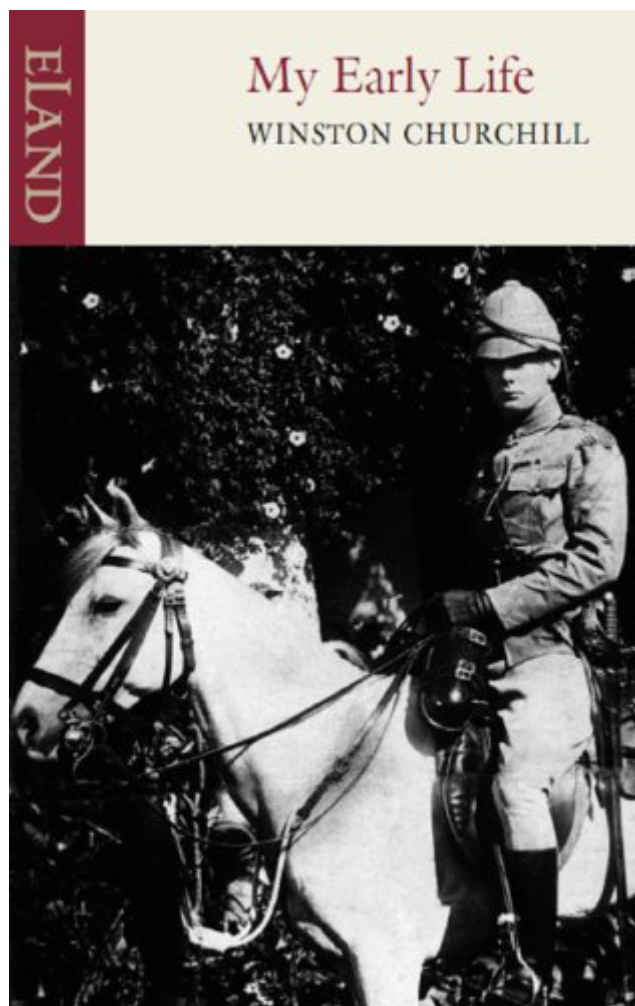


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# My Early Life



## Synopsis

The first twenty-five years of Churchill's life were full of adventure: night marches, cavalry charges, skirmishes on the North West Frontier, escape from a Boer prisoncamp and a visit to the Cuban War. Acknowledged as his best book, his zest for life bursts right off the page of *My Early Life*. Yet this is more than just an adventure story. It is an elegiac portrayal of the halcyon period of Edwardian content before the First World War, and deeply revealing of one of the dominating personalities of the twentieth century. Here lie the roots of that restless, questing energy and dauntless ambition, born of absent parents and miserable schooling.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Winston Churchill is a giant of history. By coincidence he is also my personal favorite foreign author of non fiction. (I am an American.) His writing style is very florid and reads like fiction rather than non fiction. He uses many illusions and has an ironical sense of humor. He was awarded a Nobel Prize for literature. This is a autobiography, composed in mid life, in 1930, but only about his life from 1874 to 1904. As such, the story does not include anything about either World War. World War I had

concluded but is not discussed in this book in any detail. World War II and Hitler's Germany remain over the horizon. For me, this creates a fascinating autobiographical "snap shot". Churchill describes his early life of high adventure. He combined a thirst for adventure with an interest and aptitude for writing. While still a young soldier, he wrote for a newspaper. He left the army and continued as a correspondent. He was taken prisoner in South Africa and escaped. Winston Churchill was a celebrity by the time he was in his mid 20s. After achieving fame in his twenties, he came to America to speak and met an elderly Mark Twain. All of this is captured in a very artistic writing style. I found all of this fascinating. I purchased an audiobook along with a Kindle reading edition. I listened to the audiobook while commuting instead of listening to the radio. I memorized passages that I need to reread later. I felt this helps both my listening and memory skills. The audiobook was excellent. My copy was narrated by Fredrick Davidson. This was an excellent reading experience. I am very grateful to have read this fine work. Thank You...

Churchill could make you feel like you are there and in the thick of it. Without being a braggart, he represents himself very well. He had already lived a full life before the age of thirty.

One of the best books I have read. Churchill was a brilliant writer, and this may well be his best book. It is very funny, and incredibly exciting. At times, it is even appalling! It follows Churchill's life from the nursery, through boarding school, to Sandhurst, and into combat with the 21st Lancers, and then as a correspondent and prisoner of war into South Africa. It reads like a novel, but is entirely factual. You can feel the great man's twinkle in the eye as he wrote it.

While Churchill might have been slightly blind to his parents and their affections, his portrayal of the times and the inside knowledge of the systems at work are enlightening. He describes the historical aspects and his life during this time in clear, illustrative and humorous ways. Yes, he made some colossal mistakes in his lifetime - retrospect provides a clearer picture - but this leader was amazing and I wish there were a few like him around today.

The book was especially interesting at the start. Winston Churchill gave a hilarious recounting of his early days, and his successes and failures at school. Later after joining the military and then becoming a correspondent, he seemed to be everywhere at once and in every fight the British had. There was an interesting account of his great escape, and many other close encounters in Africa. The book gives a nice overview of Churchill's early life and the lead up to his political life. You can

also see the origins of his unmistakable tendency to say what he means, come what may.  
Interesting read.

My husband and I thoroughly enjoyed this book; the narration was superb. The writing style and stories depicted were so engaging, captivating and informative that I spent some hours on biographies of some of the notables. I have Hillsdale College to thank for piquing my interest in actually reading his work rather than merely learning about him. With "The History of the English Speaking Peoples" done, I'm ready for more...

I am choosy about what I read. This book is one of the best - it sparkles with authentic, humble, humorous, intriguing comment on a privileged life lived to the full. The style is superb. I find the author deeply lovable in his courage and self-deprecation, his foibles and reckless pursuit of danger. If there's one book that I commend wholeheartedly to all comers, it is this one. Quite apart from the brilliant style of writing, the passing of the Victorian age and the looming shedding of the British empire are described from within and from the height of aristocracy, without in any way patronizing the masses. Again, one of the best

I never knew Churchill was such a good writer, one of the best I have read in English. He made this book easy and fun to read. I am very glad I read it and look forward to reading more about him.

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