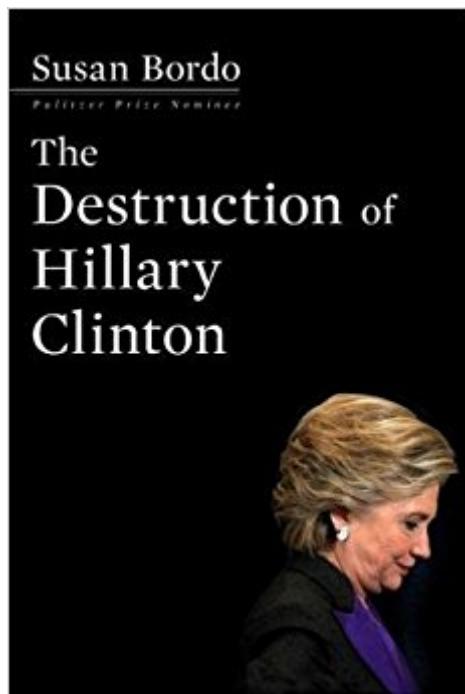


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# The Destruction Of Hillary Clinton



## Synopsis

Gossip is easy. Get to the deeper truth, with this in-depth look at the political forces and media culture that vilified and ultimately brought down Hillary Clinton in the 2016 presidential campaign. *The Destruction of Hillary Clinton* is an answer to the question many have been asking: How did an extraordinarily well-qualified, experienced, and admired candidate—whose victory would have been as historic as Barack Obama's—come to be seen as a tool of the establishment, a chronic liar, and a talentless politician? In this masterful narrative of the 2016 campaign year and the events that led up to it, Susan Bordo unpacks the Right's assault on Clinton and her reputation, the way the left provoked suspicion and indifference among the youth vote, the inescapable presence of James Comey, questions about Russian influence, and the media's malpractice in covering the candidate. Urgent, insightful, and engrossing, *The Destruction of Hillary Clinton* is an essential guide to understanding the most controversial presidential election in American history.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Thoroughly researched... What is so satisfying—and devastating—about Bordo's book is the way she lays it all out, weaving it together into a clear picture that allows the reader, whether they were cognizant for the Clinton Era or not, to see exactly what happened to HRC. Bordo has successfully picked apart the various threads of unfairness (there are so many that sometimes one struggles to think about it) that brought us to the conventional Hillary

narrative that destroyed her. "For the many of us still shell-shocked by this unrecognizable America, Bordo's book offers a clear analysis of how a candidate who received the overwhelming majority of the popular vote, did not win the presidency." "The Forward" Vital. An important...examination of the strange political life of Hillary Clinton." Salon "Bordo's feminist analysis is concise and incisive...A large part of Bordo's objective with this book is to counter the deep trove of misogynist material that has been used to discredit Hillary throughout the decades. In this regard, Bordo faces a nearly impossible task—a lone voice in the winds of misogyny. But it is admirable. Openly loving Hillary Clinton is, indeed, a radical act." Quartz "A fascinating take on the painfully long campaign and how the political upset happened." Bustle "Bordo superbly chronicles the election campaign....thorough, accurate and convincing." The Missourian "This perceptive, thoroughly readable book will strike a chord with [Clinton] supporters and prove enlightening to many others hoping to make sense of a contentious election." Booklist

Susan Bordo is a media critic, cultural historian, and feminist scholar. Her books include *Unbearable Weight*, and, most recently, *The Creation of Anne Boleyn*. She is Professor of Gender and Women's Studies at the University of Kentucky.

