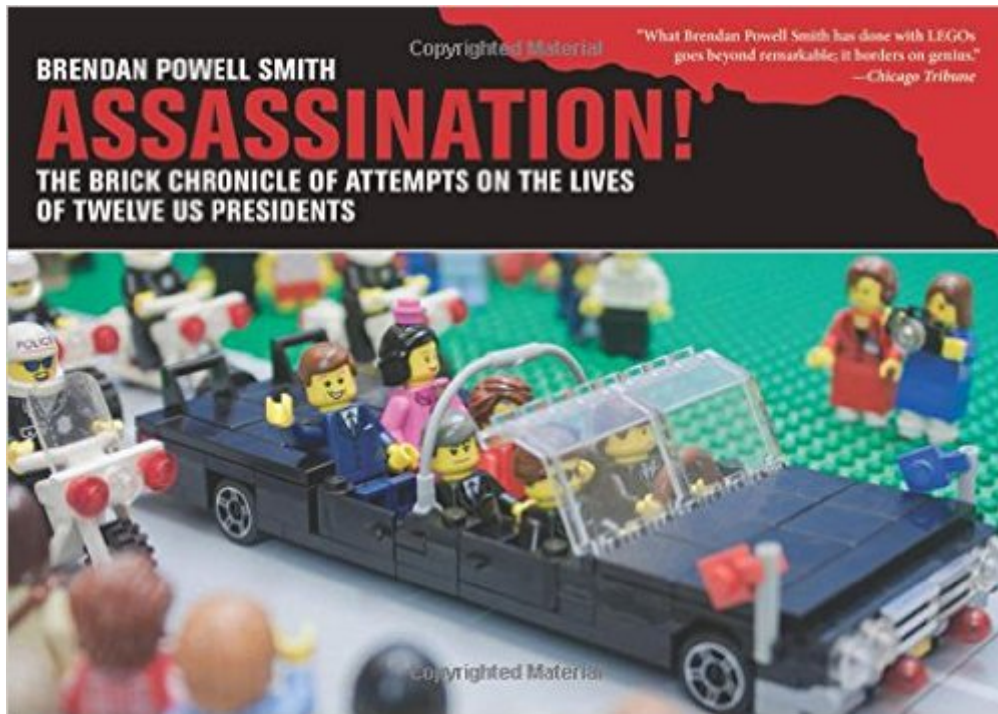


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# Assassination!: The Brick Chronicle Of Attempts On The Lives Of Twelve US Presidents



## Synopsis

PRESIDENTIAL HISTORY LIKE YOU'VE NEVER SEEN IT BEFORE! Creator of the bestselling The Brick Bible book series, author Brendan Powell Smith turns his acclaimed storytelling and illustrative talents to bring to life some of the most shocking, pivotal, and bizarre moments in the history of the United States. From John Wilkes Booth's diabolical plot to kill the President, Vice-President, and Secretary of State in a single night to John Hinckley's deranged bid to impress actress Jodie Foster by shooting Ronald Reagan, Smith brings an eye for meticulous detail and a sense of both gravitas and whimsy toward his subject matter, retelling the fascinating and often tragic stories behind attempts on the lives of a dozen US presidents. Relive the events leading up to John F. Kennedy's fatal ride through Dealey Plaza in Dallas including an earlier attempt on the president's life when a 73-year-old man strapped dynamite to his own body and followed Kennedy to church. Rediscover the stories of how Gerald Ford survived two assassination attempts by women just seventeen days apart. And how a failed businessman hijacked a plane and planned to crash it into the White House to take vengeance on Richard Nixon for the Watergate scandal. With over four hundred highly detailed illustrations (including recreations of many famous photographs and historical scenes), Smith has created a book that will captivate even those who wouldn't normally think to pick up a history book. It's a new Brick Chronicle of our collective past. It's history made fun!

