



Edison: A Life of Invention (The True Story of Thomas Edison) (A Historical Biography)

Alexander Kennedy

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Thomas Edison was named "The Wizard of Menlo Park". He invented the motion picture camera, founded General Electric, and registered over 1000 patents in his lifetime. Enjoy the surprising and entertaining true story of Thomas Edison and rediscover one of history's most prolific figures...

Start Reading the Incredible Story of Thomas Edison

Overview

Chapter 1 – The Young Entrepreneur

Covers Edison's youth, his early business ventures in publishing and fruit and vegetable sales, his work as an telegrapher, and his improvements to the art and science of telegraphy through his early inventions.

Chapter 2 – Menlo Park

Edison's creation of his first research laboratory at Menlo Park, including his methods of research and invention, and the development of the phonograph and the incandescent light bulb.

Chapter 3 – The War of the Currents

Edison's attempts to have direct current become the standard for electrical distribution, the technical obstacles he failed to overcome, and the emergence of alternating current as an alternative lead to Edison engaging in a personal and ultimately failing battle with George Westinghouse and Nikola Tesla.

Chapter 4 – The Flickering Screen

Edison's first wife dies, his conflicts with his son's from his first marriage and the invention of the motion picture camera and kinoscope lead Edison to create the motion picture industry.

Chapter 5 – The Industrial Giant

Edison's failures in the mining and automotive industries lead him to allow for the commercialization of the phonograph and motion pictures as entertainment as a source of profits to offset financial losses.

Chapter 6 – The Public Man

Edison's work for the US Government and his long friendship and business relationship with Henry Ford place him in the public eye, magnified by his highly publicized camping trips with Ford and Harvey Firestone.

Chapter 7 – Edison's Legacy

The continuing impact of Edison's inventions, the development of the research and development industry, and his influence as a celebrity before and after his death.

Introduction

"Genius is one percent inspiration, ninety-nine percent perspiration." - **Thomas Edison**

Thomas Edison's greatest contribution to society was not his inventions, but his unique process of taking existing ideas and improving upon them until they reached their most practical state. For example, despite what many think, Thomas Edison did not invent the electric light bulb. Many earlier inventors had produced incandescent bulbs, but they were useful only as demonstrations of the practicality of producing light via electricity. Edison's patent for the electric light bulb was for an improved incandescent bulb, which made it a commercially marketable product...

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