

The Crash of 2016: The Plot to Destroy America--and What We Can Do to Stop It

By Thom Hartmann

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The United States is more vulnerable today than ever before-including during the Great Depression and the Civil War-because the pillars of democracy that once supported a booming middle class have been corrupted, and without them, America teeters on the verge of the next Great Crash.

The United States is in the midst of an economic implosion that could make the Great Depression look like child's play. In THE CRASH OF 2016, Thom Hartmann argues that the facade of our once-great United States will soon disintegrate to reveal the rotting core where corporate and billionaire power and greed have replaced democratic infrastructure and governance. Our once-enlightened political and economic systems have been manipulated to ensure the success of only a fraction of the population at the expense of the rest of us.

The result is a "for the rich, by the rich" scheme leading to policies that only benefit the highest bidders. Hartmann outlines the destructive forces-planted by Lewis Powell in 1971 and come to fruition with the "Reagan Revolution"-that have looted our nation over the past decade, and how their actions fit into a cycle of American history that lets such forces rise to power every four generations.


However, a backlash is now palpable against the "economic royalists"-a term coined by FDR to describe those hoarding power and wealth-including the banksters, oligarchs, and politicians who have plunged our nation into economic chaos and social instability.

Although we are in the midst of what could become the most catastrophic economic crash in American History, a way forward is emerging, just as it did in the previous great crashes of the 1760s, 1856, and 1929. The choices we make now will redefine American culture. Before us stands a genuine opportunity to embrace the moral motive over the profit motive-and to rebuild the American economic model that once yielded great success.

Thoroughly researched and passionately argued, THE CRASH OF 2016 is not

just a roadmap to redemption in post-Crash America, but a critical wake-up call, challenging us to act. Only if the right reforms are enacted and the moral choices are made, can we avert disaster and make our nation whole again.

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Review

PRAISE FOR THOM HARTMANN

"Never one to shy away from the truth . . . inspiring, wise, and compelling. His work lights the way to a better America." *Van Jones, cofounder of RebuildTheDream.com and author of The Green Collar Economy*

ACCLAIM FOR THE CRASH OF 2016

"Ever since he was a young SDS member back When It All Began, Thom Hartmann has combined a prodigious intelligence and common touch to expand participatory democracy as the American Way. This is an excellent guide to avoid the next crash landing." *Tom Hayden, author of The Long Sixties*

"Thom Hartmann is right that America must invest in our transportation and energy infrastructure, promote renewable energy, and rethink the disastrous trade policies that have shuttered our factories and decimated our middle class. I hope his thoughtful ideas about what America needs and his loud-and-clear warning about where America is headed will wake us up before his prediction comes true." *Bernie Sanders, U.S. Senator*

"Few authors have ever had a bigger story to tell. Thom Hartmann is the authority on the basket case that the U.S. economy has become. No advanced nation in modern times has been so badly served by its elites and this tour de force of a book explains why." *Eamonn Fingleton, author of In the Jaws of the Dragon*

"Thom Hartmann provides page after page of crucial history to show how our country headed into deep decline. And he offers an action plan of reform and renewal that can avert economic and environmental collapse. A rare and readable blend of history and hope." *Jeff Cohen, author of Cable News Confidential*

"Thom Hartmann explains the way critical social lessons fade over time, and how dangerous that cycle is. America is at the tail end of such a cycle today, as we stand amidst terrible inequality and on the precipice of tremendous change. And, yes, Thom offers a compelling plan of action for activists. Everyone should read this book." *Richard L. Trumka, president, AFL-CIO*

"Thom Hartmann seeks out interesting subjects from such disparate outposts of curiosity that you have to wonder whether or not he uncovered them or they selected him." *Leonardo DiCaprio, actor, producer, and environmental activist*

About the Author

Thom Hartmann is an internationally syndicated talk show host heard by over 2.75 million listeners each week and simulcast on television in more than 40 million homes. He is also a *New York Times* bestselling author of 24 books, including *The Last Hours of Ancient Sunlight*. And *Talkers* magazine named Thom Hartmann #9 on their "2013 Heavy Hundred" list.

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