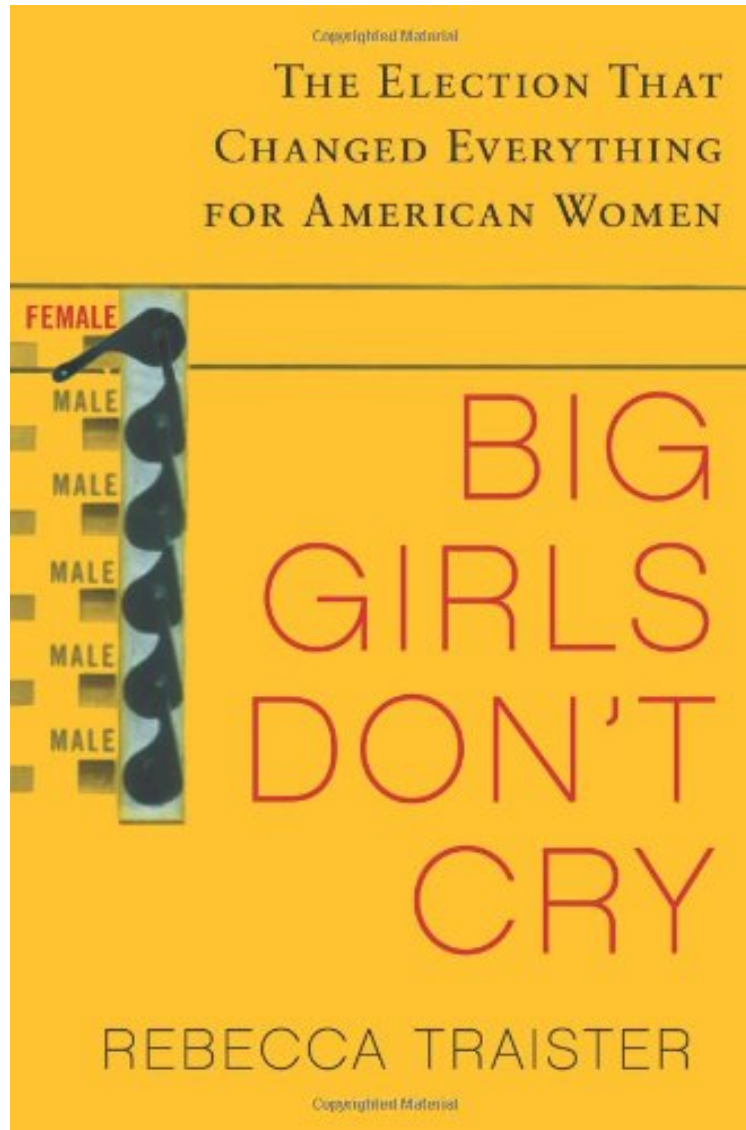


[Mobile book] Big Girls Don't Cry: The Election that Changed Everything for American Women

# Big Girls Don't Cry: The Election that Changed Everything for American Women

Rebecca Traister

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**Rebecca Traister : Big Girls Don't Cry: The Election that Changed Everything for American Women** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Big Girls Don't Cry: The Election that Changed Everything for American Women:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. One on the 2008 election that all Americans ought read prior to the Nov. 2016 electionBy PenroseTribarGreat book on the 2008 election season that all Americans ought read in this 2016

election season. There's something for everyone, regardless of gender or political persuasion. This book is not a polemic; it is political anthropology, as all good journalism used to be: who did what, when and how. And there's enough to make all Americans both sad and angry at those who control our elections and nation. Rebecca Traister's journalist cred is beyond reproach and her writing is not just heavily researched and accurate to a T but written in plain English that does not equivocate or make you work to scrape away excess to get to the meat of the issues. Having finished *Big Girls Don't Cry*, I've moved on to her newest, *All the Single Ladies*, which is just as compelling a read. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Amazing how relevant I found this even 8 years later! By Melissa The intersection of politics, media, gender has never been so interesting! Critically looking at the role gender politics played in the 2008 race, with discussion about the effects on the future of feminism going forward. The author follows the 4 leading ladies of this story through the political storm beyond, includes discussions with Gloria Steinem, Jessica Valenti, Melissa Harris-Lacewell (now -Perry), Rachel Maddow, Katie Couric, etc. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. ALL GIRLS CRY!!! By Gina\_DI'll be honest here... I REALLY wanted Hillary to win in 08. Now I completely understand why she didn't and just how unfair female politicians are treated by even the most liberal media. I feel like Traister's theories are accurate about why women haven't made it as far as men in politics, and how ridiculous some of the double standards are. I just wish every MAN could read this book. I'm not quite as feminist as some of my colleagues, but THE FEELS in this book really make me wish I was. Don't hesitate or procrastinate on buying. READ THIS BOOK!!! The shipping is very quick and the book arrived in perfect condition, with a careful wrapping job.

