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The Next American Revolution: Sustainable Activism For The Twenty-First Century



Synopsis

A world dominated by America and driven by cheap oil, easy credit, and conspicuous consumption is unraveling before our eyes. In this powerful, deeply humanistic book, Grace Lee Boggs, a legendary figure in the struggle for justice in America, shrewdly assesses the current crisis—political, economical, and environmental—and shows how to create the radical social change we need to confront new realities. A vibrant, inspirational force, Boggs has participated in all of the twentieth century's major social movements—for civil rights, women's rights, workers' rights, and more. She draws from seven decades of activist experience, and a rigorous commitment to critical thinking, to redefine "revolution" for our times. From her home in Detroit, she reveals how hope and creativity are overcoming despair and decay within the most devastated urban communities. Her book is a manifesto for creating alternative modes of work, politics, and human interaction that will collectively constitute the next American Revolution.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“A stirring coda to one of the greatest chapters in the history of US radicalism.” (Bill V. Mullen American Book Review 2011-11-01)
“There are lessons here for activists that make this slim volume a handbook for personal, and therefore, social transformation.” (Larry Gabriel Yes! Mag 2012-04-01)
“A radical start-up kit for combatting neoliberal capitalism.” (Bill V. Mullen American Book Review 2011-12-01)

"Reading Grace Lee Boggs helps you glimpse a United States that is better and more beautiful than you thought it was. As she analyzes some of the inspiring theories and practices that have emerged from the struggles for equality and freedom in Detroit and beyond, she also shows us that in this country, a future revolution is not only necessary but possible."#151;Michael Hardt, co-author of Commonwealth

"This groundbreaking book not only represents the best of Grace Lee Boggs, but the best of any radical, visionary thinking in the United States. She reminds us why revolution is not only possible and necessary, but in some places already in the making. The conditions we face under neoliberalism and war do, indeed, mark the end of an era in which the old ideological positions of protest are not really relevant or effective#151;and this book offers a new way forward."#151;Robin D.G. Kelley, author of Freedom Dreams: The Black Radical Imagination#147;

Grace Boggs has long been a major voice of hope and action for transformation of the United States and the world. Here is her testimony of hope and program for action. It must be taken seriously.â • #151;Immanuel Wallerstein, author of Utopistics: or, Historical Choices of the Twenty-first Century

"One of the most accomplished radicals of our time, the Detroit-based visionary Grace Lee Boggs has become one of our most influential and inspiring public intellectuals. The Next American Revolution is her powerful reflection on a lifetime of urban revolutionary work, an ode to the courage and brilliance of her late partner James Boggs, and a plain-spoken call for us to address the troubled times we face with a sense of history, a strong set of values, and an unwavering faith in our own creative, restorative powers."#151;Jeff Chang, author of Can't Stop Won't Stop

This is not a how to or DIY book on sustainable community activism in the shadows of Urban decay caused by Economic Globalization but a personal account of sustainable community activism in Detroit. Boggs argues that public education is geared only to serve as college-university filters and feeders and with college AND because university education out of the reach for many of the city's poor the drop out in record numbers. Boggs argues that political agents are dynamic entities like MLK Malcolm X had to adapt to a dynamic socio-economic-political environment. Sustainable community activism must get the community involve in a major way and to get them interested activism must look to address concrete needs in that communities and provide a definable service or product to be justifiable. Boggs looks a partnering with others to achieve this. Food Security and Conflict dispute are two such community needs Boggs sees as needed. Boggs is not a Game Theorist or a Military General but she sees the heart of the problem and she knows a

leader must win the hearts of his people before he can effectively lead them.

So much to love about and learn from Ms. Lee Boggs.

This book is a crucial read for anyone interested in radical change. It is life changing for me.

clear and powerful thinking for these times

Wow. A balance of critique, reflection, introspection, service, and projection. A call to action in your own souls and communities.

The revolutionary Grace Lee Boggs.....need I say more?

This text challenged my perspective on a number of issues. GLB identified a number of issues that I hadn't considered much as problems. I'm fairly persuaded, though. But it's rather light on the practical solutions.

Grace provides insight into how to live a fulfilling and sustainable life in the 21st Century!

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