UNLIKEABLE: The Problem With Hillary
Synopsis

A New York Times Bestseller! From the author of the #1 New York Times bestsellers The Amateur and Blood Feud . . . Unlikeable is the stunning, powerful exposé of Hillary Clinton and her floundering race for the White House. With unprecedented access to longtime associates of the Clintons and the Obamas, investigative reporter Edward Klein meticulously recreates conversations and details of Hillary Clinton’s behind-the-scenes plotting in Chappaqua and Whitehaven. Klein, the former editor in chief of New York Times Magazine and a contributing editor to Vanity Fair, draws a deeply troubling portrait of Hillary Rodham Clinton, a highly unlikeable presidential candidate and a woman more associated with scandal than with accomplishments, with lying than with truth, with arrogance than with compassion.

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Customer Reviews

The Clintons began their push into national politics and our lives when Bill Clinton gave his disastrous nominating speech for Michael Dukakis’s presidential run in 1988. It was too long and he was jeered at the end of the 33 minute speech when he said Â“in closing.” But he learned and, like sharks on the prowl, they kept going forward. Hillary became known to most folks when the Gennifer Flowers scandal broke and they had to lie their way out of that first Bimbo Eruption. Hillary got high marks from the public for standing by her man. And in every one of his scandals since, and there have been many, when she does her Â“pretty in pink” Hillary Clinton victim dance she gains the public’s eyes. But whenever she does her more
honest and more strident independent Hillary Rodham dance such as her 1992 gaffe, “I could have stayed home and baked cookies and had teas, but what I decided to do was fulfill my profession which I entered before my husband was in public life,” she falls in popularity like a boulder off a mountain peak. This is the third of Ed Klein’s books on the Clintons and their pursuit of regaining the White House using Hillary as the Presidential Candidate and taking control of the Democrat Party, the Executive Branch, and the nation once again. The story centers on why Hillary has had such a hard time grabbing that brass ring which she just knew was hers by divine right in 2008 and now in 2016 and why it continues to elude her grasp. He gives us his primary thesis in the title of the book; the public finds her “unlikeable.” Oh, the press and her political machine keep telling us how wonderful and life of the party fun she is in private. However, the public sees her wooden public persona, her strident hectoring of the nation about what we must do under her vision of our lives, the phony attempts at spontaneity such as her dancing on “Ellen,” her hideous slides into “I ain’t no ways tired” African American mimic. And all this on top of her endless scandals after lie after scandals after evasion after scandals after fake non-apology apology after scandals after dissembling after more scandals. The public is right to wonder how many shoes this woman has that she can keep dropping so many. The public seems to want to forgive Bill for being a kind of charming rogue. But Hillary gets none of that slack because she is never charming or self-deprecating. The press has always been a key part of protecting the Clintons. When Reagan was running for President, the press was always critical of his age, but now Hillary is as old as Reagan was and there is no serious questioning of her age (or Bernie Sanders or Joe Biden for that matter). When Reagan ran, the press demanded his health records and, as President, they demanded to know the details of his every medical procedure and doctor visit. Anyone else remember learning more than we wanted to know about intestinal polyps back then? But when Bill ran, it was fine to just get a general doctor’s note saying he was fine to run without ANY medical history whatsoever. And the press was fine with it. Now Hillary is running and Klein tells us a lot about what is wrong with her. SERIOUSLY wrong with her and the press is content with her doctor’s note of health. Of course we know why this hypocrisy is considered just fine with her supporters, but why doesn’t the public demand to know more about her brain and heart related issues? Look, I can’t predict if she will eventually win the Democrat nomination or not or eventually regain the White House with Bill. I never thought the public would be foolish enough to elect Bill the first time, and certainly not the second time. And while I was afraid the novelty of electing the first African American President (we were told that was Bill for a while?) would get Obama in the
White House the first time, I never dreamed he would be able to be re-elected. But he was. So, I have no idea if Hillary and the Clinton machine along with a booster press can pull off this magic trick. But I strongly hope it belly flops. I can see her corruption, can't you? Why can't the rest of the world? Are they willfully blind because of self interest and ideology? The book recounts Bill's priapic escapades more openly than ever before. Klein opens the book with Bill advising Hillary to not try and have a meeting with Obama. As the author tells us in "Blood Feud" the Clintons and the Obamaites have less than zero use for each other. They have a shouting match and Hillary goes for the meeting anyway. She wants some alone time with Obama and he wants nothing to do with her. He finally relents but has Valerie Jarrett in the Oval Office. Hillary is taken aback and makes her case to have Obama stop the problems she is having over the email server. According to this book, not only was Obama aware of the server he had warned her to not use it so this problem was of her own making. Hillary screams at him that she wants him to call off his "F-ing Dogs" but actually shouting the f-word. Obama tells her he can't and won't. Not a fun day for Team Hillary. Klein also tells us about charm training for Hillary at the hands of Steven Spielberg no less, and how badly that went. We get more of the ugly details of her treatment of her team and staff. So, yes, she is unlikeable. My question is, will the public gag reflex finally be triggered? You will have to tell me because I have never been under their spell. But tens of millions apparently are. Please get and read and share this book. Of course, the pro-Hillary team will dismiss it as trash, but without specific criticisms. They will not refute anything with facts, just their usual general denials. Remember the Clinton system, 1) deny as long as possible, 2) when the evidence goes against you, attack the evidence givers, 3) when the evidence becomes undeniable, cite your previous denials as evidence there is nothing there, 4) when desperate claim that there is nothing to indict them on, and 5) when it comes up again, say it is old news. Don't fall for it. Please. Don't fall for the Clinton hyper spin. I can't vouch for Ed Klein, but since NOTHING in his previous two books has been refuted, I suspect nothing will be proved wrong here either. Reviewed by Craig Matteson, Saline, MI

