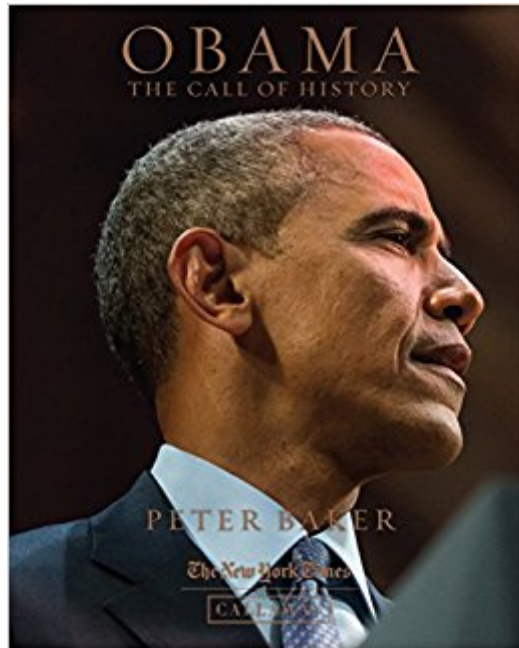




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Obama: The Call Of History



Synopsis

Peter Baker's authoritative history of the Obama presidency is the first complete account that will stand the test of time. Baker takes the measure of Obama's achievements and disappointments in office and brings into focus the real legacy of the man who, as he described himself, "doesn't look like all the presidents on the dollar bills." With vivid color photographs by New York Times photographers and others of the events, major and minor, public and behind-the-scenes, that defined Barack Obama's eight years in office, *Obama: The Call of History* is a portrait in full of America's first African-American president against the background of these tumultuous times.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Peter Baker's *Obama: The Call of History* is a masterfully written and stunningly illustrated remembrance of our forty-fourth president. Baker has emerged as the go-to journalist and sage on recent U.S. presidential events. *Obama* is a full-bore testimonial to Baker's graceful prose style, judicious reporting, and sterling history-minded analysis. Highly recommended!" (Douglas Brinkley author of *Rightful Heritage: Franklin Delano Roosevelt and the Land of America*) "This is an elegant and evocative look back at the Obama years as history, combining narrative and commentary by Peter Baker, one of our most astute observers of the modern presidency, with striking, well-chosen photographs and other illustrations." (Michael Beschloss, presidential historian) "With his unique gifts as a diligent journalist and a first-rate historian, Peter Baker has

given us a compelling first look at a consequential presidencyâan eight-year reign that will be studied forever. And here is where we will all start that conversation: with Baker's graceful and insightful account of Barack Obama's victories, defeats, and evolving legacy." (Jon Meacham, author of *Destiny and Power: The American Odyssey of George Herbert Walker Bush*) "Peter Bakerâs Obama is a coffee-table book, chock-a-block with stunning photos, that rises above its genre thanks to the quality of the authorâs reporting and analysis." (Joe Klein *Foreign Affairs*) "This is the best book about President Obama Iâve ever read â itâs totally objective but beautifully written and filled with new little nuggets that even I, who covered the administration from start to finish, never knew." (Mary Hager Executive Producer, *Face the Nation*)

As chief White House correspondent for the New York Times, Peter Baker covered the Obama presidency since its inception. He is the author of *Days of Fire: Bush and Cheney in the White House*, named one of the five best nonfiction books of 2013 by the New York Times Book Review and a Notable Book of the Year by the WashingtonPost; as well as *The Breach: Inside the Impeachment and Trial of William Jefferson Clinton*; and, with his wife, Susan Glasser, *Kremlin Rising: Vladimir Putinâs Russia and the End of Revolution*.

This book has been quite a surprise. I must admit that I was expecting the usual Peter Baker book, which would be interesting, provocative, extremely perceptive, and like many of the other Peter Baker books I have read, a bit of a slog in places. But this book -- what a change of course. It is extremely well-written and contains a lot of information of which I was unaware (I must admit that since I received the book yesterday, I am still only about halfway through it). The big surprise though is that the book itself is outsize, almost a coffee table book, and the photos, which are everywhere, are gorgeous. I also like the statistical summaries in the back. In view of the fact that most academic publications for college students these days start off at \$50, and often are not at all worth the price, this book would be a great addition for any college American History course, or perhaps an AP course. It is a bit hagiographic in places, but in view of Obama's successor, I suppose we can all be forgiven if we look back on the Obama era with a bit of nostalgia.

This book is by far the most definitive and comprehensive book of the Presidency of Barack H Obama! I must admit that I also purchased "A Charge To Keep" by President George W Bush. This is much better. It is extremely in-depth with the good, the bad, and the ugly. This book begins just after his election and defeat of John McCain. I presume, that many Americans including myself,

have forgotten how bad those economic times were - Auto Industry bailout, and the Banking Industry bailout. Plus the Deep Water Horizon tragedy. This book really does cover it all to include the contentious relationship with the Republicans, the dispatching of Osama Bin Laden, and most importantly his own dedication to his family. This book is huge. But given that 8 plus years is covered of what I can best describe as a roller coaster ride, it may actually be too small. The photography is excellent. The book is well written and easy to follow. After reading the book, I'm left with the basic realizations that he didn't have it easy, some things he brought on himself, his political opposition was vindictive and petty, he was overly optimistic or he was just way too positive and hopeful. To follow that hopeful optimism, if you were to use this book as a scholastic text, you would learn that his first eight years were preparation for an even better next eight years!!!

I just received my copy and it's absolutely beautiful- far more than I expected or hoped for. That being said, please understand what you are buying. I think it's somewhat fair to call it a "coffee table" book but simply because of it's size and the number of beautiful photographs. But it also has the very talented Peter Baker's writing so it's also far more than a "picture" book. But remember who Baker is (or was)-the White House Correspondent for the NY Times during the entire 8 years of the Obama presidency. The blurb says, in part, "In this vivid and in-depth illustrated account of Barack Obama's years in office, Baker chronicles a period of hope, tumult, accomplishment and, yes, failure." Baker is a Pulitzer Prize winning journalist so he is able to write with some degree of....journalistic (?) writing, BUT he would not have written this book if he did not greatly admire Barack Obama. This book is NOT a thorough and deep analytic view of a man and a presidency a la Doris Kearns Goodwin. I think it's too soon for anything Goodwin (and others as talented as she is) to tackle. This is a stunningly beautiful tribute to a man who served our country for 8 years as our President. In my mind, Barack Hussein Obama was the best president in my 59 years on this earth and I am just so very happy to have this beautiful tome. If your view of Barack Obama is decidedly negative, that's fine. Bill O'Reilly and others have books that you can read so please do not introduce any political discussion into my review.

I'll keep this short because there is so much I can say. This book is an eloquent and elegant view of the Obama presidency, an eight-year period that I miss more than I can say. We currently have a disaster in the White House who, by contrast, makes this book shine all the more.

This is a unique book and easy to read. Anything that is written by Obama is definitely worthwhile

reading.

Beautiful high quality book. I miss obama

My mother-in-law loves it. Thanks Peter Baker!

Must for Obama Historic Records

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