



# The Gilded Rage: A Wild Ride Through Donald Trump's America

*Alexander Zaitchik*

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Selected as one of *Publishers Weekly's* Top Ten picks for Politics & Current Events of Fall 2016

2016 continues to be the most surreal and unpredictable election year in recent memory and this is due in large part to one Donald J. Trump and the millions of Americans who made him this year's Republican nominee for president. As Trump continues to succeed despite behavior that would cripple any other politician, whether it is questioning the patriotism of the Gold Star Khan family or banishing a baby from one of his press conferences, it is imperative to understand why so many continue to support him. And this is what makes *The Gilded Rage* so important; it provides insight into the forgotten Americans that continue to befuddle pundits and "experts" on CNN and FOX alike.

This grippingly intimate and heart-breaking book provides a portrait of the walking wounded who make up the base of the Trump movement. Desperate and angry, these are the Americans of the vanishing industrial heartland, depressed Appalachian coal country, and the no-man's land along the Southwestern border. These are coal miners, out of work construction workers, and small business owners, who have watched their fortunes dwindle with each passing year. They have no illusions about the grandstanding billionaire and his glaring flaws. But these men and women feel forgotten and screwed over by political, corporate and media elites...and they feel that Donald Trump, despite his flamboyant demagoguery, might well be their last chance for salvation. Reminiscent of Studs Terkel's *Working*, with a dash of Hunter S. Thompson, Alexander Zaitchik in this important book takes us deeper into the ravaged soul of America than any other chronicler of our times.

**Selected as one of *Publishers Weekly's* Top Ten picks for Politics & Current Events of Fall 2016**

**Praise for Alexander Zaitchik's *Common Sense: Glenn Beck and the Triumph of Ignorance*:**

"A sharp and informative smackdown. For Zaitchik, [Glenn] Beck is just one more American con artist in the P.T. Barnum tradition, a shameless pseudoconservative bottom-feeder who will say anything to keep the spotlight on himself while the money rolls in."

--Mark Lilla, *The New York Review of Books*

"A sensational book... This is a beautifully written and insightful biography--thoughtful, considered, and very intentional about the need to understand Beck both as a symbol of something larger going on in America and as a person."

--Susan Gardner, *Daily Kos*

"A scathing profile that follows the powerful pundit from a single-parent home in rural Washington state to conservative superstardom."

--*The Boston Globe*

"A great political book. Zaitchik tells [Beck's story] well and nobody has told it more soberly."

--*Slate*

"An informative study."

--Sean Wilentz, *The New Yorker*

"A gripping and thoroughly researched biography."

--Joe Conason, *Salon*

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