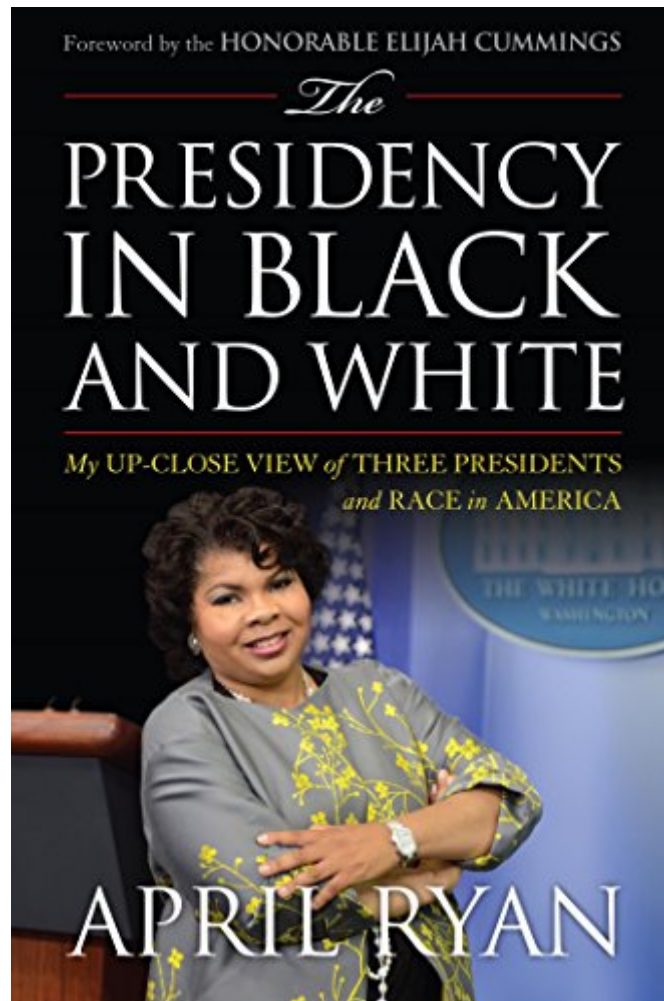


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The Presidency In Black And White: My Up-Close View Of Three Presidents And Race In America



Synopsis

2016 NAACP Image Award Nominee, Essence Top 10 books of 2015, African American Literary Show Inc. 2015 Best Non Fiction Award In *The Presidency in Black and White*, journalist April Ryan gives readers a compelling and personal behind-the-scenes look at race relations in contemporary America from the epicenter of American power and policy makingâthe White House, her beat since 1997. On behalf of the American Urban Radio Networks, and through her "Fabric of America" news blog, she delivers her readership and listeners (millions of African Americans and close to 300 radio affiliates) a unique urban and minority perspective in news. Her position as a White House Correspondent has afforded her unique insight into the racial sensitivities, issues, and attendant political struggles of our nation's last three presidents. In Bill Clinton, Ryan saw both a savvy politician who did his best to stay above the racial fray in public, and a man privately pained from the wrongs done to African-Americans throughout our history, not unlike those with whom he grew up in Arkansas. In George W. Bush, a man she respected as a faithful husband and father, an unprecedented amount of backlash against what was spun and perceived as racism in his policiesâparticularly those surrounding his administration's horrendous handling of Hurricane Katrinaâfrom which he never truly recovered, and by which he remained personally haunted for years. And in Barack Obamaâa President expected to transcend divisions and raise us above our racial squabbling simply by taking officeâa leader who, especially early in his administration, drew his own form of fire from those who noted his surprising absence from various racial issues that presented themselves on the national stage, but upon which he did not seem moved to comment, much less act. With humor, grace, and determination, April shares the highs and lows of her sometimes lonely but rewarding battle to keep questions of race relations in America on the political front burner, and in the President's ear. She has made this battle her life's work and will never stop fighting to give a voice to those members of our society who have too long been silenced.

