

Presidential Library

Nobody asked but ...

Pursuant to a query on Facebook, books that I would hope POTUS (any POTUS) would read, before being in office or during, and why:

- *All the King's Men*, by Robert Penn Warren — a cautionary tale about *hubris*. Many of Shakespeare's tragedies (*King Lear*, *Richard III*, *Hamlet*, *Othello*, *MacBeth*) or various iterations of Faust or Don Juan would work.
- *Human Action*, by Ludwig von Mises, is the best economics book.
- *The Law*, by Frédéric Bastiat, is the best legal book.
- *Two Treatises of Government*, by John Locke, and *No Treason*, by Lysander Spooner, are the best political books.
- *The Allegory of the Cave*, by Plato, is the best philosophical work.
- *Don Quixote*, by Cervantes, and *Alice in Wonderland*, by Lewis Carroll, are the best books on the absurdity of life.

— Kilgore Forelle