has 400 different tribes, each of them with stereotypes of the others. Obama is candid about racism and poverty and corruption, in Chicago and in Kenya. Yet he does find community and authenticity, not in any romantic cliché{ , }, but with "honest, decent men and women who have attainable ambitions and the determination to see them through." Hazel Rochman "Provocative . . . Persuasively describes the phenomenon of belonging to two different worlds, and thus belonging to neither." —New York Times Book "Fluidly, calmly, insightfully, Obama guides us straight to the intersection of the most serious questions of identity, class, and race." —Washington Post Book World "Beautifully crafted . . . moving and candid . . . this book belongs on the shelf beside works like James McBride's *The Color of Water* and Gregory Howard Williams's *Life on the Color Line* as a tale of living astride America's racial categories." —Scott Turow "Obama's writing is incisive yet forgiving. This is a book worth savoring." —Alex Kotlowitz, author of *There Are No Children Here*