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November 2021
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Disastrous Decisions That Shaped America: The Presidents Did What?

written by Wag Harrison illustrated by C. Rod. Unalt on sale December 7, 2021

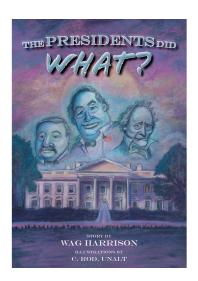
"Picture books are not just for the very young—there's something in this thought-provoking tour for us all!"

- Diane Chess, school librarian, John Rolfe Middle School

<u>Belle Isle Books</u> of Richmond, Virginia, is pleased to announce the upcoming release of a new children's book, <u>The Presidents Did What?</u>, written by Wag Harrison and illustrated by C. Rod. Unalt.

"Hello, my friend. Welcome to the White House!" Ghostly Millard Fillmore joins readers on a tour of this iconic American landmark, along with other one-term presidents condemned to haunt the mansion as penance for the disastrous decisions they made while in office. *The Presidents Did What?* serves up fun facts about the White House's many rooms and their famous inhabitants with lessons on political philosophy (What makes a "good" president?) and historic events such as welfare during the Great Depression and the treatment of immigrants and Native Americans. Combining real-life history with wry humor that never devolves into cynicism, author Wag Harrison shows readers the biggest mistakes can teach the most valuable lessons.

An entertaining, enlightening romp for grade schoolers of almost every age, *The Presidents Did What*? is scheduled for release on December 7, 2021.



Step right up for a spooky tour of the White House! A long-dead but still charismatic Millard Fillmore will serve as your ghostly guide as you make your way through the Executive Mansion. Learn about the history of each room from ghosts of presidents past—arguably the worst presidents in US history—and discover how they ended up cursed to haunt these rooms for all eternity, telling visitors all about the truly disastrous mistakes they made while in office.

About the Author

<u>Wag Harrison</u> is an award-winning writer and educator. Holding graduate degrees in both history and educational leadership, Wag spent nearly twenty years as a teacher and school administrator before settling in as a full-time father. A lifelong lover of learning and of telling tales from the past, Wag is proud to call *The Presidents Did What?* his flagship picture book. Wag lives in Bon Air, Virginia, with his wife and three children.

About the Illustrator

<u>Christina Rodriguez-Unalt</u>, or "C. Rod. Unalt," is an illustrator of all things whimsical. She's been creating images since her kindergarten teacher taught her how to use a scratchboard and has been working professionally for over a decade. Christina began her career as a scenic painter at a creature shop, where she painted murals and large-scale sculptures for mini golf courses, storefronts, windows, and parade floats. Her work has appeared in children's magazines and textbooks, and she holds a master's degree in illustration. This is her fourth illustrated book.

Christina currently lives with her husband, Jonny; their children, Lily, Ashton, and Ivy; a cuddly pup, Yogi; and two mischievous kitties, Meeko and Lola—all of whom are a constant inspiration for Christina's own stories and her illustrations.

Interviews available upon request.

<u>Belle Isle Books</u>, an imprint of <u>Brandylane Publishers</u>, <u>Inc.</u>, is an independent press located in Richmond, Virginia that has published books since 1985.

The Presidents Did What? (hardcover, 32 pages, \$22.95 / paperback, 32 pages, \$13.95) is available for pre-order from <u>Amazon</u>, <u>Barnes & Noble</u>, and other fine booksellers. Kindle e-book (retail \$2.99) forthcoming.