

How We Got Trumped: From Kennedy to Chaos

Book Info & Excerpts

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About the authors:

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Book Description:

The first full accounting of President Trump's first year in office, as well as the definitive story of his life framed against 10 prior presidents.

"*How We Got Trumped*" offers critical context and rare facts - including over 400 sources and a full index for readers to explore in detail. The book unveils the American experience, other administrations' struggles and successes, civil and societal movements, mounting national debt, and clues to why and how the most powerful nation on earth elected a failed real estate developer and reality television personality president.

Trump's early life and roller-coaster business career are explored, including curious connections to the mob and Russia, four corporate bankruptcies, and his many failed bids for NFL ownership and the presidency. Why is his son Baron's name so familiar to reporters who received calls from Trump's supposed publicist? How much is Donald Trump exactly worth?

These questions are answered and more, as Russian collusion with the Trump campaign is detailed in depth, perhaps offering a catastrophic end to President Trump - and, maybe, to America as well.

Excerpts

Note: Footnotes are included as they appear in "How We Got Trumped" - The book uses over 400 sources and all citations are given on each respective page for readers to explore fully.

Pages 5-6: Trump family ancestry contradictions

Friedrich Drumpf was an immigrant from Germany in 1885, "Friedr. Trumpf" given as his name on official papers and "none" as his occupation. Settling briefly with relatives in lower Manhattan, he migrated to Seattle in 1891, renaming (again) and/or reinventing himself as "Fred Trump" while buying a brothel and saloon named The Poodle Dog in the opium and booze-drenched part of town. Itinerant, seeking his fortune anyhow, anywhere, Friedrich immigrated once more in 1894, to Canada and the Yukon mining town of Monte Cristo. There, "Fred Trump" opened a tent-restaurant along the treacherous White Pass, also known as "Dead Horse Trail." This nickname was quite literal, as Trump and his partner were known to cook and sell the meat of horses that died along the pass to unwitting speculators. Through disgusting duplicity, Fred Trump was making his mark, and expanding. The New Arctic Restaurant and Hotel would soon emerge, selling food, liquor and women, a fine place for miners and newly arrived single men, but "*depraved*" and to be avoided by "*respectable women traveling alone*" according to contemporary accounts.¹

Now wealthy through any means, when the gold in the Yukon was played out, Drumpf/Trumpf/Trump tried to return to Germany in 1905 with his unseemly earnings and new wife, Elizabeth. Yet his failure to pay taxes and avoidance of military service came back to haunt him --- Germany refused to allow him reentry. So Fred and Elizabeth returned to New York City, settling in Queens, with Fred Drumpf/Trumpf/Trump dying in 1918 of the Spanish influenza, worth over a half-million dollars today, having somewhat achieved any American immigrant's dream.²

Friedrich Drumpf is Donald Trump's grandfather.

And this money, wrought by dodging taxes and military service in his home country, and earned by selling women and dead horse meat in America and Canada, is the bedrock of the Trump empire. Elizabeth and her son, Frederick "Fred" Christ Trump, would create a sprawling real estate development and management business in Queens. And Friedrich Drumpf's grandson, Donald, would take the family's fortunes – and sordid history – to the apex of American business and politics.

Note that it was common for many immigrants to change their names upon entering America, at times by immigration officials who didn't understand or couldn't spell them.

¹ en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frederick_Trump

² dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3479129/How-Donald-Trump-s-tax-dodging-migrant-grandpa-went-cutting-hair-building-empire-brothels-customers-pay-gold-dust-nuggets.html

But the Trump clan continues to publicly alter their ancestral lineage well beyond World War II. Long after Friedrich/Fred Drumpf's/Trumpf's/Trump's passing in 1918, with his widow (and fellow German immigrant) Elizabeth still very much alive, as well as highly active in the real estate business of her son, until her passing in 1966... Disturbingly, Donald Trump is still adding to the family lie, offering in his 1987 book *The Art of the Deal* that his grandfather "came here from Sweden as a child."³

Pages 29-30: Donald Trump's education and draft deferments

Rather unlikable, too much ego and money, making few friends as usual, Trump's time at UPenn would become fodder for all sides. While the school does not release transcripts, Trump has continually stated that he "*graduated first in his class*" despite the reality that a 1968 list of 56 students on Wharton's Dean's List does not include Donald Trump's name.⁴ A common personality trait, and flaw, was already coming to light: Self-promotion that belies the truth.

At this moment, another family trait would also return. As said, Donald's immigrant grandfather was refused reentry to his homeland of Germany for avoiding military service (and taxes); Donald's father Fred has no record of military service in America whatsoever, and Donald was sure to follow in their footsteps.

