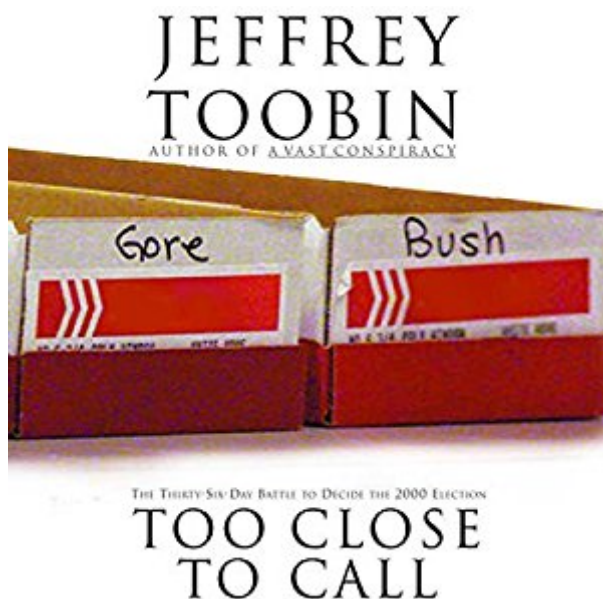


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# Too Close To Call: The Thirty-Six-Day Battle To Decide The 2000 Election



## Synopsis

From the best-selling author of *A Vast Conspiracy* and *The Run of His Life* comes *Too Close to Call* - the definitive story of the Bush-Gore presidential recount. A political and legal analyst of unparalleled journalistic skill, Jeffrey Toobin is the ideal writer to distill the events of the 36 anxiety-filled days that culminated in one of the most stunning Supreme Court decisions in history. Packed with news-making disclosures and written with the drive of a legal thriller, *Too Close to Call* takes us inside James Baker's private jet, through the locked gates to Al Gore's mansion, behind the covered-up windows of Katherine Harris's office, and even into the secret conference room of the United States Supreme Court. As the scene shifts from Washington to Austin and into the remote corners of the enduringly strange Sunshine State, Toobin's book will transform what you thought you knew about the most extraordinary political drama in American history. The Florida recount unfolded in a kaleidoscopic maze of bizarre concepts (chads, pregnant and otherwise), unfamiliar people in critically important positions (the Florida Supreme Court), and familiar people in surprising new places (the Miami relatives of Elián González, in a previously undisclosed role in this melodrama). With the rich characterization that is his trademark, Toobin portrays the prominent strategists who masterminded the campaigns - the Daleys and the Roves - and also the lesser-known but influential players who pulled the strings, as well as the judges and justices whose decisions determined the final outcome. Toobin gives both camps a treatment they have not yet received - remarkably evenhanded, nonpartisan, and entirely new. The post-election period posed a challenge to even the most zealous news junkie: how to keep up with what was happening and sort out the important from the trivial. Jeffrey Toobin has now done this - and then some. With clarity, insight, humor, and a deep understanding of the law, he deconstructs the events, the players, and the often Byzantine intricacies of our judicial system. A remarkable account of one of the most significant periods in our country's history, *Too Close to Call* is endlessly surprising, frequently poignant, and wholly addictive.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I know the story but there were far more details here I learned. It brought back the entire incredulousness and anger of the Supreme Court hearing the case rather forcing a real recount. Maybe Bush would still have won but the Supreme Court has NO authority to appoint a President. God, look what Bush did to our nation - disasters on every level.

A detailed account of all the twists and turns of the 2000 Bush-Gore election--a neat pairing with Trump-Clinton. Toobin's reporting gives us good insights into the peculiarities of our election system, whatever we may do about it. His books are usually good reading. They're for fans of politics, concise and punchy.

I wish that the kind of dispassionate, clear and concise reporting Toobin demonstrates in this book had been available during the Florida Fiasco. For example, it would have been nice to know that campaign spin such as "the votes have been counted and recounted" was a patent fabrication. Come to find out (to my astonishment) the vast majority of counties never did the statute-mandatory MACHINE recount. Even if you thought you followed the story closely, and knew the facts, you must read this book slowly and carefully. There is a myriad of detail, just absorbing the chain of events and courses of action that eluded many of us at the time. It often seems we have descended into a belligerent partisan nation, which neither engages in thoughtful discourse, nor seems the least bit interested in gathering verifiable facts and then engaging in reasonable, respectful discussion. If we were, this book would be the inspiration for a nationwide effort to ensure that voters across the nation are given every opportunity to vote in elections that are fair, balanced and provide equal access to the system for everyone. We would be engaged in discussion regarding the role the courts played, the place of the electoral college and whether reform is needed. Unfortunately, we won't be doing that. The winners and the losers are more interested in tearing each other apart, whatever the consequences. While we are down in the partisan trenches hating our fellow Americans for their political beliefs, those who profit from our division, the corporatrocities that

control the world, the religious fanatics who want to displace them so they can control it, in fact all those with evil intent are taking away our right to decide what is best for ourselves. They are also taking our love for each other as citizens of the nation, and of the world. So a large number of the reviews here will be grounded in whether Toobin "hurt" the readers petty partisan beliefs or not, irrespective of the facts and issues. The clarity and precision of Toobin's work should be a beacon to all those who write about history. Honesty, a thorough understanding of his subject and dispassionate view of events are his greatest gifts as a writer. He is improving with each book; would there would be no further events of this kind to inspire him to write another.

I enjoyed the book a lot. It brought back many memories of that period when we were all holding our breath to see who would win. I was rooting for Gore. Particularly for readers with a legal background, it's fascinating to find out what led to the Supreme Court arriving at their decision. It was especially interesting to read this just prior to the 2012 election as I was concerned the same thing might happen (thankfully, it didn't!).

This book is a fact-based analysis of the 2000 presidential election. It helps us understand why, as Toobin puts it at the end, the outcome was "a crime against democracy." The analysis makes the reader wonder, "What would prevent it from happening again?" Thus, since the answer is uncertain and the 2012 election is approaching, the book is still quite relevant.--John L. Hodge, author

If it is by Jeffrey Toobin, buy it! I did not have any idea of how complicated this issue was, nor the extent to which things were affected. Again, Toobin's calm, reasonable, informative, an objective style presents a fascinating expose' of the Bush v. Gore election.

Must- read for anyone who cares about democracy and real knowledge as to how democracy really works in this country.

Not quite the exciting read I experienced with some of his other efforts. Interesting but too detailed at times.

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