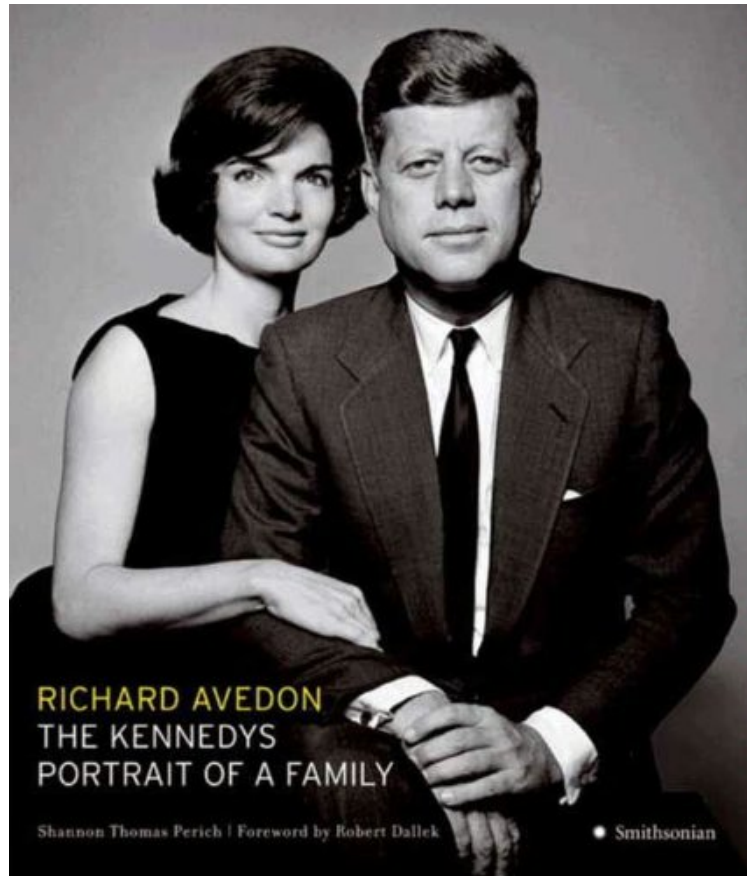


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The Kennedys: Portrait of a Family

Richard Avedon, Shannon Thomas Perich
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Richard Avedon, Shannon Thomas Perich : The Kennedys: Portrait of a Family before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Kennedys: Portrait of a Family:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. HistoricalBy NightmareThis book is a nice snapshot of the history and background context of the pictures it contains. That being said there are not that many actual pictures. I enjoyed reading the information provided but some reviews refer to this as a coffee table book but that gives the wrong impression. The photos would certainly be included in a coffee table book but the book is not in that format. The cover of the book gives that impression as well. This is a good book if you are looking to read a snippet of history of that time period but if you are wanting to primarily see photographs of the Kennedys this book only gives you a small handful. The photos are small on the kindle 8.9 and I would have preferred them formatted to be on a page by themselves so they would show up better. The photos are treated like footnotes to the text which doesn't do them justice. I give it 5 stars for the history but only 3 for the treatment of the pictures.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Brief Intense and Memorable Blink of History I Was Privileged To Share.By My Three CentsOh, how sweet the remembrance of these two historical movers and shakers! I enjoyed every second of this book. I relived the agony, disbelief and grief of President Kennedy's senseless assassination. I remembered the deep pain I felt when I thought of how Mrs. Kennedy's and her children's lives could be without husband and father to share those

years. I felt again the searing hatred that anyone would do something like this to my country and my President. But I also rejoiced at the joy and passion they experienced together in their lives, in each other, their children, families and country. I applauded their generosity of spirit and purpose as they pursued public service as a life choice and how much they ultimately gave to America in their love of country. Perfection? No, they were human and made mistakes as we all do in our lives. But some people stand out over others, give more, and face life choices that are difficult to cope with and bear, but who do not falter in their resolve; these two people did not equivocate or give up, they became the constant care givers of our country and Americans reaped the bounty of their wisdom, enthusiasm, encouragement and love. The Kennedy Family has been an amazing and impressive example of how human nature can overcome faults, misconceptions, faulty judgment, and life itself to experience triumph and satisfaction in their lives through public service (are you listening, Congress?). Thank you, Mr. Avedon, for your wonderful book. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By zscarolyn Anyone who loves the Kennedys will surely love this book. I read it in one sitting.

In the early 1960s, Richard Avedon was commissioned by Harper's Bazaar to create Observations, a column that consisted of a series of nine photographic essays. The subject of the first essay was John F. Kennedy and his young family, who sat for formal black-and-white portraits just three weeks prior to Kennedy's presidential inauguration. Six images appeared in the magazine's February 1961 issue. That same day, Avedon created more informal color portraits of Kennedy and his family at the Kennedy compound in Palm Beach. One of these images ran as the cover of LOOK magazine's February 28 issue, with photographs by Avedon inside. Just before the magazine hit the newsstands and was delivered to over 6.5 million people, a set of photographs, comprised mostly of the LOOK images, was released by the White House and appeared in newspapers across the country. During his lifetime, Richard Avedon donated more than two hundred images to the Smithsonian Institution, including all of the photographs of the Kennedy family sitting for Harper's Bazaar. Smithsonian curator Shannon Thomas Perich has culled more than seventy-five images from that donation for *The Kennedys: Portrait of a Family*, making these stunning photographs available for view for the first time. Perich's introductory essay, accompanied by a wealth of archival photographs of both Avedon and the Kennedy family, provides historical background on the two sittings within a political and cultural context and critically examines the work of one of the finest photographers of the twentieth century. A foreword by Robert Dallek, distinguished historian and author of the best-selling *An Unfinished Life: John F. Kennedy, 1917-1963*, provides authoritative and compelling insight to one of the most fascinating presidents in American history.