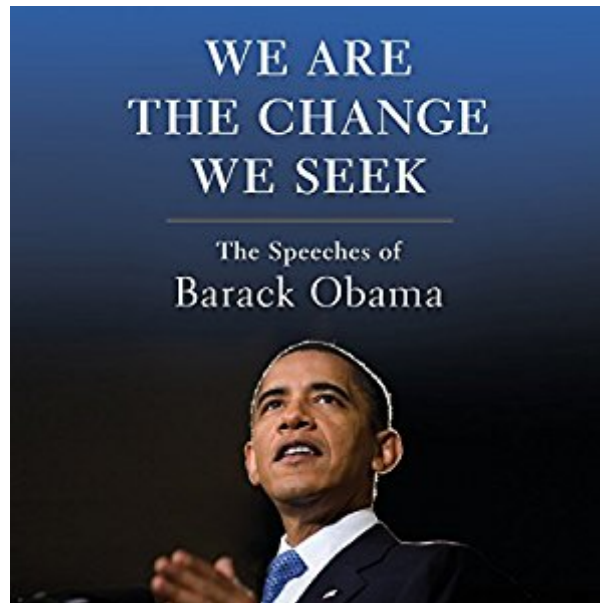




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We Are The Change We Seek: The Speeches Of Barack Obama



Synopsis

We Are the Change We Seek is a collection of Barack Obama's 26 greatest addresses: beginning with his 2002 speech opposing the Iraq War and closing with his final speech before the United Nations in September 2016. As president, Obama's words had the power to move the country, and often the world, as few presidents before him. Whether acting as Commander in Chief or Consoler in Chief, Obama adopted a unique rhetorical style that could simultaneously speak to the national mood and change the course of public events. Obama's eloquence, both written and spoken, propelled him to national prominence and ultimately made it possible for the son of a Kenyan man and a white woman from Kansas to become the first black president of the United States. These speeches span Obama's career - from his time in state government through to the end of his tenure as president - and the issues most important to our time: war, inequality, race relations, gun violence and human rights. The book opens with an essay placing Obama's oratorical contributions within the flow of American history by E. J. Dionne Jr., columnist and author of *Why the Right Went Wrong*, and Joy Reid, the host of *AM Joy* on MSNBC and author of *Fracture*.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Dionne and Reid did an excellent job in trimming the speeches of President Obama into this comprehensive edition. This review isn't based on the politics of President Obama, but rather the quality of this book. There are 26 speeches transcribed in this book. It starts with Obama's 2002 anti-Iraq war speech, then his 04 Democratic Convention Keynote Address, and two from his time as a US Senator. The book then moves to his time campaigning for President. Once the book

moves to Obama's presidency, we get to read the most obvious speeches given (both inaugurals, the anniversary of Bloody Sunday in Selma, his Nobel Peace Prize Lecture, etc.). But there were a few other choices that weren't necessarily prime-time speeches that I think many would be immediately familiar with, but that did, I think, enhance this book a lot. Remarks about the economy in Osawatomie, KS, the death of Trayvon Martin, two University Commencement addresses, these come to mind. They really give us a great, well-rounded look into the thought process of President Obama, and his administration. This book gives us an in-depth look into his views on everything from the economy, race, religion, foreign policy (diplomacy and war), healthcare, gun violence, political discourse, and the trajectory of America (historical and looking forward). That's all I feel we can ask of a book like this. It was more comprehensive than I would have thought, and I was happy about that. Also, as an aside, it's interesting to look at some of President Obama's remarks either before or during the early stages of his presidency, and to look at what the administration was and wasn't able to accomplish, and also to see the ways in which his rhetoric changed throughout the 14 or so years that the speeches in this book span. For example, a lot of the foreign policy issues discussed early in President/Senator Obama's time on the national political stage translate pretty clearly into the actions him and his administration took later on (Iran Nuclear Deal, normalization of relations with Cuba, UN resolution regarding Israeli settlements in Jerusalem, etc.). And you could do this with economics or really any of the other issues covered. That this book allows us to do so is where the value is.

I admire this first family. This is a great book.

Great book! Loved to hear them and now to read them I feel is really cool!!

What I have read so far is beautiful.

I'm very happy with this product and the transaction. Thank you.

Excellent read!! President Obama was such a statesman and to understand the thought process behind his speeches is a really great part of history. This book was very well written and I've recommended it to several of my friends.

An excellent read.

Inspirational and profound.

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