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Customer Reviews

Ms. Ryan does a masterful job weaving race in America and issues of the day as a backdrop to her coverage of three American presidents. Ms. Ryan is objective in her writing and at the same time vulnerable in sharing her professional victories and challenges; and one closes the book never knowing what political allegiances she may have....and that must be the journalistic standard. Sadly, in today's 'journalism' we are constantly bombarded with the opinions of the 'journalist'. Ms. Ryan's has provided on the record access to the thoughts of 3 Presidents and White House senior officials. I loved those poignant human moments. Ms. Ryan's influence attracts officials to speak on the record; revealing their humanity; She knows that her duty is to provide access and information to her urban audience. And I applaud her!

A thorough, well-researched book with interesting insights from someone who has been inside the White House for the past three presidential administrations. It's an intriguing and ultimately satisfying viewpoint that not many are privy to, well, until now. You may find some of her opinions surprising. A worthwhile read.

What a journey April Ryan takes us on of some the First White House experiences for blacks in American history that we may never have been privy to without her sharing. This is a must read and should be recommended as a history book. This book will touch lives on many levels. As an American, as a female, as a black, as a new employee, and as an only; the reader will be drawn to experience first hand what it's like to be a highly skilled professional minority White House

Correspondence and evolve into a voice that everyone wants to hear. Great Work April.

As a self-described "politics junkie," I read a lot of books about politics. Some biographical, some historical and many contemporary "first drafts of history." April Ryan's book, "The Presidency in Black and White," brings a unique perspective to books about American politics -- especially those which also report on the Obama presidency. What I enjoyed most about Ms. Ryan's book is the freshness of her voice. Writing as a African American woman in a very homogenous White House press corps, she reveals not just what it is like to be a woman in a male-dominated corps, but also one of the very few black reporters in a very white world. More importantly, you begin to see why April dares to ask some of the questions she does. For someone "inside the Beltway," April knows how to make her work -- both in broadcasting and in this book -- accessible to those who are not D.C. insiders. She's smart, funny and unflappable. It's good journalism and a very, very good read. I'm looking forward to her next book.

I have followed the career of April Ryan for years. I think the book is a unique perspective and I enjoyed it thoroughly.

Outstanding! "The Presidency in Black and White" provides readers with a comprehensive view of the ins and outs of life in the world's most powerful residence. Mrs. Ryan gives readers a remarkable account of the challenges and triumphs she has faced obtaining answers to the tough questions that are relevant to people of color and the least of these, from the past three presidents. In a direct and to the point manner, Mrs. Ryan confronts the president with questions that mainstream reporters are afraid to ask. Her account is an objective and eye opening "Must Read" for all. Through this great vehicle, the U.S. Presidency is an open book! You will not be able to put it down!

This book was almost nothing like I expected it to be. I can appreciate that the author is a black female working in the White House press corp, but the book seemed to overwhelmingly be about her and her experiences verses how presidents handled race issues during their terms. The book also jumped from one topic to another from one paragraph to another and many times seemed to be written from pure emotion instead of focusing on the story. I listened to a radio interview of the author before buying this book, which is what attracted me to it in the first place, but it was absolutely not what I expected and I do not think the author actually fulfilled the title of the book.

Greetings, this book is one of the best books, I've ever read. Love the many experiences of what April Ryan the author had endured. She told her stories extremely well, as if you were there with her. One of my favorites, was where she went on a trip with the Presidents to Africa. She told the stories of the tours they took, while visiting. She expressed how everyone was feeling when they saw the many sites there. She also told her experience on how she questioned then the press secretary Robert Gibbs, and how she was treated during those times. It is very clear to me, that April Ryan is one of my favorite Journalists of all. She is best in doing interviews and she is to me the Queen of Black Media in the White House Press Room. I would always recommend her book Presidency in Black and White. It is my hope she keep on doing the great work she is doing, she is truly an inspiration to see her in action, and one of the best journalists in the world. Thank you "Ms. April D Ryan" for your book, and hope you share more of your experiences with us little readers in the world. You make a big difference in our world.

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