Upon graduating from UPenn in 1968, with the Vietnam War raging, Trump's draft status was reclassified to 1-A that July. This meant that Donald, like the 27 million American men aged 19-26, was subject to the military draft. Yet, somehow, from July 1968 to October 1968, Donald suddenly developed bone spurs --- In both heels! His reclassification as 1-Y for this generally accepted "short-term" injury made him qualified for service "*only in time of war or national emergency*" (thus given a very high lottery number). But this still wasn't safe enough for the son of Fred Trump. Vietnam was a "poor man's war" and people like Donald Trump bought their way out of service; bone spurs were just one convenient excuse for a deferral. In February of 1972, five total draft deferments later, Donald Trump was reclassified 4-F: "*not qualified for military service.*"⁵

Navy pilot, prisoner-of-war after being shot down above Vietnam, and Senator John McCain best summed-up bone spurs during the Vietnam War era: "*One aspect of the (Vietnam) conflict by the way that I will never ever countenance is that we drafted the lowest income level of America and the highest income level found a doctor that would say that they had a bone spur. That is wrong. That is wrong. If we are going to ask every American to serve, every American should serve.*"⁶

³ "Trump: The Art of the Deal" by Donald Trump, Random House, 1987

⁴ thedp.com/article/2017/02/trump-academics-at-wharton

⁵ snopes.com/2016/08/02/donald-trumps-draft-deferments/

⁶ C-Span October 22, 2017

Pages 54-55: Trump's early civil rights issues

Only 24, Donald assumed the title of president of E. Trump & Son in 1971, and renamed it “The Trump Organization.” Lofty, no longer inferring any connection to his immigrant grandmother Elizabeth, perhaps shedding the decades of development and hard work of his own father, the company under new leadership would have go big and bold direction, and soon face some serious accusations.

In 1973, The Trump Organization was served with Federal charges of civil rights violations. Court records state *“that a Trump Organization rental agent indicated he had been given instructions by Fred Trump ‘not to rent to blacks’ and to ‘decrease the number of black tenants’ by encouraging their relocation to other housing.”*⁷

Despite continual claims that he and The Trump Organization were found innocent of all federal claims – and an eye-popping countersuit by the Trump Organization against the government for \$100 million as victims of *“falsely accusing them of discrimination”* – the eventual settlement shows clear guilt. The Trump Organization was forced to change its rental processes, including being required to advertise in minority papers and list any vacancies with the Urban League, clearly highlighting equal opportunity housing rights for any applicants wishing to live in a Trump-owned property.

Pages 137-138: Trump's business ties to Russia

Conversely, 2008 had been a rather profitable time for Donald Trump. Mostly thanks to Russia. He'd hired Russian law firm Sojuzpatent to secure his trademarks in the country (including Trump Home, Trump International Hotel and Tower, Trump Tower and, of course “Trump”) and licensed his name to Drinks Americas Holdings, selling 8,000 cases of “Trump Vodka” in Russia. He'd also license his name for multiple new developments by Bayrock Group, founded by a former Soviet official, Tefvik Arif.

Bayrock Group's former managing director, Felix Sater, would become one of the most curious connections between Trump and Russia. The Russian-born Brooklyn real estate developer was boasting of building a *“massive Trump Tower in Moscow”* and had done work for The Trump Organization on several occasions. But Donald Trump says he doesn't know him, *“If he were sitting in the room right now, I really wouldn't know what he looked like.”*⁸ Never mind the fact that Sater had offices in Trump's 40 Wall Street building, and Bayrock Group's offices are in Trump Tower... Maybe Donald wants to keep any connections – other than locations and business deals – secret with Sater, because he was convicted of lacerating an enemy's face with a broken bottle. Oh, and Sater was also

⁷ Barrett, Wayne (January 15, 1979). *“Like Father, Like Son: Anatomy of a Young Power Broker”*. *The Village Voice*.