Bordo's account of the destruction of Hillary Clinton as a public figure and political candidate is expertly written in clear and clean prose. I couldn't put it down. The case that Bordo lays out to explain why Clinton's campaign for the US Presidency failed is quite compelling. The evidence is incontrovertible. In essence, Clinton was no better at the campaign stuff than most presidential candidates but her loss can be mostly attributed to (1) a media that is profit and ratings driven and that mostly abdicated its responsibility for truth finding in favor of horse race coverage and false equivalencies, (2) a highly profitable and decades-long smear campaign from the right that shape-shifted and changed its arguments in self-contradictory ways to fit the current narrative, (3) Bernie bros and the "Bernie-or-bust" call-out campaign from the left that threw Hillary out of their self-defined "progressive" camp, (3) a rogue FBI Director, and, YES, (3) entrenched misogyny and gendered ideas of leadership. All of this Bordo deftly defends in the book. It was healing to read an account that didn't blame Clinton for everything from bed bugs to long lines at Walmart. In truth, Clinton was the most progressive Democratic candidate ever nominated as well as (arguably) the most prepared and distinguished major party candidate in history. The lessons from the 2016 election are much more disturbing than if we simply say Clinton was an awful candidate who

defeated herself. The actual explanations are more complex and difficult to swallow. I expect reading this book will be a healing and vindicating experience for Hillary's fans (myself included) but will infuriate those who already rejected her. Of course that fury would underscore Bordo's thesis. I loved this book and I highly recommend it to anyone with an open mind or anyone who was and is inspired by Clinton.

This book is an excellent read, particularly for anyone of my (younger) generation who watched the presidential elections but never lived through the political upheaval that was the cultural revolution of the 60s and 70s. It's considered, incredibly well researched, and well presented. It makes note of putting a context to a divisive and devastating year of presidential elections, and does not blame individuals but does present the social forces that helped to damage Hillary Clinton's election bid and smear her. There were several bits of information I did not know, both insignificant but humanising (like she won a Grammy? What was that for?? Lol, gotta look that up), and significant about her strength of character, qualifications, and history of activism and, yes, progressivism. Optics being such a large part of today's political climate, I would label this a must read for anyone involved in activism, politics, or who didn't support Clinton. With an open and inquiring mind this book is a fascinating case study on the factors that so heavily influenced the American 2016 election and the Nov 8 that had such a significant effect on the future of the USA.

Excellent, well-researched, and well-written. Definite must-read for anyone who wants to understand what happened in the 2016 election. I knew about a lot of the factors discussed, but Bordo's clear, concise layout of the timeline and how all those factors came together is very powerful.

As reviewed on the Inside254 podcast: Susan Bordo's *The Destruction of Hillary Clinton* asks the same question I still find ask myself: how did someone so qualified lose to someone so not qualified to be president? Bordo's book must have been written in a tear to be on the shelves so quickly, and I share her urgency. Starting with an exhaustive list of Clinton's accomplishments and successes, the book moves to explain that Hillary was not a bad candidate but that instead she was swept away in a perfect storm of bad and untrue media, narratives, and negative campaigning. Her methodical look at the news and reportage of the campaign had me yelling in my car a few times as I listened to the audiobook. Most times I just felt sad that someone so accomplished could be hijacked by Bordo's top three candidates for the ruination of the campaign in order of importance: James Comey, Anthony

Weiner, and Bernie Sanders, whom she argues did not endorse Hillary quickly enough as she had done when she lost the primary to Obama. If James Comey feels ŸfÃ¢â¬Ã“slightly nauseousÃfÃ¢â¬Ã• for turning the election, reading BordoÃfÃ¢â¬Ã“s book will make him positively hurl for weeks to see her systematic look at how his if not illegal at least unprecedented insertion of himself into the political landscape favored Donald Trump. The Destruction of Hillary Clinton helped me get beyond my pat answer of misogyny when trying to work though her loss. Bordo shows it was misogyny coupled with the confluence of forces working against Hillary that destroyed her political campaign for president.

Great book. Much detail. What a shame it happened this way, but it did.

Like Susan, I spent the better part of the last two years attempting to find a lifeline in a swirling whirlpool of lies, outsized hatred, and insane conspiracy theories. This book and Susan's articles were one of the lifelines. She shines a light on the dark, regressive forces that attempted to destroy a remarkable woman who many of us admire, and who should be president now.

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