

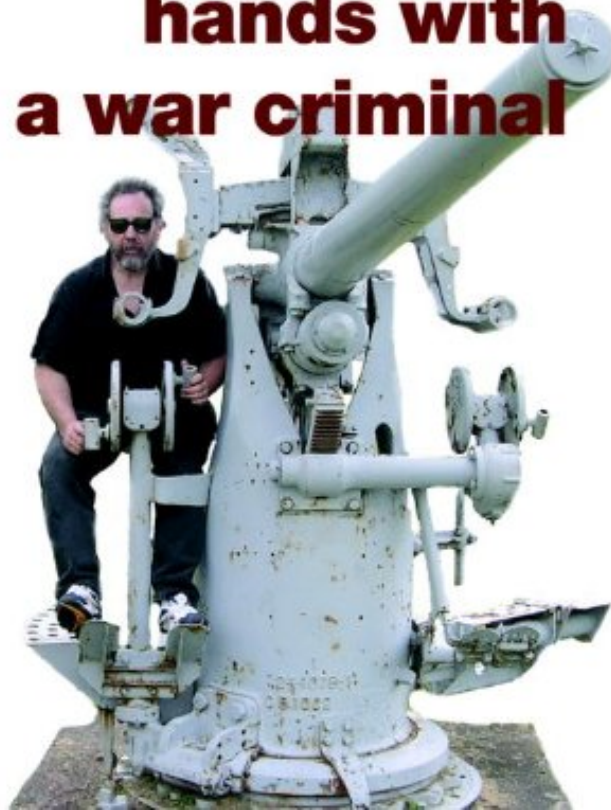
[Download ebook] Never Shake Hands with a War Criminal

Never Shake Hands with a War Criminal

Barry Crimmins

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Barry Crimmins : Never Shake Hands with a War Criminal before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Never Shake Hands with a War Criminal:

13 of 13 people found the following review helpful. a memoir and political essays -- and all very funnyBy audrey francesBarry Crimmins grew up in Skaneateles, NY, and was a fixture in Boston stand-up comedy for years. We learn a lot about this, his family, and his opinions about politics today in this series of very funny essays covering topics such as 9/11, corporate corruption, Henry Kissinger, the Clintons, activism, Dennis Miller, comedy, Reagan, Air America Radio, NPR, the Iraq War, etc. Scattered between the essays are one-liners (e.g. Bush says he is eating beef and isn't vaguely concerned about the possibility of mad cow disease. Of course he isn't--the disease attacks the

brain.)If you're a progressive, there are lots of lines that will make you nod or smile or laugh. Conservatives will not enjoy this, but all others will.8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Shake hands with Barry CrimminsBy D. SpencerCrimmins' satire can lacerate like razor wire. It's also laugh-out-loud funny. His comments on the current White House administration, and Conservatives of nearly any ilk, are biting and savagely witty. But even those who don't subscribe to the author's partisan ideology should be impressed by several thoughtful essays in this book - ruminations on his hometown near the Finger Lakes, a eulogy for a cancer-stricken friend, his fond memories as founder of the Boston comedy scene circa 1979, his introspective examination of how annual copious snowfall in Central New York state creates hearty skeptics, an encounter with a lost boy and a Good Samaritan. These essays and others show that the author is more than just a political animal. He's also a keen observer of the human condition (a hallmark trait of any fine satirist). Mainly, though, the book focuses on Crimmins' high-principled views, which are insightful, unapologetic, and often very funny.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four StarsBy Charles FisherAwesome!

Never Shake Hands with a War Criminal is a personal and political history told with acid humor and a loving heart. Barry Crimmins, a writer and commentator on Air America Radio, travels from a skeptical childhood in frozen upstate New York, through the founding of the Boston comedy scene, to a career as a satirist and activist. No villain is spared; no hero is forgotten. Crimmins also cuts a hilarious swath through our political tormentors, in the spirit of Mark Twain, Will Rogers, and Lenny Bruce.

From Publishers WeeklyHumor writer and political activist Crimmins is a hero among professional comedians for having helped launch the careers of Steven Wright, Bobcat Goldthwait and others. While he's recently gained wider recognition through his stand-up performances and his writing for Air America Radio, this funny, intelligent book could increase his audience even more. Witty and insightful, it has the potential to make Crimmins a prominent voice on the left. One-page groupings of political one-liners are interspersed between short, provocative and extremely well-written essays. Crimmins takes a comedic scalpel to various right-wing targets, including what he perceives as post-9/11 jingoism, conservative "clone candidates," Henry Kissinger (who inspired the book's title), Dennis Miller and various members of the Bush administration, especially John Ashcroft and his support of the Patriot Act ("Kaiser Ashcroft doesn't think of them as nukes—he considers them 'rapture accelerants' "). He also combines autobiographical glimpses of his youth in Skaneateles, N.Y. ("an Indian word that means 'beautiful lake surrounded by fascists' "), and his life in the 1980s managing the Ding Ho, Boston's first real comedy club, with more substantial attacks on George W. Bush's government. Unapologetically admitting to preaching to the choir, "since the choir in America really needs a night out now and then," Crimmins presents "a thoughtful resistance to the madness of an era." Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.About the AuthorBARRY CRIMMINS grew up in Skaneateles ("an Indian name meaning 'small lake surrounded by fascists'"), New York. In his time he has worked with many comedy greats, near-greats, and ingrates, and his exploits have included a stint writing for Dennis Miller. Crimmins lives in Troupsburg, New York.