REBECCA TRAISTER, whose coverage of the 2008 presidential election for Salon confirmed her to be a gifted cultural observer, offers a startling appraisal of what the campaign meant for all of us. Though the election didn't give us our first woman president or vice president, the exhilarating campaign was nonetheless transformative for American women and for the nation. In *Big Girls Don't Cry*, her electrifying, incisive and highly entertaining first book, Traister tells a terrific story and makes sense of a moment in American history that changed the country's narrative in ways that no one anticipated. It was all as unpredictable as it was riveting: Hillary Clinton's improbable rise, her fall and her insistence (to the consternation of her party and the media) on pushing forward straight through to her remarkable phoenix flight from the race; Sarah Palin's attempt not only to fill the void left by Clinton, but to alter the very definition of feminism and claim some version of it for conservatives; liberal rapture over Barack Obama and the historic election of our first African-American president; the media microscope trained on Michelle Obama, harsher even than the one Hillary had endured fifteen years earlier. Meanwhile, media women like Katie Couric and Rachel Maddow altered the course of the election, and comedians like Tina Fey and Amy Poehler helped make feminism funny. What did all this mean to the millions of people who were glued to their TV sets, and for the country, its history and its future? As Traister sees it, the 2008 election was good for women. The campaign for the presidency reopened some of the most fraught American conversations about gender, race and generational difference, about sexism on the left and feminism on the right, difficult discussions that had been left unfinished but that are crucial to further perfecting our union. The election was also catalytic, shaping the perspectives of American women and men from different generations and backgrounds, altering the way that all of us will approach questions of women and power far into the future. When Clinton cried, when Palin reached for her newborn at the end of a vice presidential debate, when Couric asked a series of campaign-ending questions, the whole country was watching women's history, American history being made. Throughout, Traister weaves in her own experience as a thirtysomething feminist sorting through all the events and media coverage vacillating between Clinton and Obama and forced to face tough questions about her own feminism, the women's movement, race and the different generational perspectives of women working toward political parity some ninety years after their sex was first enfranchised. It was a time of enormous change, and there is no better guide through that explosive, infuriating, heartbreaking and sometimes hilarious year than Rebecca Traister. *Big Girls Don't Cry* offers an enduring portrait of dramatic cultural and political shifts brought about by this most historic of American contests.

"A passionate, visionary and very personal account. New York Times Book Superb.... *Big Girls Don't Cry* is much more than an assemblage of these type of boys on the bus campaign anecdotes. As anyone who's followed Traister's sharp and lively essays in Salon knows, her particular beat is gender. What she does here is tease out the cultural narratives that came to wield so much power during the [2008 presidential] campaign and, finally, in the voting booth.... There's so much to be learned and argued over in *Big Girls Don't Cry*. Girls, these days, can not only run for president; they can also brilliantly analyze presidential campaigns, too. Maureen Corrigan, NPR's *Fresh Air* I ended up admiring Traister and loving her book. In its best parts, it is a raw and brave memoir of a journalist who discovered that all is not well for women in America, and a description of how she and other young women are laying claim to their rightful place in the fight. . . . Such a youthful embrace of the women's work yet to be done is exhilarating for her generation and for mine. Connie Schultz, *The Washington Post* Traister's book masterfully reminds us that we have just lived through a historic moment when a woman, no matter how flawed she was, came within spitting distance, of a

nomination for president. Slate.com Rebecca Traister is the most brilliant voice on feminism in this country. I was totally caught up in *Big Girls Don't Cry* from the first page, and couldn't believe how much Ms. Traister captured and illuminated a story with which I had thought I was so well versed: the 2008 election. She told it as if for the first time. Anne Lamott, author of *Bird by Bird* Traister is a clear-eyed, whip-smart observer of the political scene, alert to the resurgence of identity politics as well as the recrudescence of feminism that marked the most recent presidential campaign. She has fashioned a remarkably engrossing page-turner of a cultural narrative, one which features outsize characters and unpredictable plot twists. *Big Girls Don't Cry* is a report on the 2008 election but more importantly it is a report on the way we think now. If you want to understand where we are going as an electoral entity why Sarah Palin is the folk heroine du jour and why Michelle Obama has domesticated her free-thinking person read this book. Daphne Merkin, novelist and critic The startling intelligence and graceful prose of Rebecca Traister's coverage of American cultural politics has been one of journalism's best kept secrets during the past decade. With *Big Girls Don't Cry*, she claims her place as heir to the tradition of Mary McCarthy and Joan Didion as she excavates the tectonic changes that lurked below the surface of most election reporting and illuminates events in a manner that will surprise political junkies and casual observers alike. Eric Alterman, author of *Why Were Liberals* In this riveting account of the 2008 election, Rebecca Traister negotiates the shoals of race and gender with exceptional grace and skill and establishes herself as one of the major younger journalists working today. Katha Pollitt, poet, essayist, and columnist for *The Nation* Rebecca Traister's lively, insightful narrative discloses an under-reported layer of the 2008 presidential campaign and in so doing makes the subject fresh and vital again. An important and disquieting book, but also a pleasure to read. Robert Draper, author of *Dead Certain* I didn't know what I didn't know about the 2008 election until reading Rebecca Traister's smart, entertaining take on it. Well-researched, well-written, provocative, and insightful, *BGDC* is a high-spirited salute to feminism in its many forms. Curtis Sittenfeld, author of *American Wife* About the Author Rebecca Traister is senior writer for Salon, where she has written about women in politics, media, and entertainment since 2003, and where she covered the 2008 presidential campaign from a feminist perspective. She has also written for *Elle*, *the Nation*, *the New York Observer*, *Vogue* and *the New York Times*, among other publications. She lives in Brooklyn with her husband. From AudioFile Traister's nuanced analysis of gender politics in the 2008 election is handled superbly by narrator Kirsten Potter. Given the nearly two-year presidential campaign, there are ample sound bites that could have been over-embellished. But Potter maintains a solid presentation, providing inflection and tone but not outright impersonations of the wide pool of candidates. Her pacing and emphasis throughout the more detailed passages also make listening highly enjoyable. Traister's research is extensive and filled with an array of quotes from new and traditional media. Her skill at teasing out recurring misogynistic themes and rhetoric will change many listeners' views of the election regardless of whom they voted for. L.E. AudioFile 2010, Portland, Maine