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HRC: State Secrets And The Rebirth Of Hillary Clinton



Synopsis

Hillary Clinton's surprising defeat in the 2008 Democratic primary brought her to the nadir of her political career, vanquished by a much younger opponent whose message of change and cutting-edge tech team ran circles around her stodgy campaign. And yet, six years later, she has reemerged as an even more powerful and influential figure, a formidable stateswoman and the presumed front-runner for the 2016 Democratic presidential nomination, marking one of the great political comebacks in history. The story of Hillary's phoenixlike rise is at the heart of *HRC*, a riveting political biography that journeys into the heart of "Hillaryland" to discover a brilliant strategist at work. Masterfully unfolded by Politico's Jonathan Allen and The Hill's Amie Parnes from more than two hundred top-access interviews with Hillary's intimates, colleagues, supporters, and enemies, *HRC* portrays a seasoned operator who negotiates political and diplomatic worlds with equal savvy. Loathed by the Obama team in the wake of the primary, Hillary worked to become the president's greatest ally, their fates intertwined in the work of reestablishing America on the world stage. *HRC* puts readers in the room with Hillary during the most intense and pivotal moments of this era, as she mulls the president-elect's offer to join the administration, pulls the strings to build a coalition for his war against Libya, and scrambles to deal with the fallout from the terrible events in Benghazi - all while keeping one eye focused on 2016. *HRC* offers a rare look inside the merciless Clinton political machine, as Bill Clinton handled the messy business of avenging Hillary's primary loss while she tried to remain above the partisan fray. Exploring her friendships and alliances with Robert Gates, David Petraeus, Leon Panetta, Joe Biden, and the president himself, Allen and Parnes show how Hillary fundamentally transformed the State Department through the force of her celebrity and her unparalleled knowledge of how power works in Washington. Filled with deep reporting and immersive storytelling, this remarkable portrait of the most important female politician in American history is an essential inside look at the woman who may be our next president.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

HRC: State Secrets and the Rebirth of Hillary Clinton tells the story of Hillary Rodham Clinton from the time of her 2008 defeat for the Democratic Party's nomination for President of the United States, to the present, as she contemplates another run for the big prize. Written by Politico White House Bureau Chief Jonathan Allen and White House correspondent (for The Hill newspaper) Amie Parnes, the book pieces together a number of conversations from sources obviously close to the former First Lady and Secretary of State, to give the reader insight into her remarkable drive and energy. The story begins with the loss of the 2008 campaign, the post-mortem and laying of blame (mostly at the feet of Clinton's campaign manager Patty Solis-Doyle). It goes on to describe the courtship of Hillary by President Barack Obama into the key cabinet position of Secretary of State, the mending of fences and healing of wounds remaining from the hard fought campaign between the two party front-runners and their staffs, and the resulting trust gap that existed. A power struggle develops over whether key positions in the State Department will be filled by Obama's people or Clinton's, and we are told of the strength of confidence possessed by the new Secretary of State in setting her own terms for accepting the President's challenge. The book goes on to describe the remarkable transition of how Hillary Clinton went from becoming Obama's chief rival to his hardest working and most trusted cabinet member. A secondary story is told of how Bill Clinton goes from becoming one of the people that Obama dreads contact with to becoming an important asset to his re-election in 2012.

If you're a lover of books, and burdened with the ability to read way too fast, what do you bring on a 17 hour flight from New York City to Ethiopia? If you're a political junkie and lover of all things electorate, you pack "HRC" by Jonathan Allen, which documents the time between Hillary's defeat during the 2008 Democratic primary and selection, and ultimately her political rebirth as Secretary of State in the Obama administration. I remember reading "Game Change" a couple of years ago and thinking that to have been on the very inside of either the Obama or

Clinton campaign would have been both inspirational and disheartening. In order to achieve as much as Hillary Clinton has, it must have been heart-breaking for her to lose in the primary to a young unknown senator from Illinois. HRC takes the reader through just about every emotion and brings you inside the campaign rooms and gives detailed accounts of the choices Hillary had to make including her carefully selected words during her concession speech, paving the way for a new relationship with the future President Obama. If there's one take away from HRC, it is that Hillary tried, at all times, to be fully aware of the mistakes her presidential campaign made and has worked diligently since 2008 to reinvent herself something she has done many times over the years, each time rising higher than her fans and adversaries believed possible. Jonathan Allen does a wonderful job of bringing you inside the White House and foreign affairs offices around the world and shows you a woman who is powerful and smart enough to know that as a woman, her strength has to be countered by self-deprecation and humor.

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