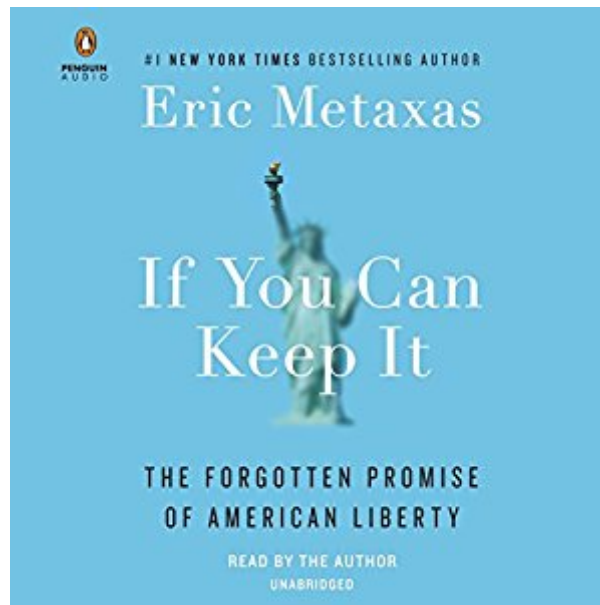


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# If You Can Keep It: The Forgotten Promise Of American Liberty



## Synopsis

From the number-one New York Times best-selling author Eric Metaxas comes *If You Can Keep It*, a new book that is part history and part manifesto, steeped in a critical analysis of our founding fathers' original intentions for America. Two hundred and forty years after the Declaration of Independence, it examines how we as a nation are living up to our founders' lofty vision for liberty and justice. *If You Can Keep It* is at once a thrilling review of America's uniqueness, and a sobering reminder that America's greatness cannot continue unless we truly understand what our founding fathers meant for us to be. The book includes a stirring call-to-action for every American to understand the ideals behind the "noble experiment in ordered liberty" that is America. It also paints a vivid picture of the tremendous fragility of that experiment and explains why that fragility has been dangerously forgotten - and in doing so it lays out our own responsibility to live those ideals and carry on those freedoms. Metaxas believes America is not a nation bounded by ethnic identity or geography, but rather by a radical and unprecedented idea, based upon liberty and freedom. It's time to reconnect to that idea before America loses the very foundation for what made it exceptional in the first place.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

To say this new book by Eric Metaxas is timely is an understatement. We all need to be encouraged to see something hopeful both in the past and in the future of our nation. "If You Can Keep It" is not

written in the style of a history textbook, rather it is a passionate appeal to remember together some of the inspiring stories of America, to celebrate our heroes, to become familiar again with the faithful intentions and beautiful writings of some of the great leaders of the past. After reading this book, I am inspired to re-read historical accounts and biographies of people like William Wilberforce, Hannah More, George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, George Whitefield, and Nathan Hale. I'd love to read some original documents and letters written by Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, and John Winthrop. I'm reminded that what they valued and what they fought for was important then, and is still important now. Reading this book is like gathering around to listen as a great storyteller recounts the story of Squanto and the example of leadership from Cincinnatus. The chapter on the importance of moral leaders shows us that it is possible for leaders to care about setting a standard of light that shines in the darkness. I enjoyed references in this book to positive messages found in personal favorites such as *To Kill a Mockingbird* and *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington*, as a reminder of how the arts are important for encouraging a culture of virtue and exposing the vice in our society or system of government. (And I'd like to read Os Guinness' book that talks about The Golden Triangle of Freedom, since that idea inspired Eric to write this new book in the first place!

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