

*The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post*, Allison Pataki

What a wonderful story! I knew little of the life of Marjorie Post, the daughter of C.W Post, and the heiress of the Post Cereal fortune. *The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post* spans her lifetime. The book starts with Post's earliest memories of traveling to Battle Creek Michigan with her mother and father to find help for her father's poor health. Marjorie loves spending time with her father and as his health improves, she helps him build the Post Cereal Company. The company expands and changes, following the trends of the country's food movement towards convenience foods through both World Wars and the Great Depression.

Beyond the story of Post Cereals (and later, General Foods), The story of Marjorie Post is fascinating. At a time when women did not lead companies, Post finds herself developing ideas to keep her company on the leading edge in America's food industry. Four failed marriages, a supporting role in US diplomacy, and Post's determination to be a generous and recognized philanthropist are all aspects of Post's life that are explored in detail in this well researched, well written book.