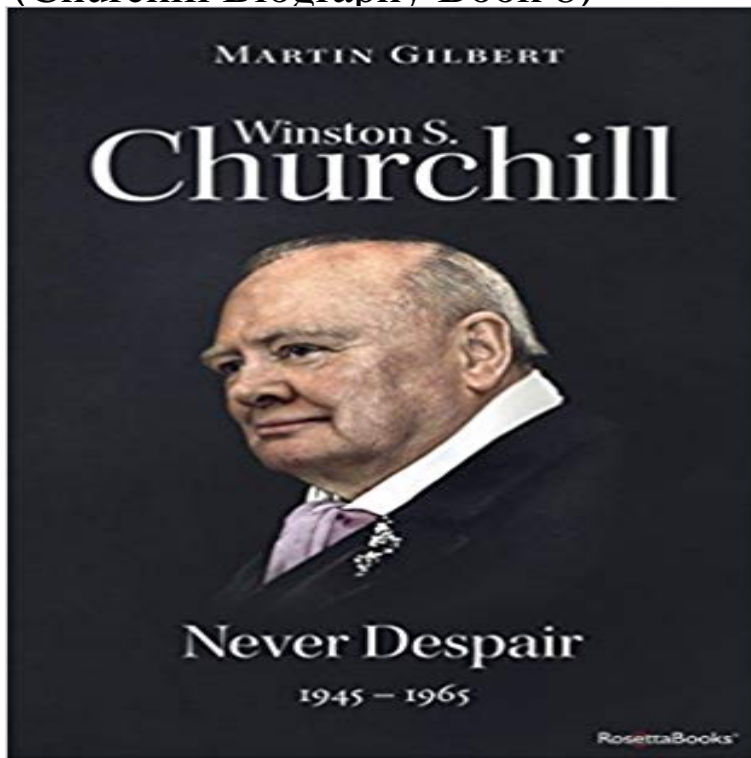


Winston S. Churchill: Never Despair, 1945-1965 (Volume VIII) (Churchill Biography Book 8)



The final volume of the official biography spans Churchills life from the defeat of Germany in 1945 to his death nearly twenty years later. It sees him first at the pinnacle of his power, leader of a victorious Britain. In July 1945 at Potsdam, Churchill, Stalin, and Truman aimed to shape postwar Europe. But while still grappling with world issues Churchill returned to Britain for the general election results and was thrown out of office. For six years Churchill worked to restore the fortunes of Britains Conservative Party, while at the same time warning the world of Communist ambitions, urging the reconciliation of France and Germany, pioneering the concept of a united Europe, and seeking to maintain the closest possible links between Britain and the United States. His aim throughout was to achieve not confrontation with the Soviet Union but conciliation based firmly upon Western strength and unity. In October 1951 Churchill became prime minister for the second time. The Great Powers were at peace but under the shadow of a fearful new weapon, the hydrogen bomb. Hoping, after the election of Eisenhower in 1952 and the death of Stalin in 1953, for a fresh start in EastWest relations, Churchill worked for a new summit conference; but in April 1955 ill health and pressure from colleagues forced him to resign. In retirement Churchill traveled widely; took up painting again; completed the four-volume History of the English-Speaking Peoples; and watched as world conflicts continued, still convinced that they could be resolved by statesmanship. Never despair remained his watchword, and his faith, until the end. That end came slowly; for those nearest to him it was a sad decline. Yet almost to his ninetieth year he was able to follow events with hope and faith in the ability of man to survive his own folly. About the Author SIR MARTIN GILBERT was born in

England in 1936. He was a graduate of Oxford University, from which he held a Doctorate of Letters, and was an Honorary Fellow of Merton College, Oxford. In 1962 he began work as one of Randolph Churchills research assistants, and in 1968, after Randolph Churchills death, he became the official biographer of Winston Churchill. He published six volumes of the Churchill biography, and edited twelve volumes of Churchill documents. During forty-eight years of research and writing, Sir Martin published eighty books, including *The First World War*, *The Second World War*, and a three-volume *History of the Twentieth Century*. He also wrote, as part of his series of ten historical atlases, *Atlas of the First World War*, and, most recently, *Atlas of the Second World War*. Sir Martins film and television work included a documentary series on the life of Winston Churchill. His other published works include *Churchill: A Photographic Portrait*, *In Search of Churchill*, *Churchill and America*, and the single volume *Churchill, A Life*. About the Work In the official biography of Sir Winston Churchill, his son Randolph and later Sir Martin Gilbert, who took up the work following Randolphs death had the full use of Sir Winstons letters and papers, and also many hundreds of private archives. The work spans eight volumes, detailing Churchills youth and early adventures in South Africa and India, his early career, and his more than fifty years on the world stage. No other statesman of modern times or indeed of any age has left such a wealth of personal letters, such a rich store of private and public documentation, such vivid memories in the minds of those who worked closest to him. Through these materials, assembled over the course of more than twenty years, one is able to know Churchill in a way never before possible.

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