



## On Tyranny: Twenty Lessons from the Twentieth Century


*Timothy Snyder*

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Kurzbeschreibung

**THE NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER**

**'These 128 pages are a brief primer in every important thing we might have learned from the history of the last century, and all that we appear to have forgotten'** *Observer*

History does not repeat, but it does instruct.

In the twentieth century, European democracies collapsed into fascism, Nazism and communism. These were movements in which a leader or a party claimed to give voice to the people, promised to protect them from global existential threats, and rejected reason in favour of myth. European history shows us that societies can break, democracies can fall, ethics can collapse, and ordinary people can find themselves in unimaginable circumstances.

History can familiarise, and it can warn. Today, we are no wiser than the Europeans who saw democracy yield to totalitarianism in the twentieth century. But when the political order seems imperilled, our advantage is that we can learn from their experience to resist the advance of tyranny.

Now is a good time to do so. *Pressestimmen*

"We are rapidly ripening for fascism. This American writer leaves us with no illusions about ourselves." —**Svetlana Alexievich, Winner of the Nobel Prize in Literature**

"Timothy Snyder reasons with unparalleled clarity, throwing the past and future into sharp relief. He has written the rare kind of book that can be read in one sitting but will keep you coming back to help regain your bearings. Put a copy in your pocket and one on your bedside table, and it will help you keep going for the next four years or however long it takes." —**Masha Gessen**

"Please read this book. So smart, so timely." —**George Saunders**

"Easily the most compelling volume among the early resistance literature. . . . A slim book that fits alongside your pocket Constitution and feels only slightly less vital. . . . Clarifying and unnerving. . . . A memorable work that is grounded in history yet imbued with the fierce urgency of what now." —**Carlos Lozada, *The Washington Post***

"Snyder knows this subject cold. . . . It is impossible to read aphorisms like 'post-truth is pre-fascism' and not feel a small child about the current state of the Republic. . . . Approach this short book the same you would a medical pamphlet warning about an infectious disease. Read it carefully and be on the lookout for symptoms." —***The New York Times Book Review***

"As Timothy Snyder explains in his fine and frightening *On Tyranny*, a minority party now has near-total power and is therefore understandably frightened of awakening the actual will of the people." —**Adam Gopnik, *The New Yorker***

"Snyder is superbly positioned to bring historical thinking to bear on the current political scene. . . . These unpretentious words remind us that political resistance isn't a matter of action-movie heroics, but starts from

a willingness to break from social expectations.” —**Jeet Heer**, *The New Republic*

“The perfect clear-eyed antidote to Trump’s deliberate philistinism. . . . These 128 pages are a brief primer in every important thing we might have learned from the history of the last century, and all that we appear to have forgotten.” —**Tim Adams**, *The Guardian*

“*On Tyranny* demands to be read.” —*The Forward*

“Bracing. . . . *On Tyranny* is a call to action. . . . A brisk read packed with lucid prose.” —*Vox*

Werbetext

A controversial, timely intervention in world affairs from one of the most acclaimed historians of the twentieth century

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