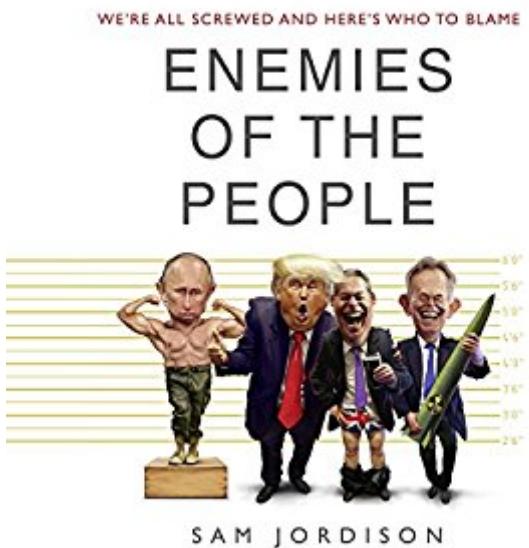


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# Enemies Of The People



## Synopsis

There was once a fashionable theory that history was determined not by individuals but by economic and geopolitical forces. Recent years have proved that idea abundantly wrong. From Nigel Farage to Donald Trump via (inevitably) Vladimir Putin, we have largely been governed, endangered and thrown into confusion by a pack of angry men. (Nearly always men. Nearly always white). Men whose ambition is inversely proportional to their ability - and stability. Post-truth, mid-Brexit and with Nationalism on the rise, we stand on the precipice of an uncertain future, and *Enemies of the People* details those who have stuffed us on the bus and driven us there. Not all are monsters, but whether through malice, bad driving or accidentally taking a wrong turn, these are the culprits responsible for landing us on this dizzying and windswept cliff edge. Remember, though - they say history is written by the victors, and fortunately many of those currently winning can't seem to write more than 140 characters at a time. This gives us the golden opportunity to set the record straight and snatch back the narrative. But if we've any chance of victory, we first need to know our enemy.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is a first for me, getting political online. There are some books that you wish you'd read earlier rather than later, and *Enemies of the People* is one such book. Not that it was available prior to the Brexit vote, or the electing of a reality TV star as President of the US. It seems we're victims of lies and manipulation; this book tells us who the culprits are, plus a great deal more. In

Enemies of the People, Sam Jordison doesn't pretend objectivity and, by his own admission, wrote it quickly and in anger. On the front cover are the words 'We're all screwed and here's who to blame', and in his blurb he holds men responsible for the whole mess: mostly white men in a temper (not including himself, of course!). Primarily, this is a history book written by somebody who can write more than 140 characters at a time and sees it as a 'golden opportunity to snatch back the narrative and set the record straight'. The book does not go into great depth but is a series of snapshots of fifty people whom the author feels have had the greatest negative influence on our society. These include certain British prime ministers and US presidents, past and present; current members of parliament; deranged dictators; people on the Rich List (some skilful, some moronic); founders of religions, from the relatively sane, through to extremist sects, down to the plain screwy; royalty, with William the Conqueror thrown in for good measure, and a closing chapter dedicated to a medical charlatan/founder of a commercial radio station, who almost became governor of Kansas in the 1930s and could be seen as a metaphor for our times. Of the fifty people mentioned, not all of them are wholly bad or lacking in areas of brilliance, but I'm hazarding a guess that a fair percentage of them suffer from narcissistic personality disorders (or have suffered, because they're now dead). A few have meant well, but power has corrupted them, filling them with greed, or they've just lost their way. As the author points out, by the time this book went into print it was probably out of date in some respects. Certainly the chapter about Jeremy Corbyn needs updating, although, unlike the author, I had no issue with the Leader of the Opposition having sloped off to his allotment association's annual get together while most of his cabinet were busy resigning following the Brexit vote. But then, as a keen allotmenteer myself, I can't think of a better way to get away from it all and clear my head. In summary, I enjoyed this book in a perverse way. It confirmed what I already suspected about those in charge of our society, with all the spin, lies, hypocrisy, greed, manipulation, and contradiction. This should have depressed me, but I felt oddly empowered by knowing my enemy better. Sam Jordison's writing is pacey, entertaining, easy to read, and peppered with wry wit. He comes over as very passionate about truth, justice, and the betterment of society. I now challenge him to write a book titled 'Friends of the People'.

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