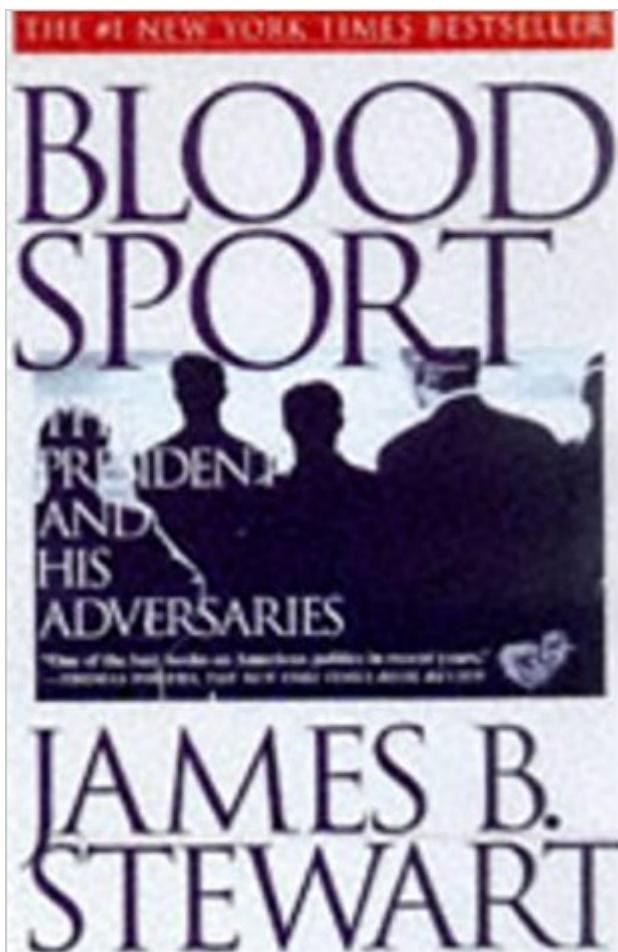


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BLOOD SPORT: The President And His Adversaries



Synopsis

Drawing on interviews with highly placed sources, James Stewart cuts through the rumours and innuendo surrounding America's First Family to investigate the issues relating to them. He looks at the Whitewater land deal, the apparent suicide of one of the President's top aides, Vincent Foster, Hillary Rodham Clinton's speculation in commodities, Bill Clinton's encounter with Paula Jones and her allegations of sexual harassment. The fast-paced narrative reflects the conflict being waged over the presidency itself, a conflict that pits the Clintons and their allies against an array of enemies in the Republican Party, in Arkansas, in right-wing think tanks, and on talk radio. Stewart explains how the President, First Lady and their aides have dealt with scandal, and in some cases made it worse. The toll that holding public office exacts today, not just on the First Family, but on the many people close to the Clintons, is illustrated. Also examined is "The Presidency" as trial by combat, with profound implications not only for the Clintons, but also for future occupants of the White House and for American democracy.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Rereading "primary colors" after 20 years'more experience with the Clintons leaves me with a collection of impressions. First, how cheap these people are. The Whitewater loan the got them in trouble was only somewhere in the five digits. Most of the smarmy financial transactions executed by their friends in the banks, savings and loans, and real estate business were likewise small

change. How petty! Secondly, how readily they lied. Even when the truth would not have been all that terrible, they instinctively chose to lie. There is a quote about New York times reporter Gerth concerning Hillary denying that she had been had outside help making her fantastic, 10,000% return on a commodity investment. "Some weeks later, Gerth asked a White House official involved why he'd been given such a preposterous explanation in the first place. The official paused. "The first instinct from everybody from Arkansas," he said, "is to lie." A third impression is how the Clintons managed to irritate even the New York Times and the Washington Post, to publications that really should have supported them. The times in the post were competing to dig out the Whitewater story. So much for the claim of a "great right-wing conspiracy." And it raises the question of what has happened to the objectivity of these two publications themselves in the intervening 20 years. I do not observe any such a zeal in pursuing Obama's tall tales, or Benghazi. James Stewart seems to bend over backwards to be fair. He describes the media's reluctance to get involved in Bill Clinton's notorious sex life. Everybody knew about it, but they had also known about FDR's, Kennedy's, and Johnson's infidelities.

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