

<u>So You Want To Be President</u> by Judith St. George & David Small

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There are good things about being President and there are bad things about being President. One of the good things is that the President lives in a big white house called the White House.

Another good thing about being President is that the President has a swimming pool, bowling alley, and movie theater.

The President never has to take out the garbage.

The President doesn't have to eat yucky vegetables. As a boy, George H. W. Bush had to eat broccoli. When George H. W. Bush grew up, he became President. That was the end of the broccoli!

One of the bad things about being President is that the President has to be dressed up. William McKinley wore a frock coat, vest, pin-striped trousers, stiff white shirt, black satin tie, gloves, a top hat, and a red carnation in his buttonhole every day!

The President has to be polite to everyone. The President can't go anywhere alone. The President has lots of homework.

People get mad at the President. Someone once threw a cabbage at William Howard Taft. That didn't bother Taft. He quipped, "I see that one of my adversaries has lost his head."





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Don't worry about your looks. Abraham Lincoln was a homely man, but he was one of our best Presidents. (He reunited the country by winning the Civil War.) Someone once called Lincoln two-faced. "If I am two-faced, would I wear the face that I have now?" Lincoln asked.

Warren Harding was a handsome man, but he was one of our worst Presidents. (He gave government jobs to one of his crooked friends) "I am not fit for this office and never should have been here," he admitted.

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Some Presidents joked and some didn't — Presidents' personalities have all been different. William McKinley was so nice that he tried to stop a mob from attacking the man who had just shot him. Benjamin Harrison was so cold that one senator said talking to Harrison was like talking to a hitching post. Calvin Coolidge was so shy and quiet that a dinner guest once made a bet that she could get him to say more than two words. "You lose," he told her. Andrew Jackson certainly wasn't

shy. When he ran for President, his opponents printed a list of his duels, fights, shootings, and brawls. Fourteen in all!

