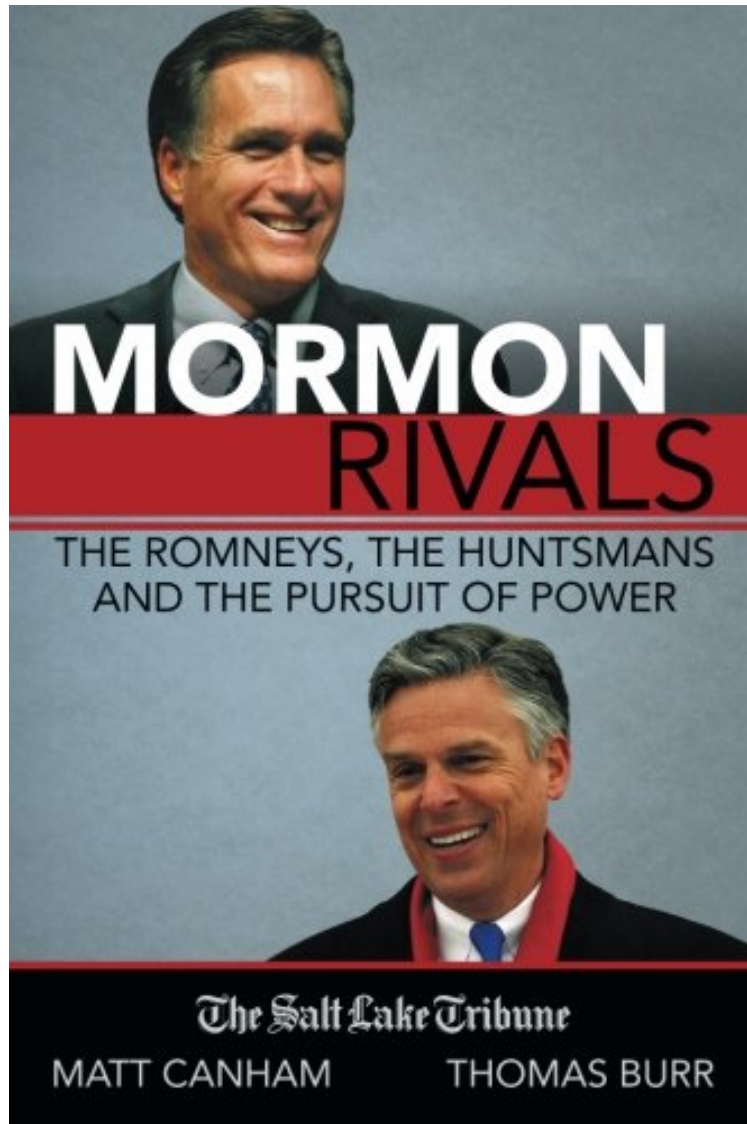


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# Mormon Rivals: The Romneys, the Huntsmans and the Pursuit of Power

*Matt Canham, Thomas Burr*  
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#769852 in Books Matt Canham Thomas Burr 2015-04-23 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.00 x .96 x 6.00l, 1.24 #File Name: 0986224529384 pages Mormon Rivals The Romneys the Huntsmans and the Pursuit of Power | File size: 70.Mb

**Matt Canham, Thomas Burr : Mormon Rivals: The Romneys, the Huntsmans and the Pursuit of Power** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mormon Rivals: The Romneys, the Huntsmans and the Pursuit of Power:

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Not a political hit job...By Jill Meyer I'd like to start off my review of

