## Twilight of American Sanity: Unmasking the Forces Destroying Our Country



Twilight of American Sanity: A Psychiatrist Analyzes the Age of Trump by Allen Frances

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 4.3 out of 5 Language : English : 2243 KB File size Text-to-Speech : Enabled Screen Reader : Supported Enhanced typesetting: Enabled X-Rav : Enabled Word Wise : Enabled Print length : 328 pages



#### **By Chris Hedges**

In his powerful and provocative new book, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and #1 New York Times bestselling author Chris Hedges exposes the deep-rooted causes of America's decline and offers a chilling warning about the future of our nation. Drawing on his decades of experience as a foreign correspondent and social critic, Hedges reveals the forces that are destroying our sanity, from the rise of authoritarianism and the erosion of democracy to the relentless assault on truth and reason.

#### The Rise of Authoritarianism

Hedges argues that America is in the midst of a slow-motion coup d'état, led by a cabal of wealthy elites and their political enablers. These

individuals, he writes, are using the tools of propaganda, fear-mongering, and voter suppression to undermine the foundations of our democracy.

Hedges traces the rise of authoritarianism in America to the Reagan era, when the wealthy began to use their newfound power to reshape the political landscape in their own image. They gutted regulations that protected the environment and workers, slashed taxes for the rich, and deregulated the financial industry, leading to the Great Recession of 2008.

The Great Recession, Hedges argues, was a watershed moment in American history. It exposed the deep flaws in our economic system and the fragility of our democracy. It also created a breeding ground for fear and anger, which the authoritarian right has been exploiting ever since.

#### **The Erosion of Democracy**

Hand-in-hand with the rise of authoritarianism has been the erosion of democracy in America. Hedges points to the gutting of the Voting Rights Act, the gerrymandering of congressional districts, and the suppression of voter turnout as evidence of this decline.

Hedges also argues that the media has played a major role in the erosion of democracy. He writes that the media has become increasingly concentrated in the hands of a few large corporations, which have used their power to promote the interests of the wealthy and powerful and to silence dissenting voices.

#### The Relentless Assault on Truth and Reason

One of the most disturbing trends of recent years, according to Hedges, has been the relentless assault on truth and reason. He writes that the

spread of misinformation and disinformation has created a "post-truth" society in which facts are no longer important.

Hedges argues that this assault on truth and reason is a deliberate strategy by the authoritarian right to undermine the public's trust in institutions and to make people more susceptible to their propaganda.

#### The Loss of Trust

The decline of American sanity has led to a profound loss of trust in our institutions and in one another. Hedges writes that people no longer trust the government, the media, or even their neighbors.

This loss of trust is a major threat to our democracy, Hedges argues. It makes it difficult to solve problems, to build consensus, and to maintain social cohesion.

#### The Moral Decay

In addition to the loss of trust, Hedges also sees a moral decay in American society. He writes that the values of compassion, empathy, and decency have been eroded by the forces of greed, individualism, and consumerism.

Hedges argues that this moral decay is a major factor in the rise of hate and violence in America. He writes that the authoritarian right has been exploiting people's fears and resentments to divide the country and to justify violence against marginalized groups.

#### The Rise of Authoritarianism

Hedges concludes his book with a chilling warning about the future of America. He writes that the forces of authoritarianism are ascendant and

that our democracy is in grave danger.

Hedges argues that we must resist the forces that are destroying our sanity and our democracy. He calls for a renewed commitment to truth, reason, and compassion.

Twilight of American Sanity is a powerful and provocative book that will challenge your assumptions and leave you deeply unsettled. But it is also a book that offers hope. Hedges believes that we can still save our democracy and our sanity, but only if we are willing to face the truth and to fight for what we believe in.



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