



## Bushworld: Enter at Your Own Risk

*Maureen Dowd*

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# From Reader Review Bushworld: Enter at Your Own Risk for online ebook

## Marni says

She's a clever writer and has the insider information. In the midst of Trump America, I just don't want to read about another stupid white president.

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## Aaron says

A haiku review:

Well-written but old.  
Repetitive, not shocked too.  
Find Bush a buffoon.

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## Cheryl S. says

Entertaining and makes me soooo glad 3 term presidencies are not allowed.

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## Sandy says

Hilarious - not the subject matter but the writing style! Eye opening and amazing when you realize that this was not written 'after the fact.' These were editorials written between the late 90's and 2004. Her insight is 'right on!'

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## Ice says

From Washington to Kennebunkport to Texas to old Europe and new Europe, during the past two decades Maureen Dowd has trained her binoculars on the Bush dynasty, putting them, as both 41 and 43 have complained to her, "on the couch." Here she wittily dissects the Oedipal loop-de-loop between father and son and the Orwellian logic of the rush to war in Iraq. It's a turbulent odyssey charting how a Shakespearean cast of regents, courtiers, and neo-con Cabalists-all with their own subterranean agendas-hijack King George II's war on terror and upend the senior Bush's cherished internationalist foreign policy and Persian Gulf coalition.

As she's written about Bushworld, "It's their reality. We just live and die in it."

For thirty years, Maureen Dowd has written about Washington-and America-in a voice that is acerbic, passionate, outraged, and incisive. But nothing has engaged her as powerfully as the extraordinary agendas,

absurdities, and obsessions of George the Younger. Drawing upon her celebrated columns, with a new introductory essay, she probes the topsy-turvy alternative universe of a group she has made recognizable by their first names, middle initials, nicknames, or numbers-41, the Boy Emperor, Rummy, Condi, Wolfie, Uncle Dick of the Underworld, General Karl, Prince of Darkness (Richard Perle), and her own nickname from W., the Cobra-as they seek an extreme makeover of the country and the world. Bushworld is a book that any reader who cares about the real world won't want to miss.

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### **Alyssa says**

I will give Maureen Dowd credit for being witty, but this book was at least 300 pages too long. Maybe her subject was bad (mind you I don't mind a good Bush bashing) but after awhile i didn't care anymore. It took everything i had to finish this.

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### **Elliot Schott says**

I honestly couldn't get through this piece. About halfway through, I got fed up with the amount of pet names Dowd was using for her political players. Overall, the tone of this book comes off like a Yahoo! news comment thread; it's way too abrasive in advance of any facts to win moderates or cynics over, thus making it something of a masturbatory piece for people already on Dowd's wavelength. There was plenty about the Bush administration to give any journalist room for extensive and outrageous narrative, without resorting to cutesy names for people and creating insulting hypothetical scenarios that occurred behind closed doors. I understand if a humorous edge is needed when discussing all the frank upheavals of democracy that occurred under Bush's terms, but there were certainly better satirical approaches out there than just going for below the belt. Read any comic strip by Tom Tomorrow if you want what Maureen Dowd is attempting here; you'll get decent humor mixed with actual facts (making it a "cry 'til you laugh" sort of situation).

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### **Desiree says**

A compilation of Maureen Dowd's editorials on the Bush family. She's amazing.

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### **Sabina says**

The signs of abuses and excesses of the Bush/Cheney administration were all there in Maureen's column every week for anyone to pick up on. That we were bowled over and duped into the Iraq war is our own fault, really. She has a keen eye for the hubris in politics and draws very colorful allegories to illustrate her points.

You really should read it to get a better understanding of what makes this White House tick--and to hypothesize what trick they might try next. Never trust them; that's what I glean from from this book.

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## **Adrienne says**

Well, if we can survive those 8 years, we just might have a chance in getting through the Trump administration.

Bushworld is all about George W. Bush, his administration, and his father. There were things I didn't know. Bush was a cowboy, right? Turns out, he's scared of horses...who knew? Not I. He's a hometown good ole boy here for the people? Well....he went to one of those same elite colleges and used to be quite the frat brother.

I was a kid during W's administration, and it's amazing to me just how much I had no idea what was going on in politics and the world. I loved W. back in the day, and so did many of my townsfolk in the rural country, and now I cringe. I was horrified. Also, I learned why my confusion about going to war in Iraq after 9/11 was justified. What did Iraq have to do with Afghanistan and bin Laden? Well....not much, according to the book, and was more about settling old scores with Saddam by rewriting the history of his father's presidency. In fact, I learned that Saddam and bin Laden hated each other and certainly weren't helping each other. Wow. It started to drag...but that's because it was the same old-same old W.'s Mr. Tough Guy bravado and machismo. Are we now in a time warp? Things today are so different, but they seem so similar.

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## **Wendi Enright says**

I love Maureen Dowd, but the columns are too similar in style when presented together in a book. Plus, we lived through Bushworld, and it was not pleasant.

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## **RJ Corby says**

"Bushworld" is clever, witty, sage and urbane, which is typical Dowd. I always look forward to Dowd's twice-weekly columns in the New York Times, and I'm seldom disappointed. "Bushworld: Enter at your own risk" is a collection of her columns on President Bush, going all the way back to the '99 Republican primaries. It's an informative, devastating and often tragically hilarious stroll down memory lane. Although I've previously read these columns, this is a welcome and treasured compilation of them regarding Bush's policies, decisions and contradictions all under one cover. It's a quick, fun, delightful, laugh-out-loud read.

What sets Dowd apart from Rush Limbaugh, Ann Coulter, Sean Hannity and others on the right is that she doesn't demonize, she criticizes. For instance, she frequently takes Bush to task for his decision to invade Iraq, citing no evidence of a Saddam-Al-Queda tie, or the much-hyped weapons of mass destruction. If one of the right-wing commentators mentioned above were making a criticism about a liberal's view on Iraq, the conversation frequently begins with how that liberal "hates America" or "doesn't support the troops." Dowd doesn't swim in such sewage. When she makes a criticism, she backs it up with facts, not innuendo and political rhetoric. The very best thing about Dowd is that she frequently uses her targets' quotes against them, not some fabricated lie or unsubstantiated rumor. She does her homework, and it shows. President Bush or Dick Cheney will deny having said something, and here comes Dowd in her next column with a stinging rebuke, with the quote and date it was said. She rarely misses.

Buy this book and read it again. Regular readers of Dowd's NYT columns will love the book and the

"refresher." Highly recommended for readers wanting a crash course on Bush, from the '99 primaries through June '04. (Orig. Review - Nov. '04)

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### **Trista Carter says**

What can I say except : Excellent!

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### **J. Ewbank says**

If you like political books, obviously slanted, this is the book for you, especially if you did not like Bush or are a liberal.

It has some humorous elements throughout the book no matter what political stripe you happen to be.

Obviously the New York Times is not conservative and they generally write more negatively about conservatives and positively about liberals, but this book is written well and can be enjoyed by all.

I just do not happen to care too much for this type of political book.

J. Robert Ewbank author, "John Wesley, Natural Man, and the 'Isms'"

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### **Rich says**

Actually did not finish this; love the author, but could not stomach reading anymore about the "subject"

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