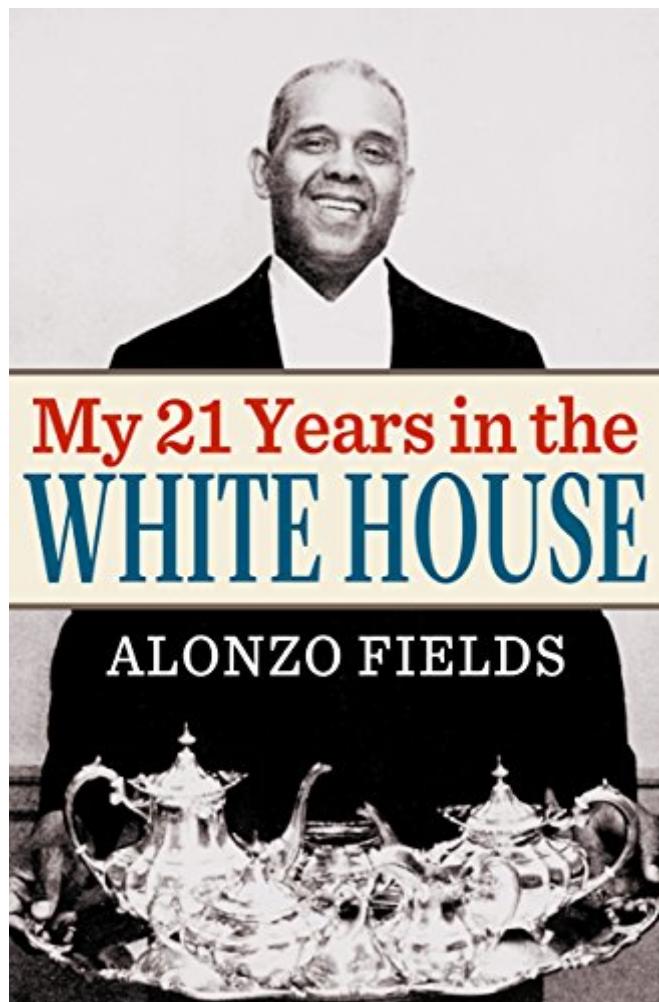


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# My 21 Years In The White House



## **Synopsis**

My 21 Years in the White House, first published in 1960, is the fascinating account by Alonzo Fields of his service as head butler under 4 presidents: Hoover, Roosevelt, Truman, and Eisenhower. Fields (1900-1994) began his employment at the White House in 1931, and kept a journal of his meetings with the presidents and their families; he would also meet important people like Winston Churchill, Princess Elizabeth of England, Thomas Edison, John D. Rockefeller, presidential cabinet members, senators, representatives, and Supreme Court Justices. He would also witness presidential decision-making at critical times in American history -- the attack on Pearl Harbor, the death of Franklin Roosevelt, the desegregation of the military, and the outbreak of hostilities in Korea. As Fields often told his staff, "remember that we are helping to make history. We have a small part ... but they can't do much here without us. They've got to eat, you know." • Included are sample menus prepared for visiting heads-of-state and foreign dignitaries.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

I love reading books like this - makes me feel like the people who live in the White House have

ideas ( maybe even quirks) just like the rest of us, and those who serve their needs are special people indeed. Really a fun read and very interesting!

An easy read and interesting to see so much of what went on in the White House during the years of Alonzo Fields service. He is very respectful toward all the Presidents he served but also honest with his insights into their personalities. You will be able to read through this easily and enjoyably. A true American story of a simple citizen who was elevated to serve the most powerful people during some very strategic years in our country's History. I recommend this book.

This memoir was a bit disappointing. One would think that a long tenure in the White House, working for four different Presidents, would be an amazing experience. Mr. Fields seemed more focused on sharing rather critical anecdotes about each of these families and their activities, both personal and social. No doubt his was a most demanding job, but from his telling I'm surprised that he stayed in that position for 21 years.

This book reveals a more dignified time for the writing of a memoir since it describes the residents of the White House and their guests in a tactful manner. Wording is chosen so that the reader is able to read between the lines, and any critical memories are handled carefully. Mr. Fields was definitely the right man for the great responsibilities that he bore.

I love books about the inner workings of the White House and this one doesn't disappoint. It's not very exciting and there are no personal bombshells here, no secrets revealed, but I enjoy knowing what the menus were for State dinners and what famous guests liked to eat. Might not be for everyone, but I loved it.

Fascinating account of four White House families as seen from the perspective of a servant. Alonzo Fields gave an honest appraisal of the families without any rancor which was most refreshing. Carl Roache

Not many can tell a story that is his own, and share the lives of the Leaders of the United States and of the many visiting World Leaders, dignitaries, and the public. Thank you for the care and consideration of each one.

This book gives you an excellent view of what goes on beyond closed doors in the White House. You learn about each President, First Lady and their families, unlike what you learned in history books.

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