⁸ <https://www.thenation.com/article/who-is-felix-sater-and-why-is-donald-trump-so-afraid-of-him/>

found guilty of running a \$40 million penny stock fraud with New York and Russian mafia in 1998.⁹

Trump's ties to Russia have been controversial and lucrative. In 2008 he sold his Maison de L'Amitie in Florida, which he'd bought for \$40 million four years earlier, for an astounding \$95 million --- To Russian oligarch Dmitry Rybolovlev, who made his fortune of \$9 billion in fertilizer.¹⁰

While the showy glitz of his properties in Manhattan were attracting newly-rich Russians, the reality was drawing concerns within The Trump Organization. Donald Trump Jr. told investors in Moscow in 2008 that, "*Russians make up a pretty disproportionate cross-section of a lot of our assets. We see a lot of money pouring in.*"¹¹

Pages 161-162: Trump's quotes on Putin; 2013 Miss USA Pageant in Moscow

Russia rolled out the red carpet for the Miss Universe Pageant in 2013, throngs of Donald Trump fans yelling "*You're fired!*" as he made his entry. The country had supposedly beat-out 17 others to host the event (according to Donald), and it needed good press.

Only weeks before, President Putin had banned "pro-gay propaganda" and organizers were nervous, mostly because the Miss Universe Pageant employs gay workers for fashion and makeup. Nonetheless, Trump brought his grandiosity to Russia, certainly hoping to also make some real estate deals.

"Moscow right now is a very, very important place." lauded Trump before landing, *"We wanted Moscow all the way."*¹²

Proudly sponsoring the event were billionaire real estate mogul Aras Agalarov and his pop star son, Emin. Their ties to Putin were well-known, and Trump tweeted, *"Do you think Putin will be going to The Miss Universe Pageant? If so, will he become my new best friend?"*

Putin was a no-show, but Russia's rich oligarchs wouldn't miss the chance to see so many beautiful women in one place. There would be glitz and glamour, talk of giant towers in Moscow, as well as rumors of women being offered to Trump as he went off to bed. So much wealth, much of it flowing from Russia to New York City; Donald certainly appreciated the unquestioned control that Putin enjoys. An authoritarian as well, Trump doesn't like sharing power.

⁹ fortune.com/2017/05/17/donald-trump-russia-2/

¹⁰ seattletimes.com/nation-world/why-did-a-russian-pay-95m-to-buy-trumps-palm-beach-mansion/

¹¹ usatoday.com/story/news/world/2017/02/15/donald-trumps-ties-russia-go-back-30-years/97949746/

¹² politico.com/story/2016/05/donald-trump-russia-moscow-miss-universe-223173

Pages 205-206: How Trump may be removed from the presidency

Should Robert Mueller present his findings before mid-term elections, it will be the responsibility of a Republican Congress to act. Barring resignation like Nixon, or ineffectual impeachment like Clinton, perhaps the 25th Amendment is the sole remedy. Fred Trump suffered from Alzheimer's for years and, his son, Donald Trump isn't the posterchild of stability. Reagan's aides may have concealed their concerns about the president's faltering memory, but that was late in his final term.

North Korea is firing bigger missiles farther, and the American president tweeted on January 2, 2018: *"North Korean Leader Kim Jong Un just stated that the 'Nuclear Button is on his desk at all times.' Will someone from his depleted and food starved regime please inform him that I too have a Nuclear Button, but it is a much bigger & more powerful one than his, and my Button works!"*

Nuclear powers provoking each other is never good foreign policy. Hawaii suffering a "false" missile emergency warning on January 13, 2018 (someone supposedly pushed the "wrong" button) certainly hasn't soothed international fears.¹³

Is it any wonder that Donald Trump is the least popular president in modern history? Approval ratings in the mid-30%, even President Trump's most ardent supporters struggle to see any real gains, while his opponents in both parties smell blood.

After John F. Kennedy was assassinated, Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson assumed the presidency. There was no vice president for 14 months, so the American government needed a more robust line of succession, resulting in the 25th Amendment being ratified in 1967. Since, it has been invoked six times, most effectively when Vice President Spiro Agnew resigned and President Nixon nominated Gerald Ford as his replacement, then when Nixon resigned and President Ford nominated Nelson Rockefeller to succeed him as vice president.¹⁴

Invoking the 25th Amendment requires tragedy or crime. The majority of President Trump's cabinet, as well as Vice President Pence, would have to agree that the president is no longer fit for office. Then two-thirds of the Senate and House would have to agree. Only then could Donald Trump be removed from the presidency, with Vice President Pence succeeding him.

¹³ [foxnews.com/us/2018/01/14/hawaiiis-false-missile-threat-worker-feels-terrible-after-pushing-wrong-button.html](https://www.foxnews.com/us/2018/01/14/hawaiiis-false-missile-threat-worker-feels-terrible-after-pushing-wrong-button.html)

¹⁴ [politico.com/story/2012/02/nevada-puts-25th-amendment-over-the-top-072700](https://www.politico.com/story/2012/02/nevada-puts-25th-amendment-over-the-top-072700)