## Book Information

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Age Range: 10 - 13 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

ASSASSINATION! THE BRICK CHRONICLE OF ATTEMPTS ON THE LIVES OF TWELVE US PRESIDENTS by Brendan Powell Smith is an entertaining History. What this author can do with Lego's is amazing! Not only is this title entertaining but educational as well. A uniquely powerful way for youngsters to learn history using Lego's as graphics. I learned stuff I didn't know, as my grandchildren say " I am over the hill, but not too old".....I would encourage you to check out "Assassination!" I don't think you will regret your choice of reading material. If you wish to learn more on the history of the twelve US presidents who either had attempted assassinations or where assassinated, than this is the book for you. Youngsters will enjoy this telling of history as well as older children. Who doesn't enjoy Lego's, right? A very enterprising way to teach history. Please be aware some parents may have issues with the content, due to some of the graphic and gory information. But after all, this is history! A joy to read! Well written, once again using beautiful graphics. Received for an honest review from the publisher. RATING: 4.5 HEAT RATING: Mild\*Some graphic and gory information\*REVIEWED BY: AprilR, Courtesy of My Book Addiction and More

I recently got to read the latest brick book by Smith, and I've got to say he's really outdone himself. The illustrations are gorgeous, the caricatures spot on, and the storytelling pitch perfect. I also think the layout and look of this book is the most suited to the content yet. Best of all, the whole is greater than the sum of its parts - the amusing differences and troubling similarities in each assassination story sent me through a range of thoughts and emotions. It's amusing as hell, but I found it also had an unexpected impact. And I got a fascinating glimpse into one weird thread of American history along the way. In short, I laughed, I cried, it was better than cutting off my own testicles with a knife.\*\*\*\*You'll understand when you read the book.

Bought for my Lego & president obsessed son. No age/content info on target audience for this book (kids? adults?) --there is some information in it that isn't appropriate for kids. I blacked it out so my son can continue to enjoy the other 99% of this neat book! Ordering "Revolution!" next!

Chock full of tidbits about presidential assassination attempts you didn't even know happened, including an attempted hijacking to kill Nixon in a manner eerily similar to one of the planned 9/11 attacks. The Lego recreations are well-done and well-photographed, encouraging you to keep turning the pages and learn more. Kids and those easily offended should stay away, but it is well-researched, well-written, well-rendered, and original, which makes it an interesting novelty

read.

I bought this book on the strength of Brendan Powell Smith's other work, *The Brick Testament*. I was really surprised by this book. He obviously did a large amount of research on each assassination, and each scene is constructed with an amazing amount of detail.

I've read books on the Presidents since I was 8, and this is truly an incredible and original book. The only problem I had with it is this: why was the attempt on President Truman in 1950 not featured? I've done a brief internet search, but can't find any reason for the omission.

If you have read Brendan Powell Smith's other lego books - most of which have a biblical theme, you either love his work or regret showing it to your young children. "Assassination!" certainly deals with some very dark themes, juxtaposed with lego bricks. If you want an earnest review of presidential assassination attempts detailing the political milieu that gave rise to killers motivated by ideology and a discussion of the kind of mental illness which can drive an attention-seeking personality to political action then this book is a strange, short and wonderful snapshot of history. The book is not put out by The Lego Group. The author is not affiliated with The Lego Group. Up until recently, The Lego Group did not even produce minifigures with realistic guns. They still don't produce the detailed type of guns in this book, which I believe are all custom mods. The book is illustrated in lego bricks, in the same way a model builder makes models or a sculptor sculpts. Though my 11 year old has flipped through the pages of this book, I would probably not give it to children significantly younger, unless I was prepared to engage them in a lengthy discussion about the contents. Anarchism, Communism, Racism, Classism, and sexuality are all discussed. The book gives a fair treatment to the assassins, explaining either how they arrived at their gruesome decision or how their decision-making was impaired. It is a bizarrely fun read on an interesting topic which is simultaneously lightened and darkened by the character of the book.

This is a labor of love. Assassins are all nuts, and have very rich (and odd) imaginary worlds. What genius to use legos (to build worlds) to tell how these strange little dudes have affected my history, your history! These pictures have perspective and personality. Every moment is captured in all its drama, all its ludicrousness, all its passion, and all its sorrow.

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