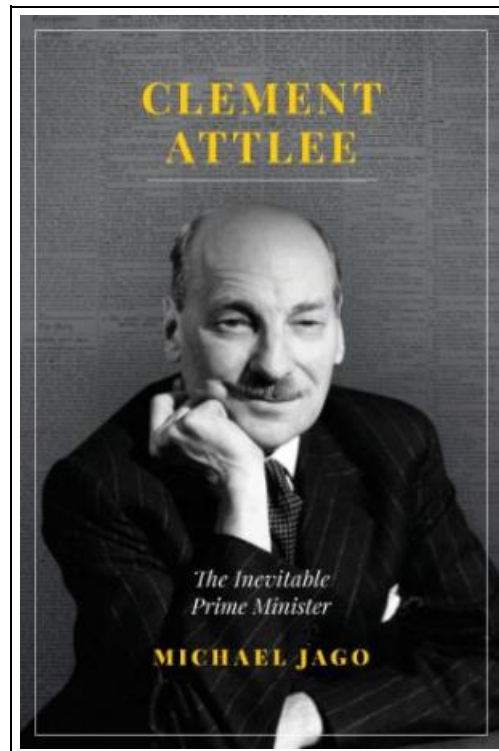


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Biteback Publishing, United Kingdom, 2014. Hardback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. Shortlisted for Political Biography of the Year at The Paddy Power Political Book Awards 2015 Elected in a surprise landslide in 1945, Clement Attlee was the first ever Labour leader to command a majority government. At the helm for twenty years, he remains the longest-serving leader in the history of the Labour Party. When he was voted out in 1951, he left with Labour s highest share of the vote before or since. And yet today he is routinely described as the accidental Prime Minister . A retiring man, overshadowed by the flamboyant Churchill during the Second World War, he is dimly remembered as a politician who, by good fortune, happened to lead the Labour Party at a time when Britain was disillusioned with Tory rule and ready for change. In *Clement Attlee: The Inevitable Prime Minister*, Michael Jago argues that nothing could be further from the truth. Raised in a haven of middle-class respectability, Attlee was appalled by the squalid living conditions endured by his near neighbours in London s East End. Seeing fi rst-hand how poverty and insecurity dogged lives, he nourished a powerful ambition to achieve power and create a more ega in 1935, Attlee was single-minded in pursuing his goals, and in just six years from 1945 his government introduced the most significant features of post-war Britain: the National Health Service, extensive nationalisation of essential industry, and the Welfare State that Britons now take for granted. A full-scale reassessment, *Clement Attlee: The Inevitable Prime Minister* traces the life of a middle-class lawyer s son who relentlessly pursued his ambition to lead a government that would implement far-reaching socialist reform and change forever the divisive class structure of twentieth-century Britain.



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