

TWENTY-SIX SECONDS

ALEXANDRA ZAPRUDER

READ BY THE AUTHOR

The granddaughter of Abraham Zapruder tells the utterly compelling and unique family story behind the Zapruder film of the Kennedy assassination and its lasting impact on our world.

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On November 22, 1963, Abraham Zapruder left his office hoping for a glimpse of President John F. Kennedy's motorcade as it passed by Dealey Plaza—and perhaps to bring back a home movie of this once-in-a-lifetime moment. To his horror, he caught the president's murder on film instead, and suddenly faced the unprecedented dilemma of possessing this vitally important yet unspeakably terrible piece of evidentiary footage.

Now his granddaughter, Alexandra Zapruder, traces the life of his home movie over more than fifty years, fusing the private and public to create a complete narrative of the Zapruder film for the first time. She uses previously sealed archival sources, her family's personal records, and interviews to delve into the film's fraught history—its chance beginning, the frantic moments following the assassination, its controversial ownership by *LIFE* magazine, its use in the assassination investigations, the battles over control of the images, and its impact on American art, film, and literature. Zapruder explores issues of ownership, privacy, and ethics through the decades, as the film sparked debates on the public representation of violence, the media's role in disseminating information, and how personal property becomes public legacy.

ALEXANDRA ZAPRUDER, a graduate of Smith College with a master's degree in education from Harvard, began her career on the founding staff of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. She is the author of *Salvaged Pages: Young Writers' Diaries of the Holocaust*, which won the National Jewish Book Award in the Holocaust category.



Running Time: Approx. 14 Hours • Unabridged

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A PERSONAL HISTORY OF THE ZAPRUDER FILM

ALEXANDRA ZAPRUDER

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