

THE ASCENT OF  
**GEORGE WASHINGTON**  
 JOHN FERLING  
 READ BY NORMAN DIETZ

Bestselling historian John Ferling draws on his unsurpassed knowledge of the Founding Fathers to provide a fresh and provocative new portrait of the greatest of them all, George Washington.

America's first president has long been considered a stoic hero, holding himself above the rough-and-tumble politics of his day. Now John Ferling peers behind that image, carefully burnished by Washington himself, to show us a leader who was not only not above politics, but a canny fighter, a master of persuasion, manipulation, and deniability.

In the War of Independence, Washington used his skills to steer the Continental Army through crises that would have broken less determined men; he squeezed out rival generals and defused dissent from those below him. Ending the war as a national hero, Washington "allowed" himself to be pressed into the presidency, guiding the nation with the same brilliantly maintained pose of selfless public interest. In short, Washington deftly screened a burning ambition behind his image of republican virtue, but that image, maintained not without cost, made him just the leader the overmatched army, and then the shaky young nation, desperately needed.

Ferling argues that not only was Washington one of America's most adroit politicians—the proof of his genius is that he is no longer thought of as a politician at all.

**John Ferling** is a professor emeritus of history at the State University of West Georgia. He is the author of seven books, including *Adams vs. Jefferson: The Tumultuous Election of 1800* and the award-winning *A Leap in the Dark: The Struggle to Create the American Republic*. His most recent work, *Almost a Miracle*, was a history bestseller.

**Norman Dietz** was named one of *AudioFile* magazine's fifty Best Voices of the Century, and several of his recordings have been *AudioFile* Earphones Award winners, including *Touch and Go* by Studs Terkel. He has recorded over 100 audiobooks, including the *New York Times* Editor's Choice *Nothing to Fear* by Adam Cohan.

Running Time: 17 hours  
 Unabridged

© 2009 John Ferling  
 © 2009 Tantor Media, Inc. All rights reserved.  
 Published by arrangement with Bloomsbury USA.  
 Jacket design adapted from hardcover.  
 www.tantor.com



Tantor  
 audio



Tantor  
 audio

PLAYAWAY®

THE ASCENT OF  
**GEORGE WASHINGTON**  
 JOHN FERLING  
 READ BY NORMAN DIETZ

PLAYAWAY®

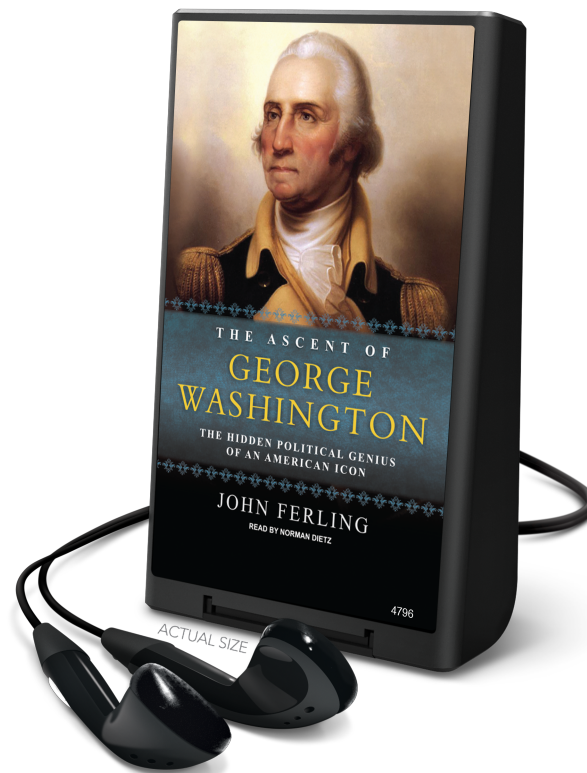
Playaway is a better listening experience combining an easy-to-use player with an entire audiobook. Ask your librarian for more details!

WWW.PLAYAWAY.COM  
 © 2009 Playaway. Patent Approved.  
 All rights reserved. Designed in Ohio. Made in China.



LIGHT

PLAYAWAY®  
 THE ALL-IN-ONE AUDIOBOOK



PLAYAWAY® and associated logos are registered trademarks of Findaway World, LLC.  
 31999 Aurora Road, Solon, OH 44139 USA