

The Essential
**BERNIE
SANDERS**
and his
Vision for America

—
Jonathan
Tasini
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The Essential Bernie Sanders and His Vision for America

Jonathan Tasini, Bernie Sanders (Contributor)

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Meet the essential Bernie Sanders—an authentic and uncompromising champion of the people.

Independent United States Senator Bernie Sanders—with a thirty-five-year career in public service, first as Burlington, Vermont's mayor, then as Vermont's sole representative to Congress, and currently as a United States senator—is now campaigning to become president of the United States. His goal is to build a movement to take back our country from the rich and powerful, and return it to its rightful owners—we, the American people.

Sanders' common sense, populist message is resonating with Democrats, Republicans, independents, as well as ordinary working- and middle-class Americans from all walks of life, including millennials, seniors, veterans, immigrants, environmentalists, union workers, and more.

In this short, accessible book, author Jonathan Tasini draws heavily from Sanders' ample public record of speeches, statements, and interviews, and couples his working-class spirit with specific legislation he has championed on a number of core proposals that comprise a broader people's agenda for America, including:

- A national, single-payer health care system;
- Free public higher education;
- Taking on wealth and income inequality;
- Preserving Social Security;
- Caring for our veterans;
- Ensuring civil rights for all;
- Combatting climate change;
- Reforming Wall Street, and much more.

The Essential Bernie Sanders and His Vision for America is a must-read for anyone who shares a vision for a forward-looking, sustainable, and more just United States of America, and is eager to change the course of history.

- See more at: <http://www.chelseagreen.com/the-essen...>

The Essential Bernie Sanders and His Vision for America Details

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From Reader Review The Essential Bernie Sanders and His Vision for America for online ebook

Jack says

Not really a biography, but a very informative read about his political views. Most of the text consists of reprints of speeches he made on the Senate floor about various bills.

He actually seems like someone who will stand up for the average person and fight against corporations.

From reading this, I have to say I think he'd make a good President.

James K. says

I never before knew they made any honest politicians. It rekindles my faith in humanity that a person could be in politics for 34 years and remain throughout that time true to their core values.

If I needed convincing that Bernie Sanders should be our next president, this book definitely provided the needed proof. If you're as much a political junkie as I am, I definitely recommend you read it. If you're concerned about the growing wealth inequality and shrinking middle class in America, it's a MUST READ book.

Michael Guyer says

A perfect resource for anyone looking to learn about Bernie and what he stands for or for supporters and volunteers who want to brush up on their knowledge of his arguments and policies before hitting the neighborhood to canvass. I was already a huge advocate for Sanders before ordering this book, but it was worth the read and only reaffirms my reasons (of which there are many) for supporting him.

Maggie says

as good a political summary of socialist-democracy as it gets ... and bernie sanders is a smart proponent for achieving social justice issues by use of democratic (vs. plutocratic) means ... smart smart smart

second reading 23 september 2017 and still an excellent summary of what is most important + solutions for our great country ... totally a man i respect and appreciate

Andy says

It would be nice if the news media, instead of commenting on the candidates' hair, would look at this book

and similar ones by other candidates and do a reality-based compare/contrast.

Bernie voted against and spoke out against the Iraq war, which even candidate Bush doesn't stand behind anymore. That seems like a pretty relevant point of distinction between the candidates.

Quote from the book from a speech in 2002, before the Iraq war started:

"I have not heard any estimates of how many young American men and women might die in such a war, or how many tens of thousands of women and children in Iraq might also be killed. As a caring nation, we should do everything we can to prevent the horrible suffering war will cause. War must be the last recourse.....[And] who will govern Iraq when Saddam Hussein is removed? And what role will the US play in an ensuing civil war that will develop in that country? Will moderate governments in the region who have large Islamic fundamentalist populations be overthrown and replaced by extremists?" feelthebern.org

Scott Rhee says

As I write this, Bernie Sanders has just won the Maine Democratic caucuses with 64.3% of the votes. While still early in the race, for those of us who are feeling the Bern (to use an already over-used and somewhat awkward phrase), Sanders's performance has been more than satisfying. He's no longer a long-shot. He could definitely go all the way.

Of course, even if he doesn't, he has succeeded in running a campaign like no other and one of which he should be proud. At the very least, he has gotten his message across, a message that a large percentage of Americans have taken to heart and agree with.

What is that message?

It's a simple one, really, and one that the Founding Fathers and the subsequent generations of Americans have fought and died for and that most politicians seem to have forgotten: that government is *for* the people and *by* the people because it *is* the people.

That most of our elected officials no longer represent us, the people, is a given. What is becoming frighteningly more clear is that most politicians consider us, the people, as the enemy. Inexplicably and ironically, the very people who vote them into office---us---are inevitably the ones they continue to hurt and destroy by slowly chipping away at our rights to life, liberty, and happiness. Two out of three used to be acceptable for them. Now they want to take away all of them.

If you think I'm being dramatic or hyperbolic, read Jonathon Tasini's "The Essential Bernie Sanders and His Vision for America", which is required reading for anyone who is a Sanders fan as well as anyone who thinks America has suffered enough insult and injury over the past several decades.

Tasini's book is mostly primary source material taken directly from Sanders's numerous speeches and interviews. Mostly excerpted, the book is a treasure trove of the main points that Sanders hopes to address and work on if and when he becomes president. There is also, interspersed throughout, key highlights of Sanders's career.

It is almost refreshing to hear an elected official say some of the things that Sanders says. It is even more refreshing when one realizes that he actually means it and isn't just saying things that people want to hear or because he has been reading poll numbers. This authenticity is, perhaps, one of Bernie's biggest draws.

I am voting for Sanders because I truly believe that big corporate money has destroyed Washington politics and has prevented any politician who accepts large campaign funds from these corporations from adequately serving their primary constituents.

I am voting for Sanders because I think it's bullshit when I hear people say that this country has no money for certain things, like infrastructure or basic health care or education, but that we always seem to have trillions to spend on military weapons and waging unnecessary wars.

I am voting for Sanders because I am tired of working my ass off to barely break even and pay bills, let alone spend quality time with my wife and daughter, while more-wealthy members of society avoid paying taxes because of off-shore accounts and are able to spend the entire year doing absolutely nothing but lounging on yachts, beaches, and one of their seven mansions.

I am voting for Sanders because I believe that global climate change poses a much more serious long-term threat than any terrorist group, mainly because I believe that many of these terrorist groups have grown in size due to more desperate people living in countries hardest hit by global climate change.

I am voting for Sanders because I believe that education should be free, that public education should be free, that college should be something that ALL children should be able to attain, let alone strive for, because I believe that education is the root of all good things in the world, including an end to global climate change, an end to terrorism, and an end to wealth inequality.

Joan says

This book is recommended for everyone (well, everyone adult and an American citizen.) I can't see many kids plowing through this unless they are teens and political fanatics, or possibly Bernie Sanders' grandkids). Non Americans are likely not going to be interested until Bernie is president.

However, all in the included groups really should read this! People who haven't heard of Sanders should read to find out what he stands for and against. People who have heard of Sanders can get more detail about issues Sanders supports or is against and why. One among many fascinating bits of information: Bernie managed to get through an audit of the Federal Reserve for the first time ever. It discovered fascinating things. Such as the fact that American bailout money went to foreign NON-American banks! An incredible number of Wall Street CEOs were serving on the Fed at the time of the crash. Funny how many of those CEO's corporations ended up getting bailout money! Do grab this book and read it! It is in my library, and if it isn't in your library, take down the title, author, and ISBN and ask them why it isn't in the library. It is very clear exactly what his positions are, and probably 95+% of the book is quotes from various speeches Bernie had made. If you haven't made up your mind yet to support Bernie which you should unless you are part of the 1%, read this and find out why you should support him!

I know this review is quite partisan and totally biased. To give you some of my background, my first major political memory was all these grim men sitting around a curved desk area asking questions of endless people. I couldn't make head or tail of it. It turns out a lot of people felt that way in listening to questions about Watergate. So cynicism about politicians comes naturally to me. Bernie is the first politician I have ever supported enthusiastically. He is real and honest and a supporter of the middle and poor classes. I read Obama's autobiographies and realized he wasn't a liberal. Sure, I'd love to see a woman as president, but it needs to be the right woman. Not Hillary. Hillary has flip-flopped on a fair number of issues. Bernie is

saying the same things now he said decades ago. Check You Tube if you don't believe that statement. He's one of TWO senators in Congress who attended the Martin Luther King I have a Dream speech. Stop reading this review, go borrow or buy this book ASAP and start reading!

Travis Babb says

As the title suggests, this book covers all the main topics and Bernie's stance on them. Each section is clearly marked as being about Health Care, Immigration, Taxes, &c., and filled with his speeches on these topics, typically recent but sometimes from before the campaign even began.

The author, in addition to compiling this and giving a brief introduction to each section, also concluded each chapter with some related facts of what he has done throughout his career on these issues.

Wonderfully informative, practical, and consistently impressive.

Jim Lewis says

Clear and hopeful. May he achieve his goals! I came away believing he means what he says, and is speaking for the 99%. His track record going back 50 years in championing the regular guy and gal says he means it. Every issue you can imagine is addressed in a positive way. Feel the Bern.

Brandy says

Fantastic resource on what Bernie Sanders is made of. It's a quick read, broken up into bite-sized chapters; each giving the reader a glimpse into Bernie Sanders' record and the goals he has for the nation. The author used Bernie's own words for the bulk of the book, sampling speeches and statements from the last 10 years or more to highlight ways in which Sanders is not only a man of substance, but also deep integrity.

Everything he says, everything he stands for...it just makes too much sense. If he doesn't get the nomination and subsequently win the presidency it will only be because the American public has been so brainwashed into thinking that we're actually doing ourselves a favor by breaking our backs to make the very rich even richer. That's not living. That's not the qualities of the greatest nation in the world. And if Bernie isn't elected and allowed to transform our country, then we've basically just surrendered ourselves to not being the greatest country in the world and no longer giving a shit about ourselves or future generations. As radical as that may seem, none of his ideas (thus far in my reading) are new ideas for the first world nations in the world. In fact, most advanced nations have ALREADY put most, if not all, of his proposals into practice. America is behind. Desperately, sadly, falling farther and farther behind in every arena that makes a country great. Sanders can change that with his authenticity and passion for the working people.

Randi says

I loved that this book centered around Bernie's speeches and direct quotes with barely any narration from the

author. The lines get blurred easily in politics and I feel this author did a great job of not inputting a lot of opinion and focused on facts.

Bruce Fogerty says

A very quick review of Bernie's positions on all the issues. This book, taken from his floor speeches, interviews, and other public utterances gives his perspective on all the issues. If you want to cast an informed vote during the primaries, read this book. Bernie's views on the very largest financial institutions is spot on: Too Big to Fail? Too Big to Exist! He proposes having the three or four largest financial institutions to be broken up into smaller companies so they can no longer threaten the stability of the banking system. He also proposes a very small transaction tax on derivatives (1/2 of one percent) to finance universal free college & vocational education for all.

Emtiaj says

That little bird is really a dove asking us for world peace. No more wars! #BirdieSanders

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Dustin Crazy little brown owl says

I like everything I have heard from Bernie. The cautionary tales have been told in The Hunger Games, V for Vendetta etc. Now it's time for America to decide if enough is enough. Bernie has a vision, a plan and answers. Some people complain about the rich getting richer, the poor getting poorer. Some people complain about politicians being dishonest and owned by corporations. Some people complain about the cost of medical care and student loan debts. Maybe it's time to do something about these issues instead of just complaining. Lets fix what is broken, even if it means for The United States of America looking to what other countries have done right.

If we want real change and real hope it is time to elect Senator Bernie Sanders in 2016 - otherwise, yes there will be more of the same. It is time for a drastic change and Bernie can do it. Think Franklin D. Roosevelt for the twenty first century.

Some favorite quotes:

It is no secret that there is massive discontent with politics in America. In the mid-term election in November, 63 percent of Americans did not vote, including 80 percent of young people. Poll after poll tells us that our citizens no longer have confidence in our political institutions, and given the power of Big Money in the political process, they have serious doubts about how much their vote actually matters and whether politicians have any clue as to what is going on in their lives.

Combating this political alienation, this cynicism and this legitimate anger will not be easy. That's for sure. But that is exactly what, together, we have to do if we are going to turn this country around - and that is what this campaign is all about.

And to bring people together we need a simple and straight-forward progressive agenda which speaks to the needs of our people, and which provides us with a vision of a very different America.

Health Care for All: *The United States remains the only major country on earth that does not guarantee health care for all as a right. Despite the modest gains of the Affordable Care Act, 35 million Americans continue to lack health insurance and many more are under-insured. Yet, we continue paying far more per capita for health care than any other nation. The United States must join the rest of the industrialized world and guarantee health care to all as a right by moving toward a Medicare-for-All single-payer system.*

College for All: *And when we talk about education, let me be very clear. In a highly competitive global economy, we need the best educated workforce we can create. It is insane and counter-productive to the best interests of our country, that hundreds of thousands of bright young people cannot afford to go to college, and that millions of others leave school with a mountain of debt that burdens them for decades. That must end. That is why, as president, I will fight to make tuition in public colleges and universities free, as well as substantially lower interest rates on student loans.*

I don't think there is a great debate on whether our infrastructure is crumbling.... The debate, of course, comes down to how you pay for it.

There are many of out here, barely holding onto health insurance. And there are more than a few who are taking the chance of living uninsured.

-Nancy S. Buck, Aurora, Colorado

When people like us are working sixty hours a week, and can still barely afford to survive, but people like the Waltons are getting tax breaks of more money than I will see in my lifetime, there is something wrong.

-Levy Morrow, Colorado resident at Sanders rally in Denver

He is revered. He's very consistent with where he stands. He's the first politician that I've believed in my life.

-Paul Loebe, a thirty-one-year-old who served in both Iraq and Afghanistan during eight years of active duty

Mary Mullane says

I have admired Bernie for years. I agree with him 100%. I am pleasantly surprised he is leading in some polls. His message resonates with people of all ages and backgrounds. This book uses Bernie's actual words from his numerous speeches on the Senate floor and other venues. This book isn't just for bleeding heart liberals like myself, but for anyone who wants deeper insight into this great senator turned presidential candidate.
