John L. Lewis (1880-1969), who ruled the United Mine Workers for four decades beginning in 1919, defied presidents, challenged Congress, and kept American political life in an uproar. Drawing upon previously untapped resources in the UMW archives and upon oral histories by major figures of the 1930s and 1940s, the authors have created a remarkable portrait of this John L. Lewis (1880-1969), who ruled the United Mine Workers for four decades beginning in 1919, defied presidents, challenged Congress, and kept American political life in an uproar. There are many books about John L. Lewis, but Saul Alinsky knew him personally and had interviewed him many times. Alinsky is an excellent writer and this biography tells a lot about the man that is not in any other biography of John L. That I have read. He does not make the man out to be a saint, nor does he make him out to be a devil. He simply explains what the times were like and what John L. Lewis did. He has many direct quotes that make Lewis seem like a real person, which of course he was. He also tells a little about John L. Lewis's family life, which made the book more interestin