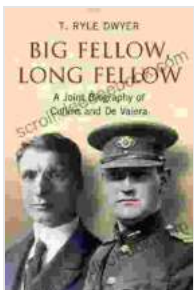


Big Fellow, Long Fellow: A Joint Biography of Collins and De Valera

Michael Collins and Éamon de Valera were two of the most important figures in Irish history. They played leading roles in the Irish struggle for independence from British rule and in the subsequent Irish Civil War. Their lives were intertwined in many ways, and their relationship was often complex and fraught with tension.



Big Fellow, Long Fellow. A Joint Biography of Collins and De Valera: A Joint Biography of Irish politicians

Michael Collins and Eamon De Valera by T. Ryle Dwyer

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 996 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 469 pages
Paperback	: 224 pages
Item Weight	: 1.1 pounds
Dimensions	: 5.24 x 0.55 x 8.27 inches



Collins was born in 1890 in County Cork, Ireland. He joined the Irish Republican Brotherhood (IRB) in 1913 and quickly rose through the ranks. He played a key role in the Easter Rising of 1916, which was a failed attempt to overthrow British rule in Ireland. After the rising, Collins was imprisoned by the British, but he was released in 1919. He then became

the Director of Intelligence for the Irish Republican Army (IRA) and was one of the main architects of the IRA's guerrilla campaign against the British.

De Valera was born in 1882 in New York City to Irish parents. He moved to Ireland in 1904 and joined the IRB in 1913. He was also a prominent figure in the Easter Rising and was imprisoned by the British after the rising. After his release from prison, de Valera became the President of the Irish Republic and led the Irish delegation to the peace talks that resulted in the Anglo-Irish Treaty of 1921. The treaty established the Irish Free State, a self-governing dominion within the British Empire.

Collins and de Valera were both committed to Irish independence, but they had different ideas about how to achieve it. Collins was a pragmatist who was willing to compromise with the British in order to secure a settlement that would give Ireland some degree of autonomy. De Valera, on the other hand, was a more idealistic nationalist who believed that Ireland should be a completely independent republic. This difference in outlook led to a split in the Irish republican movement, with Collins and his supporters forming the pro-treaty Sinn Féin party and de Valera and his supporters forming the anti-treaty Sinn Féin party.

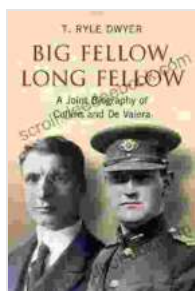
The split between the pro-treaty and anti-treaty factions led to the Irish Civil War, which lasted from 1922 to 1923. The war was a bitter and bloody conflict that resulted in the deaths of thousands of people. Collins was killed in an ambush by anti-treaty forces in 1922. De Valera was captured by the pro-treaty forces and sentenced to death, but his sentence was commuted to life imprisonment. He was released from prison in 1924 and went on to become the leader of the Fianna Fáil party, which he led to victory in the 1932 general election. De Valera served as Taoiseach (Prime

Minister) of Ireland from 1932 to 1948 and again from 1951 to 1954 and 1957 to 1959.

Collins and de Valera were both complex and controversial figures. They were both deeply committed to Irish independence, but they had different ideas about how to achieve it. Their relationship was often strained, but they also respected each other's abilities and shared a common goal of a free and independent Ireland.

Further Reading

- Big Fellow, Long Fellow: A Joint Biography of Collins and De Valera by Tim Pat Coogan
- Michael Collins: The Man Behind the Gun by Peter Hart
- De Valera: The Long Fellow by Thomas P. O'Neill



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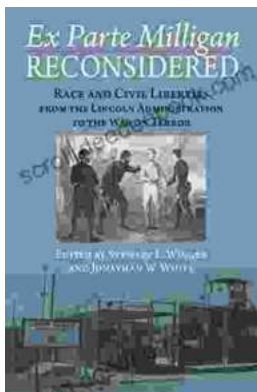
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