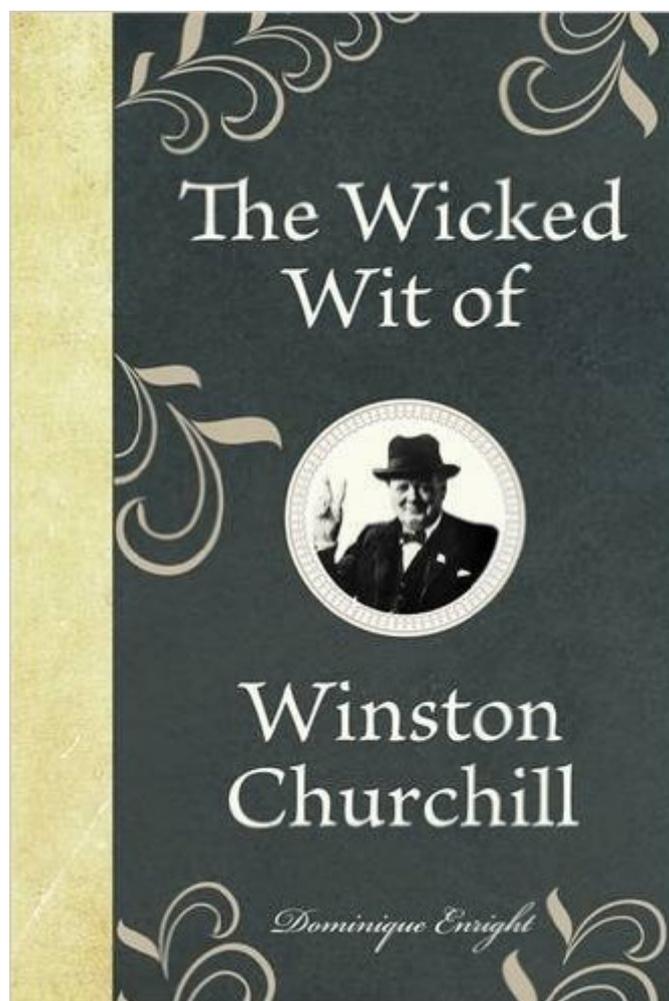


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The Wicked Wit Of Winston Churchill (The Wicked Wit Of Series)



Synopsis

The speeches and sayings of Winston Churchill have often passed into history. This collection brings together a collection of his most famous sayings with less well-known witticisms. It presents hundreds of Churchill's wittiest and wickedest quips.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This relatively small book is divided into several sections with slices from Churchill's life and quotations related to politics, speeches, friends, animals, family, etc. Here are few excerpts: While campaigning in 1900, it is said that the young Churchill was doing a spot of canvassing when one of those he approached exclaimed: "Vote for you? Why, I'd rather vote for the Devil!" "I understand", Churchill answered, "But in case your friend is not running, may I count on your support?" * * * When passed a very long but turgidly written memorandum on some worthy but uninspiring subject, the elderly Prime Minister weighed the thick wad of paper in his hands and commented, "This paper by its very length defends itself against the risk of being read." * * * Churchill liked animals; sometimes he found this difficult to reconcile with his fondness for rich food. Anthony Montague Brown recalled that 'One Christmas he was about to carve a goose. Learning it was one of his own, he put down the knife and fork and said, "I could not possibly eat a bird that I have known socially." * * * A BBC broadcaster described once sitting next to Churchill as he gave a speech, keeping his audience hanging on to his every word. The broadcaster noticed, however, that what appeared to be notes in

Churchill's hand was only a laundry slip, and he later remarked upon this to Churchill. "Yes", said Churchill. "It gave confidence to my audience."

The title of my review had simply told what I wanna say. Churchill is such a famous person of wit and words. That's beyond argument. Therefore it's not a difficult job for the editor-author to pick and pack Churchill's words, with some short sentences telling the background of each, into a thin book. Anyway, he did it alright. I would like to pick some of my favorite quotes for your reference. Hope you like them and can share my feelings of how brilliant Churchill. and also indirectly, this book is. 1. "Trying to maintain good relations with a Communist is like wooing a crocodile. You do not know whether to tickle it under the chin or beat it over the head. When it opens its mouth, you cannot tell whether it is trying to smile or preparing to eat you up." 2. "No one pretends that democracy is perfect or all-wise. Indeed, it has been said that Democracy is the worst form of government except all those other forms that have been tried from time to time." 3. "You will never get to the end of the journey if you stop to buy a stone at every dog that barks." 4. "Virtuous motives, trammelled by inertia and timidity, are no match for armed and resolute wickedness." 5. "What if I had said, instead of 'We shall fight on the beaches', 'Hostilities will be engaged with our adversary on the coastal perimeter?' .and.....many other invaluable quotes. In short, a must buy.

The wise and witty words of Winston Churchill ring throughout the 20th Century. Any that knew him personally or had anything to do with him must have waited with anticipation of hearing what he would say anytime he opened his mouth. This held true for Kings, Presidents, Generals and yes even for his family, including his granddaughter. At times, his use of silence could be as cutting a reply as anything he could say. No doubt, he took as much enjoyment in his words as anyone he was aiming them at. It wasn't all one way either, he seemed to love a well delivered line, even if he was the object. He neither claimed to be nor in fact was an 'educated man', he was similar to Mark Twain, in that he could cut to pieces, people of much greater formal education, if they tried to engage him in 'a battle of words'. In his book "My Early Life" he said. "It's a good thing for an uneducated man to read books of quotations" and described how he read "Bartlett's Quotations". It is obvious that he often used and modified others quotations. His friend Lord Brinkenhead quipped, "Winston has devoted the best years of his life to preparing his impromptu speeches." "One of Churchill's most famous speeches is that of June 1940: 'We shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills...' It is said that, as he paused in the great uproar that greeted these words, Churchill muttered to a colleague next to him, 'And We'll fight them with the butt ends of

broken beer bottles because that's bloody well all we've got!" A great little book reminding us of the words of one of the great voices of the 20th Century.

You do have to think about many of his quips, most are very funny in a dry, perhaps a bit cynical manner. It is sometimes difficult to place his statements in the context of WW-II (I was born in 1944 and I do have a memory of that era because it was the biggest event in my parents lives - they talked about it all the time). After a session with Mr. Churchill, I often wish American politicians had a bit of his perspective (though I really doubt they would ever get elected).

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