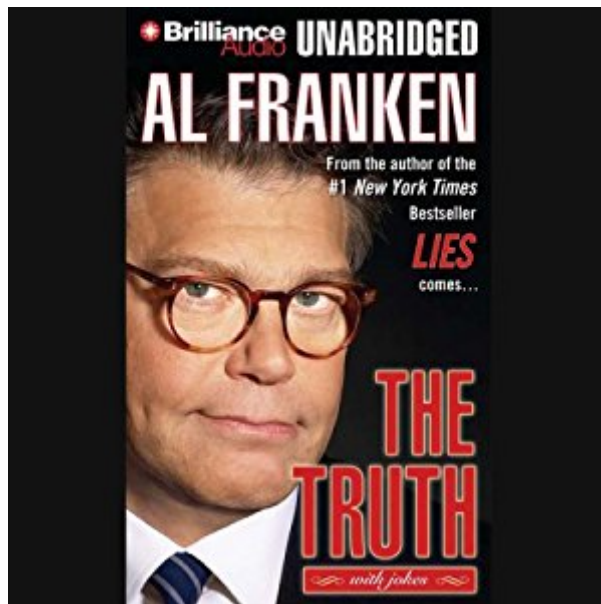


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# The Truth (with Jokes)



## Synopsis

Al Franken's landmark bestseller, *Lies, and the Lying Liars Who Tell Them*—a Fair and Balanced Look at the Right, was praised as a "bitterly funny assault" (The New York Times) that rang "with the moral clarity of an angel's trumpet" (Associated Press). Now, this master of political humor strikes again with a powerful and provocative message for all Americans. Because after *Lies*, comes *The Truth*. Al reveals the alarming story of how: Bush (barely) beat Kerry with his campaign of "fear, smear, and queers," and then claimed a nonexistent mandate. Republicans decided that Terri Schiavo would make "a great political issue." Conservatives sought to undermine Social Security by using a strategy borrowed from Vladimir Lenin. Tom DeLay is just an absolute horror show. This is truly an audiobook for everyone. If you were a Bush voter, Al wants to set aside partisan bitterness and talk about the better future Americans can build together for their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. (Generations beyond that will have to fend for themselves.) But first, Al must show you how Republican leaders are, at this very moment, betraying your trust and quite possibly lighting a Cuban cigar with a burning American flag or Bible. If you're a liberal, this audiobook is for you as well. Maybe even most of all. You will find evidence for what you already believe: that Al Franken is among America's finest prose stylists, and that the depravity of the Bush administration is only outmatched by the rot in the heart of the Republican Congress. And finally, if you are a member of a future generation who has found this audiobook in a pile of radioactive rubble, Al apologizes. Not because he didn't do his best to control the proliferation of nuclear weapons from rogue nations to non-state actors taking refuge in so-called "failed" states. But because his countrymen evidently failed to listen. In any case, enjoy the audiobook. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

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## Customer Reviews

Great book by a great man. He gives you an inside look at how it was to go from the life of a comedy writer on a show that is now part of our culture to life dealing with the mechanics of politics and how the policies are made in the business of life as a U.S. senator. Al Franken in a short time has put his nose to the grindstone to become a champion for the less fortunate. A must read!

I have loved Al Franken since his SNL days and although this was politically heavy on Truth, I thought it was too light on Jokes. Look at the cover, even AL isn't smiling about this one! I own all of his CD's and have even rebought several, but this I just couldn't listen to.

Good book, but this is the second Franken book in a row I've found typos that made it past the 'editors' and into print: see page 294 in this book, and page 202 in "Lies." Al. Call me. I can help. All right, now that I've gotten that off my chest, in my opinion this book is definitely worth a read. I must say, I personally found "Lies" funnier, if only because so much of what Franken brings to light in this volume is so much more disturbing. Hypocrisy Award of the Year goes to: Tom Delay, who, according to Franken, turns a blind eye to forced abortions on the US island of Saipan, where women who get pregnant are forced to either quit or have an abortion. Why hasn't Congress put a stop to such inhumane labor practices, which reportedly include sweat shop conditions? Because, according to Franken, Tom Delay fights for his special interest friends in the halls of Congress whenever such legislation comes up, even if it means women are forced to have abortions when they get pregnant. Heaven forbid the sweat shops pay more than \$3.15 per hour and become subject to US standard labor practices. Mr. Delay, that one takes the cake, and that chapter is required reading for anyone concerned with corporate greed in America. Love him or hate him, it's good to hear his arguments and come to your own conclusions.

Great book

Excellent

Loved it, great book!

The funny thing about Al Franken's new book, "The Truth" (with jokes) is that a sequel is desperately needed. Why? So many things have happened in (or should I say "to") the Bush White House since this book came out....i.e. hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the Harriet Miers' debacle, the DeLay and Libby indictments... it practically begs the very funny Franken to write another book. Even Nipsey Russell, the comedian quoted in "The Truth" has died. Al, we need you again! This book may not be everybody's cup of tea, but it should be. Franken's book sails along like a sled over new snow. While the chapter about Social Security is a bit of a slog and by now, old news, Franken, nonetheless aims his unquivered arrows at the right wing and scores time after time. The one thing that hasn't changed much since the publication this summer of "The Truth", is Iraq. Approximately two hundred more U.S. soldiers have died since the book went to print, not to mention the untold number of (and who knows how many) Iraqi civilians who have perished. As the author points out, the truth, in the Bush White House is all relative...they fit the facts to suit their needs. What is most appealing about Al Franken, whether you read this book, listen to him on radio or hear him on tv is that he has backbone and lots of charisma. And he checks his facts. "The Truth" is well documented, well paced, informative and lots of fun to read. Al Franken has often said he would like to run for political office and I hope he does. Can you imagine Franken filibustering as a Senator? What fun that would be! I recommend "The Truth" (with jokes) because it contains large doses of each.

Once again Al Franken has ripped away the facade of the Bush Administration to reveal the ineptitudes and dishonesties perpetrated by the worst Presidency in US History. Continuing the work he began in Lies and the Lying Liars Who Tell Them, Franken begins this book with a recapitulation of the shameful 2004 Election, when a genuine military hero was smeared by the Bush-Cheney assault team which posed as a political campaign. Some well known villains are skewered here, including my own state of Georgia's most disgraceful ex-politician Zell Miller. The second section covers both scandals which have already erupted (Iraq, Social Security, Delay, Schiavo, etc.) and others which will inevitably come to a boil over the next few years. There are some excellent analyses of the fabrications and distortions the Bush Administration has perpetrated in its efforts to fulfill its ideological goals at the expense of the American people. Franken doesn't miss a single inconsistency here. The final section is a putative letter written by Franken in 2015 to

his future grandchildren, recapitulating the progressive renaissance which (we hope) will arise from the ruins of the Bush Administration and hinting at his own political plans. Throughout this work Franken entertains, alarms, and informs. His humor is sharp and to the point, never obscuring the shock we Americans must feel as the inadequacies of those who claim to be our leaders are exposed to public gaze. Franken provides plenty of laughter, but he is also a clear-headed analyst of public affairs, the Mark Twain of the early twenty-first century. It is to be hoped that in the next few years, as we suffer through W's miserable final days, Franken and others like him will continue to point out the Emperor's lack of clothing and help us find our way to recovery.

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