



The Queen of America Goes to Washington City: Essays on Sex and Citizenship (Series Q)

By Lauren Berlant

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) 

The Queen of America Goes to Washington City: Essays on Sex and Citizenship (Series Q) By Lauren Berlant

In *The Queen of America Goes to Washington City*, Lauren Berlant focuses on the need to revitalize public life and political agency in the United States. Delivering a devastating critique of contemporary discourses of American citizenship, she addresses the triumph of the idea of private life over that of public life borne in the right-wing agenda of the Reagan revolution. By beaming light onto the idealized images and narratives about sex and citizenship that now dominate the U.S. public sphere, Berlant argues that the political public sphere has become an intimate public sphere. She asks why the contemporary ideal of citizenship is measured by personal and private acts and values rather than civic acts, and the ideal citizen has become one who, paradoxically, cannot yet act as a citizen—epitomized by the American child and the American fetus.

As Berlant traces the guiding images of U.S. citizenship through the process of privatization, she discusses the ideas of intimacy that have come to define national culture. From the fantasy of the American dream to the lessons of Forrest Gump, Lisa Simpson to Queer Nation, the reactionary culture of imperilled privilege to the testimony of Anita Hill, Berlant charts the landscape of American politics and culture. She examines the consequences of a shrinking and privatized concept of citizenship on increasing class, racial, sexual, and gender animosity and explores the contradictions of a conservative politics that maintains the sacredness of privacy, the virtue of the free market, and the immorality of state overregulation—except when it comes to issues of intimacy. Drawing on literature, the law, and popular media, *The Queen of America Goes to Washington City* is a stunning and major statement about the nation and its citizens in an age of mass mediation. As it opens a critical space for new theory of agency, its narratives and gallery of images will challenge readers to rethink what it means to be American and to seek salvation in its promise.



[Download The Queen of America Goes to Washington City: Essa ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Queen of America Goes to Washington City: Es ...pdf](#)

The Queen of America Goes to Washington City: Essays on Sex and Citizenship (Series Q)

By Lauren Berlant

The Queen of America Goes to Washington City: Essays on Sex and Citizenship (Series Q) By Lauren Berlant

In *The Queen of America Goes to Washington City*, Lauren Berlant focuses on the need to revitalize public life and political agency in the United States. Delivering a devastating critique of contemporary discourses of American citizenship, she addresses the triumph of the idea of private life over that of public life borne in the right-wing agenda of the Reagan revolution. By beaming light onto the idealized images and narratives about sex and citizenship that now dominate the U.S. public sphere, Berlant argues that the political public sphere has become an intimate public sphere. She asks why the contemporary ideal of citizenship is measured by personal and private acts and values rather than civic acts, and the ideal citizen has become one who, paradoxically, cannot yet act as a citizen—epitomized by the American child and the American fetus.

As Berlant traces the guiding images of U.S. citizenship through the process of privatization, she discusses the ideas of intimacy that have come to define national culture. From the fantasy of the American dream to the lessons of Forrest Gump, Lisa Simpson to Queer Nation, the reactionary culture of imperilled privilege to the testimony of Anita Hill, Berlant charts the landscape of American politics and culture. She examines the consequences of a shrinking and privatized concept of citizenship on increasing class, racial, sexual, and gender animosity and explores the contradictions of a conservative politics that maintains the sacredness of privacy, the virtue of the free market, and the immorality of state overregulation—except when it comes to issues of intimacy.

Drawing on literature, the law, and popular media, *The Queen of America Goes to Washington City* is a stunning and major statement about the nation and its citizens in an age of mass mediation. As it opens a critical space for new theory of agency, its narratives and gallery of images will challenge readers to rethink what it means to be American and to seek salvation in its promise.

The Queen of America Goes to Washington City: Essays on Sex and Citizenship (Series Q) By Lauren Berlant Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #218637 in Books
- Published on: 1997-04-17
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.29" h x .97" w x 5.92" l, 1.14 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 320 pages



[Download The Queen of America Goes to Washington City: Essays on Sex and Citizenship \(Series Q\) By Lauren Berlant](#)



[Read Online The Queen of America Goes to Washington City: Essays on Sex and Citizenship \(Series Q\) By Lauren Berlant](#)

Download and Read Free Online The Queen of America Goes to Washington City: Essays on Sex and Citizenship (Series Q) By Lauren Berlant

Editorial Review

From Library Journal

Assailing the privatization of citizenship and the idealization of the citizen as a child, Berlant (English, Univ. of Chicago) criticizes a national political discourse that has shifted from public-sphere issues like economic inequities to the private realm of sexual intimacy. Berlant argues that the Reagan revolution based the redefinition of citizenship and national identity on a politicized private sphere overseen by a federal government increasingly less committed to social justice. She illustrates her argument with examples from television programs such as *The Simpsons* and the Clarence Thomas-Anita Hill congressional hearings. Still, she does not adequately explore whether the privatization of citizenship has occurred because historically white, middle-class American male heterosexism has been so pervasive. A scholarly study; recommended for academic collections in American culture studies. —Charles L. Lumpkins, Bloomsburg Univ. Lib., Pa.

Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Review

"Berlant offers a trenchant genealogy of the imaginary realm of citizenship, resituating cultural contests over sex, race, and nation as conflicts over the defining fantasies of public life. Few cultural critics move with as much skill and insight between debates over the public sphere and how best to read pornography. This text links the analytic concerns of cultural studies with the fugitive struggles over the imaginable bounds of citizenship. A keen and disarming book." —Judith Butler

"Taking her (counter)cue from that celebrated sitcom of American life, 'The Reagan Years,' Lauren Berlant makes an exhilarating argument for a theory of 'comedic' citizenship. What happens when the collusive myths of the 'common culture' become obsessed and estranged by the fraying and freeing of the American people—plurally identified, demographically diverse, sexually ambivalent, culturally mongrel? Berlant's wit and insight lie in going with the 'silliness' of everyday existence, inhabiting its persuasive, popular forms, and then, in ways you least expect, throwing up a devastating picture of the way we live now." —Homi K. Bhabha

From the Back Cover

"Taking her (counter)cue from that celebrated sitcom of American life, 'The Reagan Years,' Lauren Berlant makes an exhilarating argument for a theory of 'comedic' citizenship. What happens when the collusive myths of the 'common culture' become obsessed and estranged by the fraying and freeing of the American people—plurally identified, demographically diverse, sexually ambivalent, culturally mongrel? Berlant's wit and insight lie in going with the 'silliness' of everyday existence, inhabiting its persuasive, popular forms, and then, in ways you least expect, throwing up a devastating picture of the way we live now." —Homi K. Bhabha

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Joan Cross:

This *The Queen of America Goes to Washington City: Essays on Sex and Citizenship (Series Q)* book is just

not ordinary book, you have it then the world is in your hands. The benefit you receive by reading this book will be information inside this reserve incredible fresh, you will get details which is getting deeper anyone read a lot of information you will get. That The Queen of America Goes to Washington City: Essays on Sex and Citizenship (Series Q) without we understand teach the one who reading it become critical in considering and analyzing. Don't possibly be worry The Queen of America Goes to Washington City: Essays on Sex and Citizenship (Series Q) can bring once you are and not make your tote space or bookshelves' become full because you can have it with your lovely laptop even cellphone. This The Queen of America Goes to Washington City: Essays on Sex and Citizenship (Series Q) having very good arrangement in word and layout, so you will not feel uninterested in reading.

Francis Rutland:

Here thing why this kind of The Queen of America Goes to Washington City: Essays on Sex and Citizenship (Series Q) are different and reputable to be yours. First of all reading through a book is good nevertheless it depends in the content from it which is the content is as yummy as food or not. The Queen of America Goes to Washington City: Essays on Sex and Citizenship (Series Q) giving you information deeper since different ways, you can find any book out there but there is no book that similar with The Queen of America Goes to Washington City: Essays on Sex and Citizenship (Series Q). It gives you thrill looking at journey, its open up your own eyes about the thing this happened in the world which is maybe can be happened around you. You can bring everywhere like in recreation area, café, or even in your technique home by train. For anyone who is having difficulties in bringing the printed book maybe the form of The Queen of America Goes to Washington City: Essays on Sex and Citizenship (Series Q) in e-book can be your choice.

Dorothy Payne:

This The Queen of America Goes to Washington City: Essays on Sex and Citizenship (Series Q) is great reserve for you because the content that is certainly full of information for you who else always deal with world and have to make decision every minute. This book reveal it information accurately using great arrange word or we can say no rambling sentences in it. So if you are read that hurriedly you can have whole info in it. Doesn't mean it only gives you straight forward sentences but tough core information with wonderful delivering sentences. Having The Queen of America Goes to Washington City: Essays on Sex and Citizenship (Series Q) in your hand like getting the world in your arm, details in it is not ridiculous just one. We can say that no e-book that offer you world inside ten or fifteen moment right but this e-book already do that. So , this really is good reading book. Heya Mr. and Mrs. hectic do you still doubt that?

Brian Rutt:

A lot of reserve has printed but it differs from the others. You can get it by world wide web on social media. You can choose the most effective book for you, science, witty, novel, or whatever through searching from it. It is named of book The Queen of America Goes to Washington City: Essays on Sex and Citizenship (Series Q). You can include your knowledge by it. Without making the printed book, it may add your knowledge and make anyone happier to read. It is most crucial that, you must aware about reserve. It can bring you from one destination for a other place.

Download and Read Online The Queen of America Goes to Washington City: Essays on Sex and Citizenship (Series Q) By Lauren Berlant #SLV0UFHD784

Read The Queen of America Goes to Washington City: Essays on Sex and Citizenship (Series Q) By Lauren Berlant for online ebook

The Queen of America Goes to Washington City: Essays on Sex and Citizenship (Series Q) By Lauren Berlant Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Queen of America Goes to Washington City: Essays on Sex and Citizenship (Series Q) By Lauren Berlant books to read online.

Online The Queen of America Goes to Washington City: Essays on Sex and Citizenship (Series Q) By Lauren Berlant ebook PDF download

The Queen of America Goes to Washington City: Essays on Sex and Citizenship (Series Q) By Lauren Berlant Doc

The Queen of America Goes to Washington City: Essays on Sex and Citizenship (Series Q) By Lauren Berlant MobiPocket

The Queen of America Goes to Washington City: Essays on Sex and Citizenship (Series Q) By Lauren Berlant EPub

SLV0UFHD784: The Queen of America Goes to Washington City: Essays on Sex and Citizenship (Series Q) By Lauren Berlant