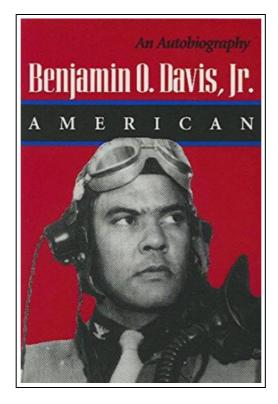
Benjamin O. Davis, Jr. American An Autobiography



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Reviews

Absolutely essential study book. It is loaded with wisdom and knowledge I found out this ebook from my i and dad suggested this ebook to understand.

(Dr. Lera Spencer)

BENJAMIN O. DAVIS, JR. AMERICAN AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY



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Smithsonian Institution Scholarly Press. Paperback. Condition: New. 442 pages. Dimensions: 9.1in. x 6.0in. x 1.3in.Set against the backdrop of twentieth-century America, against the social fabric of segregation and the broad canvas of foreign war, Benjamin O. Davis, Jr.: American tells a compelling story of personal achievement against formidable odds. Born into an era when potential was measured according to race, Davis was determined to be judged by his character and deedsto succeed as an American, and not to fail because of color. With twelve million citizens the black population of the United Statespulling for him, Davis entered West Point in 1932, resolved to become an officer even though official military directives stated that blacks were decidedly inferior, lacking in courage, superstitious, and dominated by moral and character weaknesses. Silenced by his peers, for four years spoken to only in the line of duty, David did not falter. He graduated 35th in a class of 276 and requested assignment to the Army Air Corps, then closed to blacks. He went on to lead the 99th Pursuit Squadron and the 332nd Fighter Groupunits known today as the Tuskegee Airmeninto air combat over North Africa and Italy during World War II. His performance, and that of his men, enabled the Air Force to integrate years before civilian society confronted segregation. Thereafter, in a distinguished career in the Far East, Europe, and the United States, Davis commanded both black and white units. Daviss story is interwoven with often painful accounts of the discrimination he and his wife, Agatha, endured as a fact of American military and civilian life. Traveling across the country, unable to find food and lodging, they were often forced to make their way nonstop. Once on base, they were denied use of clubs and, in the early days, were never...



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