I received an advance review copy from a friend a few weeks ago and I have to say that whether or not you're a Hillary fan - "Unlikeable" is as compelling as author Edward Klein's previous two examinations about the Clintons - or more to the point - his examinations of the Clintons' RELATIONSHIPS with other big wheels in Washington. Because other readers have already written summaries about what Hillary - according to Klein - is all about, I'll focus on just two (2) of the many takeaways I got from this book.* 1 of 2) - As a journalist, I ask again - how much of Klein's work is
true? However objectionable it is that most of Klein’s sources are anonymous - I reach the inescapable conclusion that the more unflattering assertions against Hillary are highly placed and credible members of the Democratic Party. Why? Because it's hard to believe any GOP operative could poach incendiary word-for-word conversations between the Clintons and others - without being physically in the same rooms. The irony is much of the inflammatory material in "Unlikeable" appears - to me, anyway - to be coming NOT from right-wing partisans - but from satellite extensions of the Clintons themselves.* And the elephant in the room that bolsters Klein’s credibility - is that Klein himself, a self-admitted JFK fan and a former editor at Newsweek, Vanity Fair and the New York Times Magazine - has never been successfully sued for libel - nor have any of his books been successfully discredited as being loaded with patent lies. If untrue, there would be more than enough to warrant the Clintons suing Klein and his publishers for libel. But it hasn't happened (yet), dating back to Klein’s first book about Hillary in 2005. (In Journalism 101 we’re taught that Truth is the best defense against libel - and that public figures like Hillary must prove malice - AND - that blatant untruths have been printed which have caused irreparable harm.)* If you’re a Hillary fan, you have every right to regard "Unlikeable" as tabloid filth, but that’s an opinion, not a fact, framed by what you bring to the table. When the same type of books are written about GOP figures, your emotions may provide a better sense of what I’m talking about.* 2 of 2) - At this snapshot in time - the most "contemporaneously relevant" slice of material in this more than 250-page book has to do with the controversy over Hillary’s decision to install a private email server when she was U.S. Secretary of State from 2009 to early 2013. Without apology or qualification, Klein asserts that President Obama - and key members of his administration - explicitly warned Hillary to not do it, despite her paranoia about snooping enemies resulting from her many years as a public figure.* I admit I do get the feeling that the President’s closest personal adviser, Valerie Jarrett, has a key role in campaign and policy strategy, including the release of adverse information against Hillary. Nothing gets by her and this might explain, 1) why so many "insiders" were willing - (or got permission) - to air the Clintons’ dirty laundry to Edward Klein, and, 2) why the President’s own administration - (and not some right-wing conspiracy) - is more responsible for the FBI’s investigation of the email server issue - to proceed without obstruction. When the heat turned up against Hillary, she asked the President to help, i.e., to "call off his dogs." According to Klein, the President turned Hillary down.* In sum, "Unlikeable" may be a lot of things, but it is not boring, Based on what was revealed previously about the sour relations between the Clintons and the Obamas in Klein’s "Blood Feud" (2014) - the behind-the-scenes narrative remains unchanged. It’s true that millions love and admire Hillary Clinton outside of Washington. But inside the Beltway, she
is feared and resented by enough people at the highest reaches of the Democratic Party - adding another layer of woe on top of the antipathy she has long gotten from the GOP. She might still get the White House because of the fracturing of the GOP, even though Vice President Joseph Biden appeared to have less baggage being his authentic self, e.g., the same guy in public and private, untouched by scandals, real or imagined, a loyalist to the President in ways that Hillary was not.

Edward Klein’s new book “Unlikeable; the problem with Hillary, was released yesterday. This is a sequel to his 2014 “Blood Feud.” Well researched and well written Klein continues the analysis of the Clinton’s in their struggle to create a political dynasty. Some of this was in his previous work and some credited to Peter Schweizer’s excellent Clinton Cash, but much of it was new. The release of Unlikeable is very timely considering the day prior to the release Bill Clinton was on a Sunday talk show blaming the Republicans and the far right for his wife’s email and server problem. Klein points out very clearly that the Obama Administration has warned her about her private email and server and they are the ones through Valerie Jarrett that have set in motion for the FBI to run with the investigation. Obama also provided discrete permission to the Justice Department to determine whether there is enough evidence to go after the Clinton’s providing State Department rewards for financial contributions to The Clinton Foundation. I found it most interesting how Hillary has moved from a more moderate position in her campaign to a very far left position. Klein pointed out seven examples of this shift. The one that struck me the most was her new comment on abortion when she said “Deep-seated cultural codes, religious beliefs and structural biases have to be changed.” So does this mean if one does not believe in 20-week abortions because of moral and religious beliefs, that the person should find a different religious that allows this? Unlikeable will be read by many and talked about by many. The topics presented will now be a part of Mrs. Clinton’s campaign for the presidency; whether she likes it or not.

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