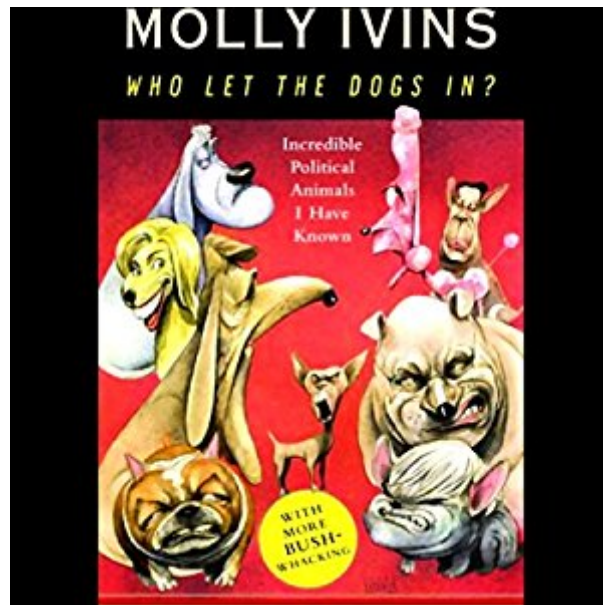


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# Who Let The Dogs In?: Incredible Political Animals I Have Known



## Synopsis

The dazzling, inimitable Molly Ivins is back, with her own personal Hall of Fame of America's most amazing and outlandish politicians "the wicked, the wise, the witty, and the witless" drawn from more than twenty years of reporting on the folks who attempt to run our government (in some cases, into the ground). *Who Let the Dogs In?* takes us on a wild ride through two decades of political life, from Ronald Reagan, through Big George and Bill Clinton, to our current top dog, known to Ivins readers simply as Dubya. But those are just a few of the political animals who are honored and skewered for our amusement. Ivins also writes hilariously, perceptively, and at times witheringly of John Ashcroft, Dick Cheney, Donald Rumsfeld, H. Ross Perot, Tom DeLay, Ann Richards, Al Gore, Jimmy Carter, and the current governor of Texas, who is known as Rick "Goodhair" • Perry. Following close on the heels of her phenomenally successful *Bushwhacked* and containing an up-to-the-minute Introduction for the campaign season, *Who Let the Dogs In?* is political writing at its best. From the Hardcover edition. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Allow me to preface this by saying that I love to read Molly Ivins. She's bright and funny, and I enormously enjoy her humor and the way she can turn a phrase. She's one of my favorite writers. I was happily anticipating reading her latest book. However, it wasn't clear to me from reading the cover blurb that this is an anthology compiled from previously published columns (not something I'd mind as I don't usually have an opportunity to read her work other than in books)... and, in

particular, at least some of these essays have been previously published in book form. So, I'm reading again "How to Survive Reagan", which was originally published in "The Progressive" in 1986, reprinted in "Molly Ivins Can't Say That, Can She?" in 1991, and now reprinted for a second time in "Who Let the Dogs In?" The same is true for essays like "The Word's The Thing" (first published in The Progressive in 1988, and again in 1991 in "Can't Say That". But, in my opinion, worse yet is that some essays originally appearing under one title have been included in this book with a completely new title.... see "Don't Worry, They're Happy" (originally printed in Savvy in 1989 and reprinted in 'Can't Say That' in 1991), born again in "Dogs" as "Killing the Messenger." There's also an essay comparing Ross Perot to a Chihuahua (voice, not size) that I know I've read in another Ivins book (could be Can't Say That, but I'm done cross-checking for today). I think that's intellectually dishonest.

Molly Ivins is such a gifted writer and "freedom fighter" -- an unrepentant liberal in an era when "The 'L' Word" is supposed to make children scream and grown men flee. "Who Let The Dogs in?" is a retrospective of her many years of writing, focusing on the memorable people - politicians and otherwise - who have earned their few inches on her pages. Liberal or not, Ivins is an equal opportunity critic who is not shy about savaging lefties. Bill Clinton comes in for special criticism for pandering to the right by booting poor mothers and kids off the welfare rolls. But then, had she known that "Shrub" Bush was waiting in the wings, she might have been a little kinder to ol' Bill. Molly Ivins will have none of the common wisdom that politicians do what they have to do to gain and keep power. She insists in the quaint notion, also found in the Constitution, that government's purpose is to "promote the general welfare and secure the Blessings of Liberty." She takes dead aim at any politician whose work is destructive of the general welfare and secures the blessings of liberty for themselves and their kind. In Molly Ivins' world, that means that Republicans and especially neocons take the brunt of her ire. If you do not share that version of reality, Ivins' writings will make you grit your teeth and harvest your hair. Save yourself the dentist and transplant bills and look elsewhere. But for those who love freedom and justice for all and who support the prudent exercise of government, Ivins is your gal. Who are the "dogs" in "Who Let the Dogs In?" They are the Clintons and Bushes, Gingrich, Gore, Richards and Cheney. They are also writers and attorneys who champion the rights of the disenfranchised when it is not only unpopular, but downright impoverishing.

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