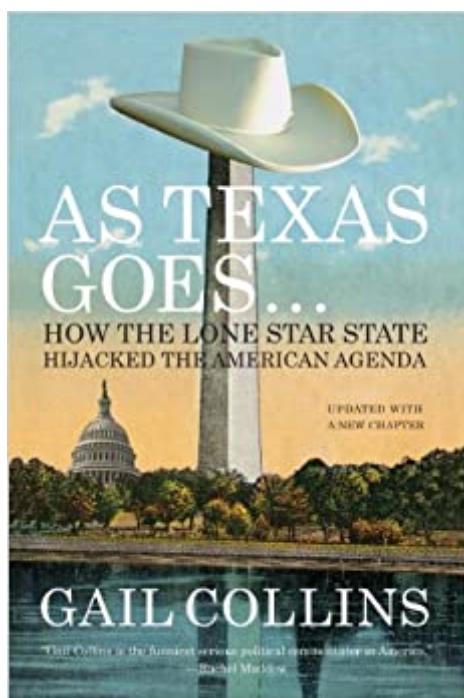


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As Texas Goes...: How The Lone Star State Hijacked The American Agenda



Synopsis

“Gail Collins is the funniest serious political commentator in America. Reading *As Texas Goes* is pure pleasure from page one.” —Rachel Maddow
As Texas Goes . . . provides a trenchant yet often hilarious look into American politics and the disproportional influence of Texas, which has become the model for not just the Tea Party but also the Republican Party. Now with an expanded introduction and a new concluding chapter that will assess the influence of the Texas way of thinking on the 2012 election, Collins shows how the presidential race devolved into a clash between the so-called “empty places” and the crowded places that became a central theme in her book. The expanded edition will also feature more examples of the Texas style, such as Governor Rick Perry’s nearsighted refusal to accept federal Medicaid funding as well as the proposed ban on teaching “critical thinking” in the classroom. *As Texas Goes . . .* will prove to be even more relevant to American politics by the dawn of a new political era in January 2013.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

First of all, the book is listed at 277 pages when actually it is only 197 pages. The other 80 pages

are the bibliography, index, excerpts from book reviews, part of an interview Collins did with Dan Rather, and her obligatory "thank you" to all the people who made the publication possible. Second, if you follow the national news on a regular basis, you already know the back-story behind most of the central characters; George H.W. Bush, George W. Bush, Dick Armey, Tom DeLay, Rick Perry, the Castro brothers, Ted Cruz, etc.. Third, there are lies, damn lies, and statistics, all of which are used on a regular basis by Texas politicians at the local, state, & national level. Collins could and should have spent more time exposing the people that actually "cooked" the books to create the "Texas Miracle". She should have spent more time on the "money people" behind the politicians. She could have gone into more detail as to how Texas energy policy, public education policy, unemployment, and workers' compensation policies have spread to other states. I knew things were not as good in Texas as they were being presented to the rest of America, but having read the book, I did not know they were as bad as Collins says they are. My son who just graduated from college with a double major in business, turned down a job with a Dallas oil company starting at \$47K a year plus commission & bonuses. When I asked him why, he said it was in Texas..

The answer, sadly, is yes. And, because the policies of Texas do affect all of us, it is important to learn about those policies. The author has a laundry list of complaints about Texas, which may be very valid. It is true that the text books written based on what Texas demands are used in other states, which force them to adapt their curriculums to the books, However, many of those states are already headed the way of Texas. The author has numerous complaints, and is sometimes funny, but at times it borders on being snarky. In addition, while Texas may have a oversized influence on the rest of the country, whose fault is that? We can stop it if we desire.

Fascinating, horrifying, and written with Gail Collins's characteristic wit and brio. It's hard to believe that there is such a place as "Texas."

I live in Texas and I found this book very enlightening. I've always known that those who run our state favor the wealthy and all they want from the middle class and the poor are their votes. The sad thing is that we Texans tend to vote against our self interest or not vote at all. Gail did a great job of exposing the truth.

Gail Collins seems to stereotype Texans throughout the book, but it is still interesting and I needed it for a class.

Thanks for the book in the condition it is in and I need to hurry and start reading it

The topic is frightening, her research is extensive but it goes down with such a snappy voice that the material is absorbed without wanting to flee the country or skip the next election!

Gail Collins has a fun way with words. Love the way she puts things in their place.

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