

(Free pdf) Bland Ambition: From Adams to Quayle--The Cranks, Criminals, Tax Cheats, and Golfers Who Made It to Vice President

## **Bland Ambition: From Adams to Quayle--The Cranks, Criminals, Tax Cheats, and Golfers Who Made It to Vice President**

*Steve Tally*

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**Steve Tally : Bland Ambition: From Adams to Quayle--The Cranks, Criminals, Tax Cheats, and Golfers Who Made It to Vice President** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Bland Ambition: From Adams to Quayle--The Cranks, Criminals, Tax Cheats, and Golfers Who Made It to Vice President:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A First Rate Book on (mostly) Second Rate Men.By CaitlinsDadVPMust reading for lovers of obscure American historical figures. Professor Tally has written a hilarious, smart, and and fascinating book on the nations second-highest office and its role (or lack thereof) in our government and the unique men who have held this office. Schuyler Colfax? William Wheeler? Charles Dawes? Who the hell are these guys? Former VP's of the U.S. that's who. And you'll laugh out loud reading about them and how Professor Tally takes them to task. Fans of HAMILTON the Musical will want to read the Aaron Burr chapter for sure. Despite Professor Tally's deprecating tone towards most of the VP's, he still gives you reasons to admire some of these forgotten men like Henry Wilson and Daniel Tompkins. I can't recommend this book enough. Without it, it wouldn't have inspired me to work on my own projects, to have interviewed Gore Vidal on Aaron Burr, to be on THE DORK FOREST podcast and be named the Most Popular episode of 2015, and more. I love this book.0 of 0 people found the

following review helpful. Three starsBy CustomerThe author's style is entertaining and it's enjoyable to read. However, he makes every single VEEP in history out to be a bafoon. That doesn't seem realistic. He makes a number of statements of fact contradicted by more authoritative sources I've read.Read it for fun but be careful about using it as a source.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Bland AmbitionBy chris lambBland Ambition is not only a great book about the vice presidency (which is to damn with faint praise), it is a great book about U.S. politics. Too many books about politics treat their subjects as if they're bronze statues. Mr. Tally treats his subjects with feet of clay. With a deft sense of humor, Mr. Tally sees vice presidents not as statesmen or loyal subjects of a president, as writers too often see them, but as they are -- overly ambitious, inept, odd, and comical. It's a great read, fun and informative. The book should be read every presidential election year.

Everyone knows the requirements for President of the U.S.--leadership, vision, and airtight alibis dating back to junior high. But just what does it take to be vice-president? As Steve Tally tells it in *Blind Ambition*, a sly look at our vice-presidents, from John Adams to Dan Quayle, is more outrageous than any modern smear campaign concoction.

From *Library Journal*Yes, it's true, very often in our nation's history, the second-highest official has been nothing more than an outright crook. That is, when he's not been an adulterer, booze hound, or, more usually, a party hack from way back. In Tally's genuinely entertaining and informative history of all 44 (so far) vice presidents, we learn how each of these men has seen his "bland ambition" fulfilled. Given the number of times a vice president has been elevated to the Oval Office upon the death or resignation of a president, it's amazing how little thought has been given to a veep's qualifications for that responsibility. The nation survives--again, so far. This book is a good value for libraries, both for its content and its price. See also Jules Witcover's *Crapshoot: Rolling the Dice on the Vice Presidency*, LJ 12/91.--Ed.- Pamela R. Daubenspeck, Warren-Trumbull Cty. P.L., Warren, OhioCopyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc.