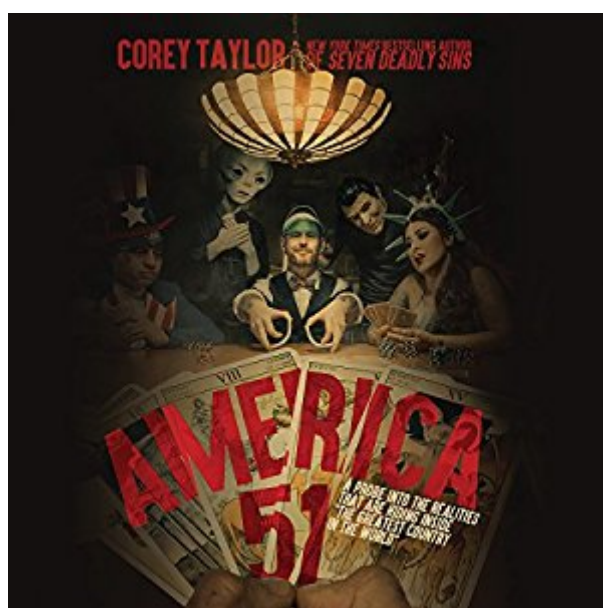


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America 51: A Probe Into The Realities That Are Hiding Inside "The Greatest Country In The World"



Synopsis

The always-outspoken hard rock vocalist Corey Taylor begins *America 51* with a reflection on what his itinerant youth and frequent worldwide travels with his multiplatinum bands Slipknot and Stone Sour have taught him about what it means to be an American in an increasingly unstable world. He examines the way America sees itself, specifically with regard to the propaganda surrounding America's origins (like a heavy-metal Howard Zinn) while also celebrating the quirks and behavior that make a true-blue American. Balancing humor, outrage, and disbelief, Taylor examines the rotting core of America, evaluating everything from politics and race relations to family and "man buns". By continuing the wave of moral outrage begun in *You're Making Me Hate You*, Taylor skewers contemporary America in his own signature style.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Love this! Love Corey Taylor!!

Ok, so I read the fourth major book release by the one and only, Corey Taylor. (Shocked, anyone?) Yes, I am a major fan of this guy, and yes, I have given yet another 5 star rating to yet another book to a man who's books I've read at least twice each (excluding this current one), and yes, I listen to his music just about every single day I wake up above ground, and yes, my rating could be biased (more than likely is), but please hear me out on this one. (Aren't run-on sentences fun?) *America 51: A Probe into the Realities That Are Hiding Inside "The Greatest Country in the World"* touches to

soul of America with a rusty pitch fork. "Why such a vicious sounding description?" you might ask. Well, it's simple, really. Mr. Taylor touches on all main political subjects, from left to right, conservative to liberal, pro choice to pro life, the (often misconstrued) 1st and 2nd amendments, and even the thin line that teeters right in the center of each of these subjects, and then some. If you take your politics, views and beliefs the least bit seriously, this book will offend you. But I implore you to read it. There's a lot of good in this country, even now, and he won't let you walk away from this book without at least attempting to make you see that.:::WARNING:::If you do NOT like and/or understand sarcasm, or can not take the occasional joke (especially with some serious subject matter) please stop... this book won't be for you in any way. Go read Harry Potter or something. (Seriously, those are books are amazing!)Just like a majority of American citizens, Corey is fed up with the status of their beloved United States of 'Merica. And not just the political climate itself, just the status of their citizens and society in the eyes of foreign countries. As usual, he leaves no reader unscathed in his bantering. From Trump supporters to Hillary supporters, Sanders Supporters to 3rd party supporters (and non-voters alike), racism, prejudice, police brutality, gun violence, religion, and the wearing of a man-bun, he will state something that will tickle you the wrong way. But not in a "you're wrong and I'm so very right" demeanor, but in a "let's have an open conversation and understand one another, no matter our differences, and agree to disagree, without lashing immature hate toward one another" point of view, which, let's face it, happens far too often in this day and age due to the ability to hide behind words thrown out in social media, and even face to face. (Aren't run-on sentences still fun?) That's the tone of this, and all books, Taylor has blessed the world with. The idea of opening a conversation, no matter how delicate the subject matter may be. Not a soul on this planet will ever agree on the same thing. Ever. Fact. But current and older generations are too lazy to toss on their big girl and big boy pants and accept this. What Corey Taylor's work comes down to, is his ability to take some serious subjects, and toss around ideas with a serious tone, snarky sarcasm, humor and a bit of ALL CAPS yelling in tow. I have stated in past reviews of Taylor's work that I do not agree with quite a bit of what the man says and believes, and this stands heavily true with this recent literary exercise. But I'll be darned if I didn't take away a few possible questions of my own immature points of view on subjects I may not fully understand. So, well done, Corey Taylor. You made me think, yet again. Oh, and Mr. Taylor? I think you might owe some royalties to Frito Lay and their Cheetos brand. (I'm sure you can all make an educated guess as to what I mean here). Read if you want, or don't. As Corey says in this book himself... "Just because you have the right to say it, doesn't mean we have to listen, even if you type that sh*t in all caps." - Corey Taylor

Another brilliant look at America like a normal person that is fed up with everything. Corey is blunt and isn't writing his books for hipsters, beer snobs, and the too cool for the room people. He writes his books like a middle class Midwest blue collar worker would looking at things. Absolutely love all his books

If you are all the way to the left or all the way to the right in politics, this book will offend you. If you are right in the middle and feel that America has become ridiculous on both sides of the political realm, then this book is awesome.

I agree with many of Taylor's sentiments in this text. I've read some of his other books, and found them to be entertaining, if not casual, reads. In his first book, he offered more of a general outlook on life, human behavior, what it means to "sin," etc. In his second book, he discussed his own belief in (and own encounters with) the paranormal. In *America 51*, Taylor tackles his own views on the political landscape in America, with an emphasis on life under a Trump presidency. The initial thesis, which I agree with, is that we've all been had, and that both parties are playing the public. The issue is that Taylor says many things that are on point, but he builds his cases on piles of assumptions and cliches. The Republicans hate the poor. The Democrats are the party of the people. If you oppose the ACA, it's not because you actually think it's a disastrous economic plan that is likely to hurt everyone involved; it's because you've fallen victim to some kind of Republican demagoguery (and mind you, I'm not even a Republican). Supply side economics are dismissed in a single sentence. Wealth and growth of GDP talked about alongside presidents with correlation, but as if correlation were causation. Deregulation is automatically assumed to be in the interest of the rich. Taylor never claims that this is some kind of comprehensive manifesto, meant to be an exhaustive argument, deeply rooted in outside sources. He knows what he is: A bold, often funny, entertaining orator who is very good at expressing his opinions. In some ways it's a shame, because listening to Taylor, I get the impression that he isn't actually an idiot, but *America 51* is little more than an entertaining pile of assumptions. It's hard to celebrate his statements when I agree with them, because I don't actually know if we agree for the right reasons. For anyone who reads without a cursory knowledge of the key debates he raises in this book (to cite one example, his mention of the Republican Red scare makes no mention of the Venona decrypts, a historical finding that actually suggests that paranoia over communism was not patently insane), this text has the potential to be a loud and misleading disaster. I didn't feel this way after his first two books, but as

far as this one goes: Corey. Shut up and sing.

Whether he'll admit it or not, Corey Taylor is a leftist. Not just a Democrat; a leftist. There's a difference. He claims to be "socially liberal yet fiscally conservative". Which is a made up term for anyone who's not exactly sure what their views are. This book doesn't come across that way. Mr Taylor gave an interview in 2015 saying he would "emigrate" if Trump won. Yet he's still here. Like every other so called celebrity that made that vow. Continuing to be a citizen of and profiting from "the greatest country in the world". He admits he supported Bernie Sanders in the election cycle, and makes cases in this book for leftist propaganda groups such as BLM. The author comes across as an angry hipster who left the CAPS LOCK key on. An obviously mad that Hilary lost democrat. There is no conservatism in this book. Probably because Mr Taylor knows he will be blacklisted for even thinking such things. Like I'm sure I will be when all the "tolerant" liberals read this review. If you're looking for someone to help you with your political views, do not rely on a rock star.

As always, Corey Taylor has produced another amazing book. I hope people read it and I hope it helps. I really do. Thank you, CMFT!

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