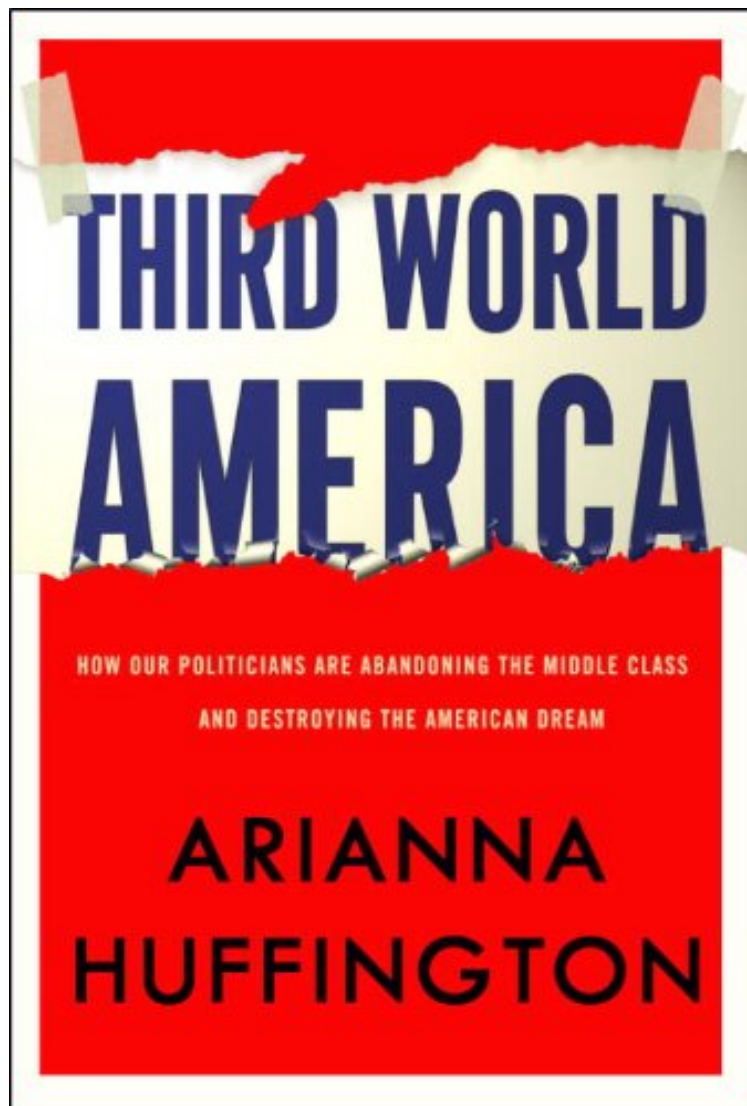


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Third World America: How Our Politicians Are Abandoning the Middle Class and Betraying the American Dream

Arianna Huffington

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Arianna Huffington : Third World America: How Our Politicians Are Abandoning the Middle Class and Betraying the American Dream before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Third World America: How Our Politicians Are Abandoning the Middle Class and Betraying the American Dream:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Two Thumbs Up!By William AndrewsWell, damn she pretty much

spells it all out: Failing schools, crumbling infrastructure, crooked politicians, glaring income inequality, and a near extinction of US manufacturing. America is still number one in a few things though. We leave China and Russia in the dust with the number of people incarcerated per capita. We should have the safest country in the world, with crime rates lower than a Singapore nunnery. Instead, our cities resemble those of some stateless banana republic. We're also number one in childhood obesity, hooray! And on top of this, childhood type-two diabetes. In other news, as of this writing, "medical errors" are the third leading cause of death in the United States next to heart disease and cancer. Government surveillance of our lives has dramatically increased, and yet murder and mass-shootings are skyrocketing. Like it says on the dust jacket she "names names" and gets into the trenches. However, this book is a bit dated because Arianna seems dreamy-eyed about Barack Obama's administration, as though he might still have a chance to turn things around. (I thought the Huffington Post was supposed to be a conservative news outlet, I'm confused?) Near the end she makes some good suggestions about how we could ALL make things better, and sit around a big campfire singing "Kumbaya" munching on spicy wing dings and drinking beer. But there's always that one guy who goes overboard on the booze and winds up taking a leak at the buffet table and causes an escalating series of events that ends with the police showing up and two people in the hospital with minor contusions. Judging from how things have gone the past few years it's hard to be optimistic. Sorry, I really wish there was a happy ending. In short: A very good read and highly recommended. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Overview of America's problems By Ryan Owen This was a good quick read. Huffington fails to get very detailed and deep thinking about the issues that face the country. However she does seemingly go out of her way to comment on every little nuance she can think of, in that way the book does gain some depth. Huffington plays no games, in her opinion, one that does support with references and data, things are not looking so bright for the future of the land of the free and home of the brave. However it's no dooms day book or take on America. Instead Arianna pushes for the types and kinds of change and reform that my render many of the countries issues mute or irreverent. In many ways as each and every issues is brought up and discussed she pulls it all together with a glimpse of hope that as bad as it is change is possible and that there is another way to do things. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Two Stars By Merida Make no sense!

It's not an exaggeration to say that middle-class Americans are an endangered species and that the American Dream of a secure, comfortable standard of living has become as outdated as an Edsel with an eight-track player. That the United States of America is in danger of becoming a third world nation. The evidence is all around us: Our industrial base is vanishing, taking with it the kind of jobs that have formed the backbone of our economy for more than a century; our education system is in shambles, making it harder for tomorrow's workforce to acquire the information and training it needs to land good twenty-first century jobs; our infrastructure—our roads, our bridges, our sewage and water, our transportation and electrical systems—is crumbling; our economic system has been reduced to recurring episodes of Corporations Gone Wild; our political system is broken, in thrall to a small financial elite using the power of the checkbook to control both parties. And America's middle class, the driver of so much of our economic success and political stability, is rapidly disappearing, forcing us to confront the fear that we are slipping as a nation—that our children and grandchildren will enjoy fewer opportunities and face a lower standard of living than we did. It's the dark flipside of the American Dream—an American Nightmare of our own making. Arianna Huffington, who, with the must-read Huffington Post, has her finger on the pulse of America, unflinchingly tracks the gradual demise of America as an industrial, political, and economic leader. In the vein of her fiery bestseller Pigs at the Trough, Third World America points fingers, names names, and details who's killing the American Dream. Finally, calling on the can-do attitude that is part of America's DNA, Huffington shows precisely what we need to do to stop our freefall and keep America from turning into a third world nation. Third World America is a must-read for anyone disturbed by our country's steady descent from 20th century superpower to backwater banana republic. From the Hardcover edition.