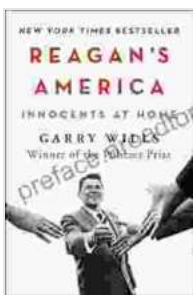


# Reagan America: Innocents At Home - A Poignant and Illuminating Portrait of the Reagan Era

## : The Allure of Reagan's America

The 1980s, often referred to as "Reagan America," was a time of immense change and transformation in the United States. Under the leadership of President Ronald Reagan, the country experienced a resurgence of conservatism, a booming economy, and a renewed sense of optimism.

In his captivating book, "Reagan America: Innocents At Home," Ethan Bronner paints a vivid and insightful portrait of this iconic decade. Drawing from extensive interviews with key figures and ordinary citizens, Bronner explores the complex tapestry of Reagan's America, revealing both its triumphs and its shortcomings.



### Reagan's America: Innocents at Home by Garry Wills

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 3507 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 721 pages
Lending	: Enabled



**A Nation Divided**

Despite the economic prosperity and patriotic fervor that characterized the Reagan era, it was also a time of deep divisions. Bronner deftly analyzes the widening income gap, the rise of the religious right, and the escalating tensions over race and gender.

Through the eyes of a diverse cast of characters, we witness the impact these divisions had on American society. From the affluent suburbs of Orange County, California, to the struggling neighborhoods of Detroit, Bronner captures the contrasting experiences and perspectives that shaped the Reagan era.

### **The Reagan Revolution**

At the heart of Bronner's narrative is an exploration of Reagan's policies and their profound impact on American life. From the deregulation of the economy to the massive defense spending, Bronner examines the consequences of Reagan's trickle-down economics and the rise of neoliberalism.

While Reagan's policies boosted economic growth for some, they also contributed to growing inequality and the erosion of social safety nets. Bronner meticulously documents the widening gap between the wealthy and the working class, as well as the decline of unions and the rise of precarious employment.

### **The Culture Wars**

Beyond economics, the Reagan era was also marked by a profound shift in American culture. Bronner delves into the rise of the religious right and its influence on politics, education, and everyday life. He explores the clash

between conservative and liberal values, and the impact of this cultural divide on American society.

Through personal stories and incisive analysis, Bronner sheds light on the complexities of the culture wars, revealing the ways in which they shaped American identities and values.

## **The End of Innocence**

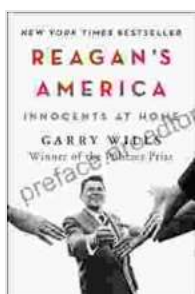
As the Reagan era drew to a close, the optimism and prosperity that had defined its early years began to fade. The Iran-Contra scandal, the savings and loan crisis, and the rise of the AIDS epidemic exposed the cracks in the Reagan facade.

Bronner traces the gradual erosion of America's innocence, as the country grappled with the consequences of its choices and the complexities of a rapidly changing world. He explores the disillusionment and cynicism that replaced the early optimism, and the lasting impact these wounds had on American society.

In "Reagan America: Innocents At Home," Ethan Bronner offers a nuanced and deeply insightful account of one of the most transformative decades in American history. Through vivid storytelling and rigorous analysis, he captures the complexities of Reagan's era, revealing both its triumphs and its shortcomings.

By examining the experiences of ordinary citizens and key figures alike, Bronner paints a rich and compelling portrait of the Reagan era, providing readers with a deeper understanding of its enduring legacy on American society and culture.

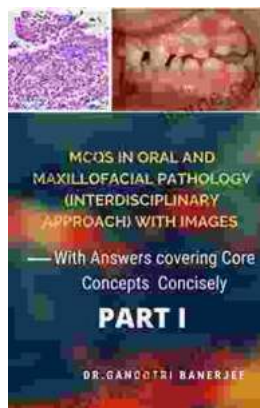
Whether you were a child growing up in the 1980s, a young adult experiencing the era firsthand, or a student of American history, "Reagan America: Innocents At Home" is an essential read. It is a book that will transport you back to that iconic decade, illuminating its complexities and leaving you with a profound appreciation for the lasting impact of those tumultuous years.



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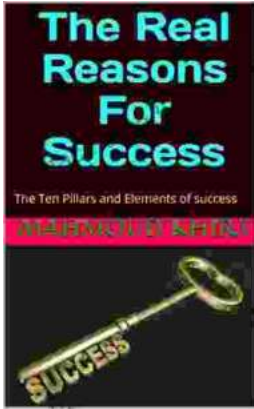
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