



Top Down: A Novel of the Kennedy Assassination

Jim Lehrer

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In a riveting novel rooted in one of American history's great "what ifs," Jim Lehrer tells the story of two men haunted by the events leading up to John F. Kennedy's assassination.

November 22, 1963. As Air Force One touches down in Dallas, ambitious young newspaper reporter Jack Gilmore races to get the scoop on preparations for President Kennedy's motorcade. Will the bubble top on the presidential limousine be up or down? Down, according to veteran Secret Service agent Van Walters. The decision to leave the top down and expose JFK to fire from above will weigh on Van's conscience for decades. But will it also change the course of history?

Five years after the assassination, Jack gets an anguished phone call from Van's daughter Marti. Van Walters is ravaged by guilt, so convinced that his actions led to JFK's death that he has lost the will to live. In a desperate bid to deliver her father from his demons, Marti enlists Jack's help in a risky reenactment designed to prove once and for all what *would* have happened had the bubble top stayed in place on that grim November day.

For Jack, it's a chance to break a once-in-a-lifetime story that could make his career. But for Van the stakes are even higher. The outcome of a ballistics test conducted on the grounds of a secluded estate in upstate New York might just save his life—or push him over the edge.

A page-turning historical novel with the beating heart of a thriller, *Top Down* could only have sprung from the fertile imagination of Jim Lehrer. Drawing on his own experience as an eyewitness to the events described, one of America's most respected journalists has crafted an engrossing story out of the emotional aftershocks of a national tragedy.

Praise for *Top Down*

"Lehrer (formerly the anchor of PBS's *NewsHour*) draws upon his experiences as a reporter in Dallas on November 22, 1963, for this unusual take on the Kennedy assassination. . . . A refreshing change from the usual conspiracy thrillers about the J.F.K. assassination."—***Publishers Weekly***

"A nice fictional counterpoint to the [many] nonfiction books coming out this year to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the assassination."—***BookPage***

"PBS newsman and veteran fiction writer Jim Lehrer asks an intriguing question. . . . What if the Secret Service agent who decided not to equip the presidential limousine with its bubble top ended up blaming himself for John F. Kennedy's assassination? . . . It's a promising plot, especially as a cultural take on the event that rocked the country a half-century ago."—***Associated Press***

From the Hardcover edition.



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Jon Farris:

Reading a e-book tends to be new life style in this particular era globalization. With looking at you can get a lot of information that may give you benefit in your life. Using book everyone in this world can easily share their idea. Textbooks can also inspire a lot of people. Many author can inspire their very own reader with their story or perhaps their experience. Not only situation that share in the guides. But also they write about the information about something that you need example of this. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your young ones, there are many kinds of book that exist now. The authors in this world always try to improve their talent in writing, they also doing some exploration before they write to the book. One of them is this Top Down: A Novel of the Kennedy Assassination.

Richard Rodriguez:

People live in this new day time of lifestyle always attempt to and must have the time or they will get large amount of stress from both way of life and work. So , if we ask do people have spare time, we will say absolutely without a doubt. People is human not really a huge robot. Then we question again, what kind of activity are there when the spare time coming to anyone of course your answer will certainly unlimited right. Then do you try this one, reading books. It can be your alternative inside spending your spare time, the actual book you have read is usually Top Down: A Novel of the Kennedy Assassination.

Donna Feuerstein:

Playing with family in a very park, coming to see the marine world or hanging out with buddies is thing that usually you might have done when you have spare time, and then why you don't try matter that really opposite from that. One activity that make you not experience tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you are ride on and with addition of information. Even you love Top Down: A Novel of the Kennedy Assassination, you could enjoy both. It is excellent combination right, you still wish to miss it? What kind of hang-out type is it? Oh come on its mind hangout folks. What? Still don't have it, oh come on its referred to as reading friends.

Allen Green:

Many people spending their time by playing outside with friends, fun activity with family or just watching TV 24 hours a day. You can have new activity to enjoy your whole day by reading a book. Ugh, you think reading a book really can hard because you have to bring the book everywhere? It fine you can have the e-book, delivering everywhere you want in your Touch screen phone. Like Top Down: A Novel of the Kennedy Assassination which is getting the e-book version. So , try out this book? Let's observe.

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