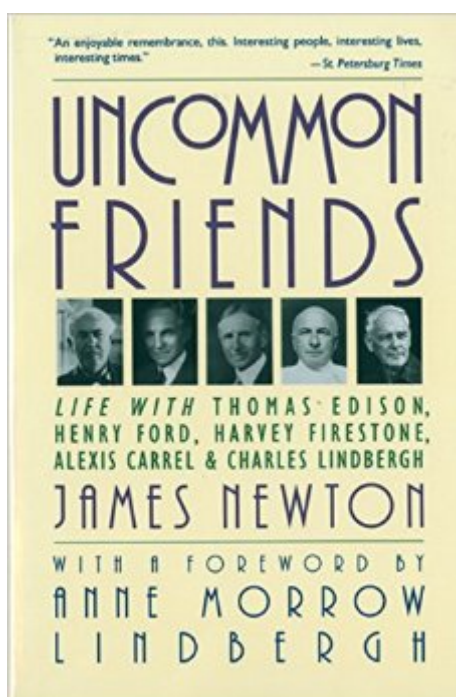


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Uncommon Friends: Life With Thomas Edison, Henry Ford, Harvey Firestone, Alexis Carrel, And Charles Lindbergh



Synopsis

Newton engagingly recalls a lifetime of friendship with five giants of the twentieth century. Foreword by Anne Morrow Lindbergh; Index; photographs.

Book Information

Paperback: 384 pages

Publisher: Mariner Books; 1 edition (June 23, 1989)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0156926202

ISBN-13: 978-0156926201

Product Dimensions: 6 x 1 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (54 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

This book originally caught my eye as an addition to another book I read called *Edison: A Life of Invention* by Paul Israel. I wanted a book that would cover a little more of Edison's personal life, and this book did just that. However, James Newton's close, dedicated friendships with all of these great men of the twentieth century is truly amazing, and I learned more than I would probably learn otherwise about some of these important historical figures. The entire book is fascinating, and surely different parts will appeal to different readers. I was particularly enchanted with a poignant description of how Charles Lindbergh handled dying as he lay on his deathbed. I was also fascinated with how environmentally conscientious some of these men were, particularly Edison and Lindbergh, but also Ford. For example, Ford was very interested in making automobile parts out of soybeans in order to reduce the need for metal parts. It seems that all of these men had numerous ideas and ideas for inventions that were way ahead of their time - perhaps some of them still are. Newton's writing is quite good, and I only have one very minor criticism: it seems that he preaches a little bit and dwells on the religious facet of his relationships with these people. Of course, I'm sure this was a very important part of his relationship with these men and their families, but it seems that there is a grand, overarching agenda he has in constantly illustrating their connection to God and religion. If you are interested in any of these historical figures and their

fascinating relationships with each other, this book is definitely the best book you will find on the subject.

I recently bought this book while visiting the Edison-Ford Winter Estates in Fort Myers, FL. It's an amazing informal history whose author is as interesting as his incredible subjects. Edison and Ford really come alive as people, and Newton gives a unique perspective on Lindbergh's oft-criticized WWII neutrality stance. Newton's own participation in the Spirituality movement is especially fascinating. I can't wait for the PBS special!

This is one of the best books I've ever read. It takes you on a tour of the lives of some incredible men whose work and personalities still have influence on us years after their deaths. Prior to reading this book, I had no idea that all of these men not only knew each other, but had such strong personal connections. I have recommended this book to many friends and will recommend it strongly to anyone who wants a book to enjoy that also provides such a wonderful and personal look at history through the minds of arguably some of the wisest men of the 20th century.

While reading this book, I was fascinated by each of these men but even more so of James Newton, the author. Reading this book I found that it was full of history, humor, and unfounded wisdom. I began taking notes for my own personal edification. This is truly a must read.

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The book is an excellent read, and on first seen, almost unbelievable, but has been proven true by many sources and the author is still alive. I unconditionally recommend it to all who are interested in accurate and entertaining history. The hour-long PBS Special will be released late this year or next, but the Preview hosted by Walter Cronkite attests to the book's accuracy and interest-level. The book will be much in demand after the PBS Special is viewed. James G. Parke, M.D.

I found this book to be a great read! Newton does a fine job communicating the characters of the men that he worked with, revealing their work ethic and their faith and what made them the men they were. I found this book to be such a pleasure that I ended up buying copies for several friends as well as my Dad.

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