"Mormon Rivals: The Romneys, the Huntsmans, and the Pursuit of Power", by Matthew Canham and Thomas Burr, by saying this book is not a political hit job. It is completely unbiased - which is an important thing for the reader to know. Usually in a work of non-fiction about politics and politicians, the reader gets some idea about the political ideology of the author(s), but in "Mormon Rivals", there's nary a hint. Both Canham and Burr work for the "Salt Lake Tribune" and their clean writing style is indicative of a newspaper reporter's work. I have been fascinated by Mitt Romney since he first ran for the Republican presidential nomination in 2007. I couldn't quite "figure him out"; what were his political ideas and how did his Mormon faith affect his political run. I had long admired his father, George, and if I had been able to vote in 1968 - and he had been running - I might have voted for him. Mitt, however, seemed a long way from his father... And then Jon Huntsman, Jr, came on the scene and I wondered who he was and how his upbringing and family differed from the Romneys. When I saw "Mormon Rivals", I realised it was a chance to learn about Romney and Huntsman. Both governors and descendants of Mormon "royalty", they were Republican rivals for the presidential nomination in 2012. Obviously Mitt Romney won in 2012, and evidently thought about running again for 2016. Jon Huntsman has not thrown his name in the ring, but I somehow doubt he's squelched all political ambitions. Canham and Burr cover the history - religious, socially, and financially - of both families. Jon Huntsman, Sr, made a lot of money in the 1960's and the family has been economically generous to charities in Utah and elsewhere. Maybe because they seem more tied to the University of Utah, rather than Brigham Young University, they come across as more "ecumenical" in their giving, rather than parochial. The authors examine the early and school years of both men, as well as their choices of wives. One particularly interesting section of the book concerns the 2002 Salt Lake Olympics. There the authors stress how corrupt the bidding for the games process was on the international level, as well as how troubled the games were when Salt Lake City's bid was accepted. The rest of the book is balanced and well written. It's an objective look at two political powerhouses and how they accrued their power and what they've done with it. This book is for political junkies like me. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The Power of Ego By Jack Fascinating story of two powerful and proud families vying to be El Primo in Mormon religious and political circles. Full disclosure: I am LDS and was strongly supportive of Romney's campaign for President, so perhaps I am not as objective as I could be. That said, I found the Romney story to be far more compelling than the Huntsman one. Jon and his father are not particularly appealing, although I do like their independent streak and wish there were more Republicans who held the same ideas. Anyone even remotely interested in politics, Utah, the Mormon culture and the interlocking strands of power in that most unusual of states will find this book well worth the time it takes to read it. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Skimmed many pages; should have skipped this book. By Daryll was highly disappointed. I heard the authors interviewed on public radio and was intrigued by their teasers about the "rivalry." Turns out all they had were teasers that could be condensed in a short chapter. The rest was a rehash of already-known family history of each man and his presidential campaign, collected from newspaper and magazine accounts and other books. I felt like I was reading trivia from the bottom of the bird cage about an election that was long gone. And as writers, they failed to transcend their style from daily reporters to book authors.

Distant relatives whose ties extend back to the founding of the Mormon church, Mitt Romney and Jon Huntsman Jr. became political allies as governors. Before that, their fathers were chummy. Mitt's sister and Jon's mom were college roommates. So when Romney was preparing his first presidential run, he assumed he had Huntsman in his corner. He was wrong. Their split in 2006 created a bitter rivalry that led to a contentious 2012 presidential showdown. This book by Salt Lake Tribune reporters Matt Canham and Thomas Burr tells the story of these dynamic and dynastic families, who have found themselves driven together by chance, business, politics and piety. It starts with the rise of George Romney and Jon Huntsman Sr., men who escaped poverty to become wealthy and influential. Their sons responded to their powerful fathers in different ways, but they ultimately ended up in the same places vying to run the 2002 Winter Olympics, campaigning for governor and then for the White House. While both Romney and Huntsman have fallen short of the ultimate political prize, their successes on the national stage have become a turning point for the LDS Church, which yearns for broader acceptance from the American people. As their fathers expected much from them, Romney and Huntsman expect much for their children and that means we may not have seen the last clash between the Mormon version of the Hatfields and the McCoys.

About the Author Matt Canham is an investigative reporter, who specializes in campaign coverage, money in politics and data analysis. He covered Jon Huntsman's first years as Utah's governor and assisted in the newspapers coverage of the 2012 presidential race. He's a recipient of the National Press Clubs Regional Reporting Award. A proud University of Utah alumnus, Canham joined The Tribune staff in 2002. Thomas Burr is the Washington correspondent for The Tribune and covered Mitt Romney's two White House runs as well as Jon Huntsman's short-lived presidential campaign. A native Utahn, and Washingtonian since 2005, Burr is vice president of the National Press Club and a member of the Gridiron Club and Foundation and the White House Correspondents' Association. He is a three-time winner of the Press Clubs Regional Reporting Award.