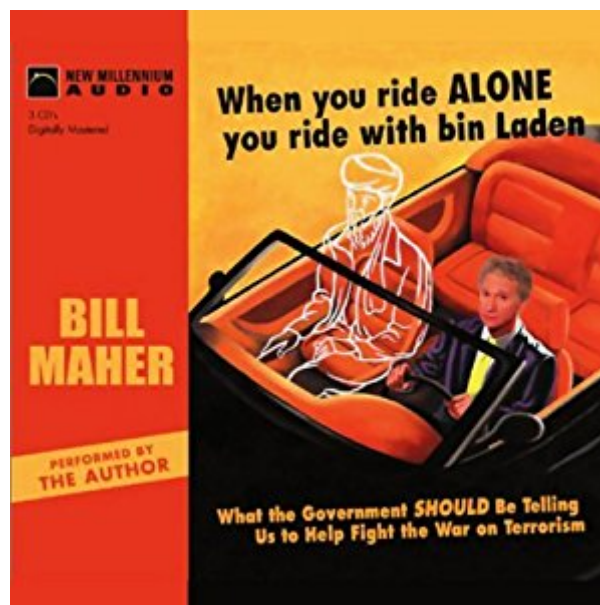


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When You Ride Alone You Ride With Bin Laden: What The Government Should Be Telling Us To Help Fight The War On Terrorism



Synopsis

Political provocateur Bill Maher tells it like it is in a useful and hilarious guide for the many Americans who want to do more here at home to help the war effort, but are at a loss as to what. Thirty-three dynamic new posters and several classics from our government's archive accompanied by text from one of our leading pundits and cutting-edge comedians make this the perfect book for this time in our nation's history, the zeitgeist of post-9/11 America. This is the book that will help Americans make connections between what we do and how it can help (or hurt) our troops and us.

--This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 3 hours

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Phoenix Books

Audible.com Release Date: November 8, 2002

Language: English

ASIN: B00007FYQU

Best Sellers Rank: #80 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Humor > Political Humor #598

in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Politics & Current Events > Freedom & Security #766

in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Political

Customer Reviews

This book is a bit of a departure from Maher's usual work. It's a collection of thirty-three essays reflecting on 9/11 and our response both as individuals and as a nation, and it's still relevant. There are some funny comments thrown in, but this is primarily serious and thoughtfully written. So if you're expecting comedy you may be disappointed. If you appreciate Bill Maher as a thinker you'll appreciate it. If you don't enjoy his humor, or don't agree with his politics, read it anyway; you'll probably be pleasantly surprised. Some say it's too liberal; some say it's too conservative. I say it's just about right, and would make a good reading assignment for our politicians on both sides, not to mention all thinking Americans.

What a brilliant, plain-spoken summary of things that brought 9/11, things we've refused to do since, and what we OUGHT to be doing if we really want to win this "War on Terror." Maher tells it like it

is--painfully so for a lot of people--and nowhere does his unbiased take hit home more forcefully than when confronting the whole post 9/11 America. The context of the book is fascinating--many of the chapters are based on WWII U.S. propaganda posters urging citizens to conserve, be alert and contribute to the war effort. Amazingly, most of them are just as appropriate today, in 2003. Sadly, as Maher points out, Americans today aren't exactly as motivated to actually make the sacrifices necessary to win the war. And of course, there's a few laughs to be had--although this book is pretty straightforward, not to be considered the usual fare by say, George Carlin or even Michael Moore. It is not a comedy book, but rather a brilliant step back and examination of where we're REALLY at, post-9/11. Absolutely recommended. The only caveat is that this book is SHORT--all said, it's probably about 60 actual pages (although it's coffee table sized). I finished it in two sittings. Keep that in mind if you can get it used/in paperback. Bottom line: if you want to pack ammo for the barroom/office/coffee shop debates about America's post 9/11 direction, this is your bible.

An easy read and the chapters are very distinguishable. The humor in the book is just OK, but the information given is very worthwhile. I originally picked up this book for the posters - I am very disappointed that said posters were not in color though.

This book showcases Bill Maher's politically incorrectness in all areas, from the much-discussed (our energy dependence and its connections with terrorism) to the intriguingly under-discussed (diamonds, and the same). Maher writes very short essays (in big print) on a wide variety of terrorism-related topics, calling for real lifestyle changes and honesty in an attempt to shake us out of our everything's-changed-but-how-I-live slumber, interspersing them with WWII-style posters mocking our politicians and our misconceptions. At least one of them is guaranteed to offend - notably the one about the silliness of codified religions. Though the essays are generally smart, funny and incisive, they're too short, scattershot, and the posters get considerably less inspired as the book goes on. There's simply not enough written material: it can be read easily in an evening. One gets the feeling that if Maher had the drive, he could be a modern-day Voltaire. Instead the essays, pungent and entertaining as they are, just scratch the surface of his topics and are at best loosely held together by the theme of sacrifice in a new world - something which he seems to go a bit overboard with, even if you agree with him on oil and diamonds. Hopefully, he'll find the inspiration someday to settle down and write a real "serious" 300-pager. Minus the pictures.

Excellent Book. Short and to the point. A great level of intelligence - about what is wrong with out

system!

Who else but Bill Maher would have the guts to publish a book like this? Very few...Whether you love him or hate him, I highly encourage you to get this very provocative book. The art is excellent, as is Bill's commentary and humor. Alas, it will almost certainly not make people who fly flags on SUVs or buy diamonds for their girlfriends think any differently... they just don't care.

please... if you can't give it up for Maher, then you are either a stupid conservative or a hopeless liberal. For those of us in the center who can see how silly the fringes are, this book says everything we wish we could say. Keep it up Bill...

Bill Maher is smart, insightful. Don't listen to this if you do not want to feel guilty about how little we are willing to sacrifice to help out others who have less. We are selfish, self-centered, materialistic. It would be so easy to share a little.

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