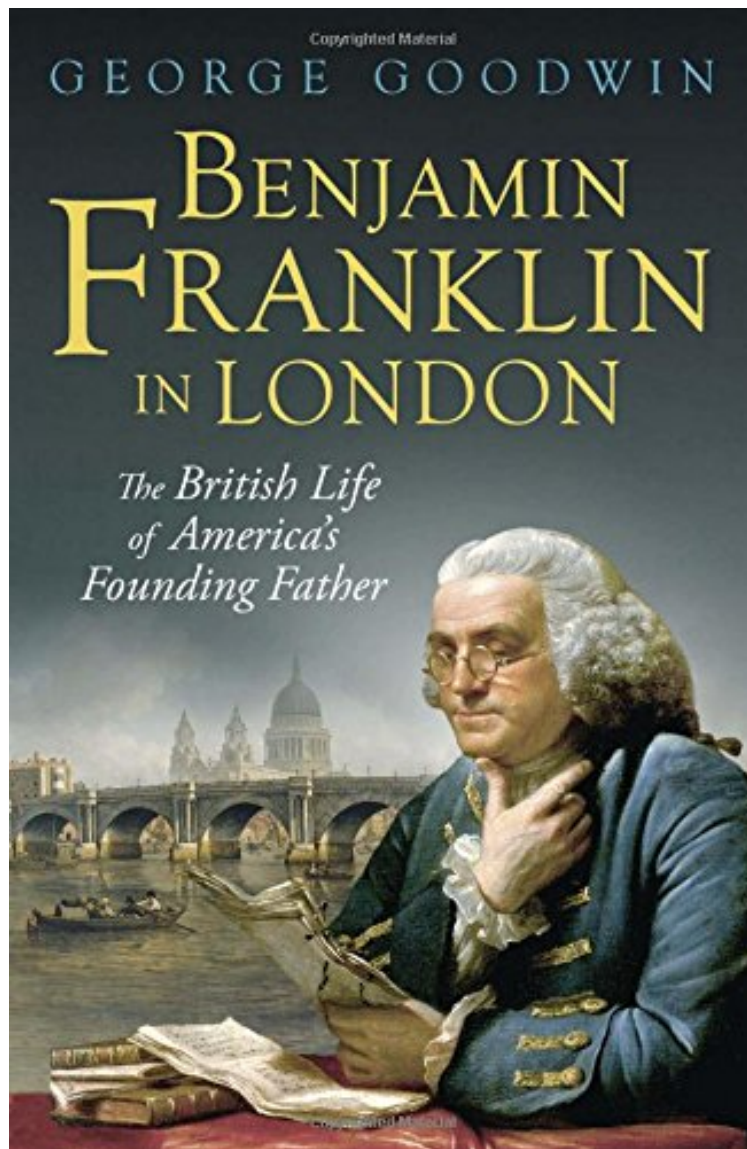


[Free pdf] Benjamin Franklin in London: The British Life of America's Founding Father (Lewis Walpole Series in Eighteenth-C)

Benjamin Franklin in London: The British Life of America's Founding Father (Lewis Walpole Series in Eighteenth-C)

George Goodwin

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George Goodwin : Benjamin Franklin in London: The British Life of America's Founding Father (Lewis Walpole Series in Eighteenth-C) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Benjamin Franklin in London: The British Life of America's Founding Father (Lewis Walpole Series in Eighteenth-C):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The amazing fact learned from this superb book is that Benjamin ...By Philip BrantinghamThe amazing fact learned from this superb book is that Benjamin Franklin at one time considered living permanently in England. He had made many friends there and had many happy experiences in the city--but this was with personal contacts. His experiences with members of the British government were not pleasant. The Crown looked on him as an interloper, representing the rebellious colonies. Author Goodwin's narrative relates all the details of Franklin's life in London--a bit tediously at times but always to the point. Nor much is said about his scientific interests, which is a pity, but the focus of the book is his diplomatic activities and his shrewd actions in representing the colonies. He was a skilled negotiator, but in many ways it was to no avail. His Majesty's government plunged willfully into a no-win war with the American colonies. Quite readable and authoritative it remains the best book so far on this part of Franklin's life. .1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great bookBy j. coopI just finished this book, having purchased it after hearing an interesting interview with the author on a history podcast. The book more than lived up to expectations. Even if you already possess a number of Franklin-themed books and wonder why you would want or need another, you will want to read this for the very detailed narrative of Franklin's time in England, both in his political role in serving as a colonial agent for a number of colonies, and for the extensive social and political relationships he developed with all segments of British society, particularly scientific. You get a real sense of Franklin as a person, warts and all. On that note, the author doesn't spare illuminating some of the darker aspects of Franklin as husband and father. I was not aware of the level of personal contact Franklin had with the English ruling class, and the author does a great job of highlighting the great differences of opinion regarding American amongst the British governing elites, which Franklin worked so hard to influence. The book is also extremely well-written and is an easy read. Overall, very highly recommended.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good read about Benjamin FranklinBy MomofonesweetieA very good story line; written well. Interesting information I did not know about him.I was able to hear the author give a lecture and really enjoyed it.

An absorbing and enlightening chronicle of the nearly two decades the American statesman, scientist, author, inventor, and Founding Father spent in the British imperial capital of colonial America For more than one-fifth of his life, Benjamin Franklin lived in London. He dined with prime ministers, members of parliament, even kings, as well as with Britain's most esteemed intellectuals including David Hume, Joseph Priestley, and Erasmus Darwin and with more notorious individuals, such as Francis Dashwood and James Boswell. Having spent eighteen formative months in England as a young man, Franklin returned in 1757 as a colonial representative during the Seven Years War, and left abruptly just prior to the outbreak of America's War of Independence, barely escaping his impending arrest. In this fascinating history, George Goodwin gives a colorful account of Franklin's British years. The author offers a rich and revealing portrait of one of the most remarkable figures in U.S. history, effectively disputing the commonly held perception of Franklin as an outsider in British politics. It is an enthralling study of an American patriot who was a fiercely loyal British citizen for most of his life until forces he had sought and failed to control finally made him a reluctant revolutionary at the age of sixty-nine.

[An] interesting, lively account of Franklin's British life. . . . A fascinating perspective. Jeffrey Collins, Wall Street Journal