'Written with fine, elegant cadences, native wit and golden insight, a double biography of this Government which tells us a lot and which will last longer, I suspect, than the marriage at its heart.'
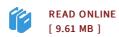Andrew Marr, *Daily Telegraph*

The Rivals: The Intimate Story of a Political Marriage

By James Naughtie

HarperCollins Publishers, United Kingdom, 2002. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 194 x 128 mm. Language: N/A. Brand New Book. A penetrating insider s view of the most important relationship in modern politics, the one on which the recent reinvention of Britain is founded: Tony Blair and Gordon Brown. By the celebrated Radio 4 Today Programme presenter James Naughtie. No Prime Minister and Chancellor this century have been bound so closely together, each depending on the other s strengths to repair weaknesses that might otherwise be politically fatal; yet theirs is a bond that crackles with suspicion and misunderstanding, lovers tiffs that send tremors through the government . The story of the current era can only properly be told through the prism of this strange union, and it has never been told before. James Naughtie is a unique insider. A hugely respected political commentator, he has equal access to both men, to their key courtiers, to the party malcontents and everyone who has ever sat in Cabinet with them. Not since Alan Clark s Diaries has there been such a vivid, human portrait of the agonies and ecstasies of power in action. Even the supporting players are wildly dramatic: the saturnine plotting...

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